

**GHMPO**

# *Gainesville - Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization*

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Braselton - Flowery Branch - Gainesville - Oakwood - Hall County - Jackson County

## **CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, October 25, 2018**

**4:00 PM**

**Conference Room 114, GDOT District One Office**

### **Minutes of October 25, 2018 Meeting**

#### **Voting Members Present:**

Renee Gerrell, Hall County, Chairperson  
Ken Stanley, Hall County, Vice-Chairperson  
Brent Hoffman, Hall County  
Joe Kennedy, Hall County  
Patrick O'Rourke, Hall County  
Heather Taylor, Hall County  
Mary Jardine, City of Gainesville  
Berlinda Lipscomb, City of Gainesville  
Beverly Nordholz, City of Gainesville  
Connie Propes, City of Gainesville  
Sammy Smith, City of Gainesville  
Tony Millwood, City of Oakwood  
David Jones, City of Flowery Branch  
Jennifer Kidd-Harrison, Town of Braselton  
Tabitha Gooch, Jackson County

#### **Voting Members Absent:**

Trey Bell, Hall County  
Beth Weikel, Hall County  
Pat Jones, City of Oakwood  
Ed Edwards, City of Flowery Branch

#### **Others Present:**

Sam Baker, GHMPO  
Joseph Boyd, GHMPO  
Emily Foote, Hall County

Britt Storck, Alta Planning + Design  
Gina Pilcher, Citizen  
Robin Terrell, Citizen  
Tricia Terrell, Citizen

### **1. Welcome**

Ms. Gerrell called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M.

## 2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Ms. Gerrell and Mr. Stanley were both nominated by the committee to serve as Chair and Vice Chair of the CAC for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2019.

***MOTION:*** Mr. Smith made a motion to nominate Ms. Gerrell to serve as Chair of the CAC for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2019, with a second from Mr. Stanley, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

***MOTION:*** Ms. Propes made a motion to nominate Mr. Stanley to serve as Vice Chair of the CAC for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2019, with a second from Mr. Smith, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

## 3. Approval of the July 17, 2018 Meeting Minutes

***MOTION:*** Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2018 CAC meeting, with a second from Mr. Kennedy, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

## 4. Recommend Approval of the Draft Resolution Approving Amendment #2 to the 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Baker stated that the Georgia Department of Transportation has requested the GHMPO to amend its Transportation Improvement Program in order to change the limit of the I-85 widening project (GH-109/GDOT PI#0013545). The current limit is I-85 from north of SR 211/Old Winder Highway to north of US 129/SR11/Lee Street. The proposed new limit will be I-85 from north of SR 53/Winder Highway to north of US 129/SR 11/Lee Street. The change in project limit also required a Conformity Determination Report to be run in order to show the change in scope would not adversely affect the air quality of the region.

***MOTION:*** Mr. Smith made a motion to recommend approval of the Draft Resolution approving Amendment #2 to the 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program, with a second from Mr. Hoffman, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

## 5. Gainesville Trail Study and South Hall Trail Study

Mr. Boyd introduced Ms. Storck from Alta Planning + Design. Ms. Storck gave an update on the Gainesville Trail and South Hall Trail studies outlining upcoming opportunities for public involvement in the studies, as well as information on the analyses, implementation strategies, and prioritization of potential segments of the two trails and maintenance strategies. Ms. Storck informed the committee that the first drafts of the two studies should be available by November 1<sup>st</sup> and that the final Open House meeting would be held at the Spout Springs Library on November 1<sup>st</sup> from 5:00 to 7:00 PM.

Mr. Hoffman proposed that some of the trails recommended under these studies should be considered for future Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) for implementation given the opportunity. Mr. Terrell asked for clarification as to why the Airport Connector Trail

was far down on the priority ranking presented, to which Ms. Storck responded that although it was ranked lower on the priority ranking based strictly on technical analysis, the Airport Connector trail was a high priority to the City of Gainesville and that the City had already applied for a grant to help construct the project.

## **6. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports**

- City of Flowery Branch
- City of Gainesville
- City of Oakwood
- Town of Braselton
- Georgia Department of Transportation
- Georgia Mountains Regional Commission
- Hall Area Transit
- Hall County
- Jackson County

Ms. Gerrell asked what exactly the City of Gainesville was planning at the SR 60 Connector/Oak Tree Drive intersection project; Mr. Boyd responded that he would reach out to the City for more updated information and follow back up with the committee.

Ms. Gerrell asked what time the Open House for the Sardis Connector Project would begin on November 15<sup>th</sup>; Mr. Boyd responded that he would reach out to Hall County and follow back up with the committee.

## **7. Upcoming Meeting Date: February 28, 2019**

The next CAC meeting will be on Thursday, February 28, 2018 at the Hall County Government Center.

## **8. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

## **9. Other**

### Gainesville-Hall Regional Transportation Plan: 2020 Update

Mr. Baker explained that by federal regulations, GHMPO has to update its Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) by June 2020. He informed the Committee that a Request for Proposals (RFP) has been issued seeking proposals from consultants by October 30<sup>th</sup> to undertake this project. A consultant is expected to be contracted by December 2018 to start work in January 2019. Mr. Baker outlined the breakdown of funding and presented a plan on how each local jurisdiction can meet its required local-match through in-kind hours of staff time spent on the RTP update. If the in-kind hours tracked do not meet the percentage of match required for that particular jurisdiction (which is based upon that jurisdiction's

population located within the urbanized area of the MPO), that jurisdiction will be required to make up the difference in a cash payment at the end of the study.

Ms. Pilcher asked if the newly completed Comprehensive Plan would be considered when updating the RTP, to which Mr. Baker responded that all recent planning documents and studies would be considered and incorporated where appropriate, including the Comprehensive Plan.

Micro-Transit Feasibility Study

Mr. Baker informed the Committee that GHMPO has partnered with Hall Area Transit to conduct a Micro-Transit Feasibility Study to explore the feasibility of micro-transit service such as Uber, Lyft, etc. to either replace or supplement Hall Area Transit's current demand response service called Dial-A-Ride and fixed route service called Gainesville Connection in light of potential reduced federal funding for our transit service following the 2020 census.


Ms. Taylor asked if the study would also consider partnering with existing taxi services in the area as they employ fully trained and licensed drivers, to which Mr. Baker responded that the study would explore all possible options, including taxi services.


GHMPO Rebranding Initiative

Mr. Baker explained that the GHMPO has contracted with Forum Communications to design a new logo and branding. He stated that once a new logo is created, the GHMPO website will be updated to match the new brand. Mr. Baker also told the committee members to expect an email from him with a link to an online survey to seek their input on the new logo soon.

**10. Adjourn**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 P.M.

  
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Renee Gerrell, Chairperson

  
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Emily Foote, Secretary