

**GAINESVILLE-HALL METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CONFERENCE ROOM
MARCH 18, 2004, 4:00 PM**

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Voting Members present: Chairman Maurice Robbins, Ken Cochran, Cooper Embry, Doris Evans, Harold Goss, Bruce Hallowell, Mack Jones, Phil Kinsey, Berlinda Lipscomb, Charles Mensinger, Bryan Puckette, Lee Steigele, Jim Syfan, Hugh Tyner, Dr. J. R. Wright

Voting Members Absent: Frank Simpson, Amos Goudelock

Staff present: Grace Grindle, Bill Meyer

Others present: Stan Brown, Jeff Carroll, Perry Eisenach, Deborah Mack, Tim Merritt, Kip Padgett, Jerry Presley, Christine Stava, Matt Tate

CALL TO ORDER Maurice Robbins, Chairman

1. WELCOME

Mr. Robbins welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. Mr. Robbins said on January 9, 2004 meeting he was nominated as Chairman, but due to health reasons he would like to resign. He said he could be out for a few months and he felt that the chairman should be there to participate in each meeting because this is a committee that is critical to the county.

MOTION: Ken Cochran made a motion to accept the chairman's resignation as of March 18, 2004. The motion received a second from Doris Evans and passed by unanimous vote.

Mr. Robbins said Hugh Tyler had been involved with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for 32 years and had a great deal of experience in Hall County which are important to have for the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC).

MOTION: Mr. Robbins made a motion to nomination of Mr. Tyner for the position of Chairman. The motion received a second from Mr. Syfan and passed by unanimous vote.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 9, 2004

MOTION: Ken Cochran made a motion to approve the Minutes of January 9, 2004. The motion received a second from Jim Syfan and passed by unanimous vote.

3. PRESENTATION ON LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN PROCESS

Mr. Meyer introduced Jeff Carroll with Day Wilburn Associates to give a presentation on the Long Range Transportation Plan process. Mr. Carroll went over the work being completed as a part of the Georgia Department of Transportation Multi-County Study, which will generate the initial Long Range Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program for the Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Association (GHMPO) which will be delivered in draft form in April. Mr. Carroll went over the results of the modeling effort and indicated on maps future congested links according to the results of the model. Mr. Carroll noted that the model is simply a tool in the transportation planning process and development of the Long Range Transportation Plan.

Discussion followed on the approval of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) by the GHMPO and its impact on project approval in the county. Mr. Meyer noted that the LRTP would go through a public process before official adoption in late 2004.

4. UPDATE ON AIR QUALITY AND TRANSMITTAL OF PROJECT LIST

Mr. Meyer discussed that Hall County will be designated a non-attainment county under the 8 hour standard for ozone this April. The Atlanta 20 county region will then have 1 year to submit a conformity determination report, which will be submitted by the GHMPO and the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC). This report will lay out a summary of the transportation plan for the 20 county region and how it conforms to the larger air quality plan that the state Environmental Protection Division has developed. In light of this requirement, the GHMPO assembled a list of potential capacity increasing roadway projects that can impact air quality over the next 30 years from the work being completed on the multi-county study. As this list will be updated every three years, it can be subsequently revised.

MOTION: Mr. Robbins made a motion to forward the list. The Motion received a second from Mr. Cochran and passed by unanimous vote.

5. DRAFT FY 2005 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

Mr. Meyer went over the draft FY 2005 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), which describes all of the activities to be completed by the MPO. It corresponds to GDOT's fiscal year starting on July 1st and is a continuation of the previous work program. The Fiscal Year 2005 UPWP describes the organization's planning goals and activities, provides cost estimates for each activity and identifies fund sources for the period July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005. A draft document was submitted to GDOT for a late-February deadline and by May 15th the final UPWP has to be approved. Mr. Meyer said the final UPWP will be brought forward for a CAC recommendation to the Policy Committee at the next meeting on April 29th.

6. CONGESTION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR ATLANTA URBANIZED AREA

Mr. Meyer went over the Congestion Management System (CMS) requirements that pertain to southern Hall County, a small part of which falls in the Atlanta Urbanized Area. The only capacity increasing project in this section of South Hall is the widening of SR 347/Friendship Road and this info has been coordinated with Atlanta Regional Commission. To fulfill the requirements for the MPO, staff will develop a document that will identify existing traffic counts and volume-to-capacity ratios for this area and potential congestion reducing strategies. The document will be brought back along with the LRTP later this year.

7. RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE LOGO

Mr. Meyer went over the recently designed logo for the GHMPO and requested recommendation to approve.

MOTION: Mr. Robbins made a motion to approve. The motion received a second from Mr. Goss and passed by unanimous vote.

8. CHANGE OF COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

Mr. Meyer discussed that at the initial Citizens Advisory Committee on January 9th, a member had brought up that the terms of membership should be staggered for two and three years for half of the members on each jurisdiction to avoid a complete turnover every four years. Mr. Meyer said the meeting date of the CAC was approved as the 4th Thursday of the month when it should have read the last Thursday to ensure that there is at least a week's time between the Technical Coordinating Committee and CAC meeting dates to revise and distribute information. Mr. Meyer asked for the permission to edit the bylaws to make these two changes.

MOTION: Mr. Syfan made a motion to approve. The motion received a second from Mr. Robbins and passed by unanimous vote.

9. UPCOMING MEETING DATE

Mr. Meyer advised the next scheduled meeting date for the CAC was Thursday, April 29, 2004 at 4 PM.

10. OTHER

Mr. Meyer advised John McHenry was not there because he was at training in Macon.

There being no further business to discuss, Ken Cochran made a motion to adjourn, with a second from Mr. Mensinger, and the meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 6 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

Maurice Robbins, Chairman

Grace Grindle, Sr. Secretary