

# *Gainesville - Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization*

**GHMPO**

Flowery Branch - Gainesville - Hall County - Oakwood

## **CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Development Services Center Conference Room  
Minutes of February 24, 2011 Meeting

### **Voting Members Present:**

Ken Cochran, Hall County  
Danny Sanderson, Hall County  
James Nix, Hall County  
Brent Hoffman, Hall County  
Ethan Hopkins, Hall County  
Doug Smith, Hall County  
Charles Mensinger, City of Oakwood  
Berlinda Lipscomb, City of Gainesville  
Diana Dokken, City of Gainesville  
Ron Petrie, City of Flowery Branch

### **Voting Members Absent:**

Linda Carruth, City of Gainesville  
Ed Myers, City of Gainesville  
Will White, City of Gainesville  
Larry Poole, Hall County  
Blair Hutson, Hall County

### **Others Present**

Srikanth Yamala, GHMPO  
Bob McGarry, Disability Resource Center  
Sandy Chandler, Disability Resource Center

Jack Buie, LLCPA  
Connie Daniels, Hall County

### **1. Welcome**

Mr. Cochran called the meeting to order and introductions were made.

### **2. Approval of October 28, 2010 Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** *Mr. Petrie made a motion to recommend approval of the October 28, 2010 Minutes with a second by Mr. Nix and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.*

### **3. Review Draft FY2012 Unified Planning Work Program**

Mr. Yamala presented a draft of the FY2012 Unified Planning Work Program for review. This document is federally mandated and prepared annually to show tasks accomplished from the previous year and the activities the MPO has planned for the next year. Studies to be conducted next fiscal year include a Freight Study of the GHMPO planning area and a Commuter Feasibility Study using Hall Area Transit funds. The CAC will need to make a recommendation on this document to the Policy Committee at their next meeting.

#### **4. Update on the City of Gainesville Midtown Development**

Ms. Tullar discussed the City of Gainesville's Midtown Development project of approximately 300 acres that they are redeveloping and revitalizing with the Midtown Greenway being the key focal point. They hope to link the Midtown Greenway to the Central Hall Multiuse Trail and to eventually create a countywide master trail plan. The Greenway should be open to traffic in 18-24 months.

#### **5. Update on the Central Hall Multiuse Trail**

Mr. Woodall discussed the Central Hall Multiuse Trail project which when completed will connect downtown Gainesville to Gainesville State College, approximately a 15 mile loop. Two miles of the project are currently completed or in construction and another 2.5 miles are currently being designed. Surrounding communities have expressed an interest in tying in to the trail. The County should begin construction on phases I & II by December 2011.

#### **6. 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan**

Mr. Yamala discussed the process of developing the 2040 MTP through the use of the regional travel demand model and population and employment forecasts. Staff is still waiting for updated project cost estimates from GDOT.

He also presented the tiered draft project list and relayed that staff received requests for three new projects to be added. No major changes in projects are anticipated as most of them have been discussed for years but have been pushed back due to lack of funding. The second public meeting on the 2040 MTP will be held on March 8 at 5:30 p.m. in the Georgia Mountains Center. Mr. Yamala mentioned that the project list has to be delivered to the Atlanta Regional Commission by April 4th and the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan has to be adopted by August 9, 2011.

#### **7. HB 277 Project List**

Mr. Yamala told the committee that Mayor Bruner with the City of Gainesville sent a letter to Chairman Oliver with Hall County listing the projects endorsed by the Hall County Joint Municipal Association. The final project list presented for consideration was developed by the MPO, Hall County Joint Municipal Association and Hall County Engineering. This list is not prioritized and has not yet been presented to the Hall County Commission. The projects will be shortlisted by GDOT Director of Planning, and the Georgia Mountains Roundtable members will approve the final list, which will be released for public comment and will be included in a statewide vote in the 2012 General Primary Election.

#### **8. Amendment to the 2008 – 2013 Transportation Improvement Program**

Mr. Yamala presented a TIP amendment for widening a section of US 129/Athens Highway from Talmo to SR 323 in Hall County. The ROW phase has been moved up from 2017 to 2011. State funds are being utilized so for transparency reasons GDOT requested this change as an amendment.

**MOTION:** *Mr. Hoffman made a motion to approve the GHMPO 2008-2013 TIP Amendment with a second by Mr. Petrie and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.*

**9. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports**

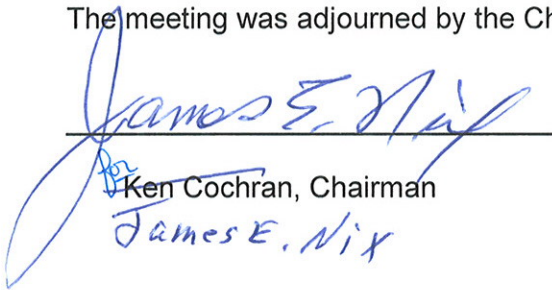
Mr. Yamala discussed the status of transportation projects being completed in the jurisdictions of Hall County, the City of Gainesville, the City of Oakwood, the City of Flowery Branch and GDOT.


**10. Upcoming Meeting Date**

The next CAC meeting is scheduled for April 28, 2011.

**11. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 5:25 p.m.

  
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Ken Cochran, Chairman  
James E. Nix

  
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Connie Daniels, Secretary