



# *Gainesville - Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization*

**GHMPO**

Flowery Branch - Gainesville - Hall County - Oakwood

## **CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Conference Room, Development Services Center  
Minutes of February 26, 2009 Meeting

### **Voting Members Present:**

Hugh Tyner, City of Oakwood  
Charles Mensinger, City of Oakwood  
Doris Evans, Hall County  
Brent Hoffman, Hall County  
Blair Hutson, Hall County  
Larry Poole, Hall County  
Ken Cochran, City of Gainesville  
Berlinda Lipscomb, City of Gainesville  
Ed Myers, City of Gainesville  
Alan Wayne, City of Flowery Branch  
Ron Petrie, City of Flowery Branch

### **Voting Members Absent:**

Connie Davis, City of Gainesville  
Frank Simpson, City of Gainesville  
Jim Syfan, Hall County  
David Lee, Hall County  
Harold Goss, Hall County

### **Others Present:**

Billy Cantrell, GDOT  
Randy Knighton, GHMPO  
Srikanth Yamala, GHMPO  
David Fee, GHMPO  
Steve Brown, Wilbur Smith & Associates

Chip Burger, URS  
Janice Crow, Hall Area Transit  
Chris Chavis, Hall County  
Connie Daniels, Hall County

### **1. Welcome – Hugh Tyner, Chairperson**

Mr. Tyner called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

### **2. Approval of October 23, 2008 Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** *Mr. Wayne made a motion to approve the October 23, 2008, Minutes with a second by Mr. Poole and passed by a unanimous vote.*

### **3. Review Draft FY 2010 Unified Planning Work Program**

Mr. Yamala presented the FY 2010 Unified Planning Work Program highlighting the accomplishments of FY 2009 and activities for FY 2010. He drew the committee's attention to the funding summary table indicating Planning (PL) and Section 5303 funds available for FY 2010. He said the next major project will be the 2035 LRTP Update due in August, 2011 which can be coordinated concurrently with the Hall County Comprehensive Plan Update.

#### **4. Recommendation to Approve Draft Human Services Transportation Plan**

Mr. Burger explained the HSTP was developed in conjunction with a diverse group of stakeholders including Hall Area Transit, private senior transportation service providers and state government agencies. He listed recommendations based on the findings for the HSTP. The implementation of this plan is a step in being eligible to apply for Federal funding.

**MOTION:** *Mr. Cochran made a motion to recommend approval of the Draft Human Services Transportation Plan with a second by Mr. Wayne and passed by a unanimous vote, (Mr. Hoffman abstained).*

#### **5. Update on the Northern Connector Study**

Mr. Brown gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Northern Connector Study stating it has been included in the 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan. He explained GHMPO had received a formal request from the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce to conduct this study. Positive comments have been received from the public meetings. Mr. Yamala added there is no fixed alignment for the route yet but said the committees will see data layers of the study area map at future meetings.

#### **6. Administrative Modifications and an Amendment to the 2008-2013 Transportation Improvement Program**

Mr. Fee reported on several recent administrative modifications and amendments requested by GDOT to the two SR 347/Friendship Road projects and one request from Hall County to add the Calvary Church Road project. He also listed some capital purchases as amendments that were requested by Hall Area Transit (HAT) to access funds from the Federal stimulus package. Committee members wanted to know why the construction costs for a segment of SR247/ Friendship Road had increased so steeply and questioned the need for new equipment requested by HAT. Mr. Tyner noted that he would follow-up with the GDOT District 1 Office to find details on the increased construction costs. Ms. Crow mentioned that the new equipment on HAT busses is to better serve the riders from a safety and security aspect.

**MOTION:** *Mr. Petrie made a motion to accept the Administrative Modifications and Amendment to the 2008 - 2013 Transportation Improvement Program with a second by Mr. Mensinger and passed, (Mr. Hoffman and Mr. Wayne voted in opposition).*

#### **7. Updates on the 2009 Georgia Legislative Session and the Federal Economic Recovery Package**

Mr. Fee explained the Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 is intended to stimulate the economy with "shovel ready" transportation projects capable of creating jobs and to improve infrastructure for future growth. He identified three road maintenance projects and capital purchases for Hall Area Transit (HAT) that were proposed for stimulus funding.

Mr. Fee also discussed the competing one cent sales tax bills for transportation funding currently being considered by the Georgia General Assembly and the governor's concept for the new State Transportation Authority to replace some of GDOT's current functions.

## 8. Amendment to the CAC Bylaws

Mr. Yamala recommended that in the best interests of the CAC to extend membership reappointments and that members should amend the existing bylaws to delete the statement "shall be no more than two consecutive two year terms." This would allow members to continue serving on the CAC, if they choose to do so.

***MOTION:*** Mr. Hoffman made a motion to accept the amendment to the CAC Bylaws with a second by Mr. Petrie and passed by a unanimous vote.

A discussion ensued regarding CAC attendance. It was suggested that the Chairman write a letter to the appointing authorities of any jurisdiction whose representative who had missed three consecutive CAC meetings giving them the opportunity to replace their nominee if they so desire.

***MOTION:*** Mr. Hoffman made a motion requesting the Chairman write letters regarding representatives' attendance at CAC meetings with a second by Mr. Poole and passed by a unanimous vote.

## 9. Election of TCC Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

Mr. Yamala explained that they would not proceed with the election as it was pointed out to him that the CAC bylaws state the election of chairperson and vice-chairperson shall be at the first meeting of the fiscal year (starts July 1st, 2009).

## 10. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports

Mr. Yamala discussed the status of transportation projects being completed by GDOT, Hall County, the City of Gainesville, the City of Oakwood and HAT.

## 11. Upcoming Meeting Date

The next Citizen Advisory Committee meeting will be April 23, 2009.

## 12. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the chairman at 5:52 p.m.

  
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Hugh Tyner, Chair

  
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Connie Daniels, Secretary