

Gainesville - Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization

GHMPO

Flowery Branch - Gainesville - Hall County - Oakwood

POLICY COMMITTEE

Georgia Mountains Center, Room B
Minutes of March 10, 2009 Meeting

Voting Members Present:

Sam Chapman, Hall County
Myrtle Figueras, City of Gainesville
Diane Hirling, City of Flowery Branch
Montie Robinson, City of Oakwood
Ulysses Mitchell, GDOT

Voting Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

Randy Knighton, GHMPO
Srikanth Yamala, GHMPO
David Fee, GHMPO
Phillippa Lewis Moss, City of Gainesville
Bill Andrew, City of Flowery Branch
Larry Sparks, City of Oakwood
Adam Hazell, GMRDC
Chip Burger, URS

Phil Sutton, Hall County
Ken Reardon, Hall County
Christopher Chavis, Hall County
Connie Daniels, Hall County
Russell McMurry, GDOT
Jason Crane, GDOT
Jeff Carroll, Wilbur Smith & Associates

1. Welcome

Mr. Chapman called the meeting to order and welcomed all.

2. Approval of November 12, 2008 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Ms. Hirling made a motion to recommend approval of the November 12, 2008, Minutes with a second by Mr. Scroggs 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. Approval of 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: Ms. Figueras made a motion to approve the Draft Human Services Transportation Plan with a second by Ms. Hirling and passed by a unanimous vote.

5. Update on the Northern Connector Study

Mr. Carroll gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Northern Connector Study on the purpose and need for the project. He noted stakeholders have been briefed at a meeting and there will be another meeting within them again in April. Mr. Yamala will let this committee know the exact date of that meeting. 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.

MOTION: Mr. Scroggs made a motion to accept the Administrative Modifications and Amendments to the 2008 - 2013 Transportation Improvement Program with a second by Ms. Figueras and passed by a unanimous vote.

7. Update on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and the 2009 Georgia Legislative Session

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. Approval of an amendment to the Citizen Advisory Committee 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: Ms. Figueras made a motion to accept the amendment to the Citizen Advisory Committee bylaws with a second by Mr. Scroggs and passed by a unanimous vote.

9. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports


Representatives discussed the status of transportation projects being completed by their jurisdictions: Ms. Hirling for the City of Flowery Branch; Ms. Figueras for the City of Gainesville; Mr. Scroggs for the City of Oakwood; Mr. Reardon for Hall County and Mr. McMurray for GDOT

10. Upcoming Meeting Date


The next Policy Committee meeting is May 12, 2009.

11. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the chairman at 10:55 ^{AWF} p.m.



Sam Chapman, Chairperson



for Connie Daniels, Secretary