

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Hall County Government Center, HR Training Room**  
**Minutes of July 18, 2019 Meeting**

**Voting Members Present:**

Renee Gerrell, Hall County, Chair  
Doug Aiken, Hall County  
Trey Bell, Hall County  
Brent Hoffman, Hall County  
Mary Jardine, City of Gainesville  
David Jones, City of Flowery Branch  
Joe Kennedy, Hall County  
Tony Millwood, City of Oakwood  
Beverly Nordholtz, City of Gainesville  
Patrick O'Rourke, Hall County  
Connie Propes, City of Gainesville  
Sammy Smith, City of Gainesville  
Heather Taylor, Hall County

**Voting Members Absent:**

Nick Allen, Hall County  
Tabitha Gooch, Jackson County  
Jennifer Kidd-Harrison, Town of  
Braselton  
Berlinda Lipscomb, City of Gainesville  
Chip McCallum, City of Flowery Branch  
Pat Jones, City of Oakwood

**Others Present:**

Joseph Boyd, GHMPO  
Sam Baker, GHMPO  
Laura Ogletree, Hall County  
Sgt. Justin Martin, City of Gainesville PD

Rich Edinger, CPL  
Steve Cote, RS&H

**1. Welcome**

Ms. Gerrell opened the meeting at 4:05 PM. The attendees went through a round of introductions.

**2. Approval of April 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Ms. Jardine made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2019 meeting, with a second from Ms. Propes, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

**3. Recommend Approval of an Amendment to the Gainesville-Hall Regional Transportation Plan: 2015 Update**

Mr. Boyd stated that, at the request of GDOT, the proposed Amendment #6 would split the widening of Cleveland Highway/SR 11/US 129(project no. GH-020) into three phases:

- Phase I: Cleveland Highway from Lakeview Street to south of Nopone Road (GH-020A)
- Phase II: Cleveland Highway from Brittany Court to south of Lakeview Street (GH-020B)
- Phase III: Cleveland Highway from Limestone Parkway to north of Brittany Court (GH-020C)

In addition, the three phases listed above be moved from the long-term phase (2033-2040) of the plan to the mid-term phase (2024-2032) for implementation.

**MOTION:** Mr. Smith made a motion to recommend approval of the amendment to the Gainesville-Hall Regional Transportation Plan, with a second from Ms. Jardine, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

**4. Recommend Approval of an Amendment to the 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program**

Mr. Boyd stated that if the amendment to the Regional Transportation Plan above is approved, this amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) would need to be approved as well. He added that the proposed amendment would drop the widening of Cleveland Highway (GH-020) from the current 2018-2021 TIP for implementation beyond the current TIP's period.

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

**5. Recommend Approval of an Amendment to the FY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program to Conduct a Jackson County Transit Feasibility Study**

Mr. Boyd stated that GHMPO and Jackson County intend to team up to hire a consultant to conduct a Jackson County transit feasibility study in FY 2020 to explore what type of transit service is feasible in the County in light of the County's potential loss of federal transit funds for rural areas following the 2020 Census as a result of Jackson County becoming more urbanized. The proposed study, if approved, would be funded 80% with the MPO's Section 5303 grant, 10% match from GDOT, and another 10% local match in cash from Jackson County. The proposed amendment will add this activity, as an additional line item, to the MPO's work program for the current fiscal year.

**MOTION:** Mr. Smith made a motion to recommend approval of an amendment to the FY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program, with a second from Mr. Hoffman, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

## **6. Flowery Branch Sign & Speed Study**

Mr. Edinger presented the results of the study CPL conducted for the City of Flowery Branch. In this study, the consultant conducted an inventory of the City's traffic signs and their condition. It then came up with a seven-year plan to replace the City's degraded signs. In addition, the study investigated traffic speed on four roads to determine whether the posted speed limits were appropriate. The study recommended raising the posted speed limit on Gainesville Street from 35 to 45 miles per hour and leaving the speed limit unchanged on Church Street, Lights Ferry Road, and East Main Street.

## **7. Gainesville-Hall Regional Transportation Plan: 2020 Update**

Mr. Cote provided a status update of the ongoing project to update the Regional Transportation Plan. The project team has developed a draft inventory of transportation projects to be considered for inclusion in the upcoming transportation plan along with a method to prioritize such projects. He shared the results of an online survey. The team is developing financial projection of how much funds are projected to be available for transportation projects through year 2050 along with the level of potential additional funds if the region approves a Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (TSPLOST). There are two public open houses planned for August 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> to seek public input on which particular transportation projects to implement based upon revenue projection. A financially-constrained project list is to be developed and finalized by September 30, 2019.

Mr. Hoffman asked if the North Hall Parkway could be included in the plan update, to which staff responded that it could be listed as a potential study and that the possibility did exist to work with GDOT about the potential modeling of such project in the future.

## **8. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports**

A report summarizing the jurisdiction and agency reports presented to the Technical Coordinating Committee on July 10, 2019 was provided to the Citizens Advisory Committee.

Mr. Smith asked for an update from GDOT on the widening of US 129/Athens Highway be included in the next Jurisdiction and Agency Report.

## **9. Upcoming Meeting Date: September 12, 2019**

## **10. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

## **11. Other**


Ken Stanley held the Vice Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee position and was reelected at the last meeting for another year; however, Mr. Stanley's term on the

Committee expired on June 30, 2019 and Hall County appointed a new member to his seat. As a result, there was a vacancy for the Vice Chair position.

**MOTION:** Mr. Smith nominated Tony Millwood to be the Vice Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee for FY 2020, seconded by Mr. Hoffman. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

## 12. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 PM.



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Renee Gerrell, Chair



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Laura Ogletree, Clerk