



Gainesville - Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization

GHMPO

Flowery Branch - Gainesville - Hall County - Oakwood

POLICY COMMITTEE

Conference Room, Hall Area Transit Admn. Building
Minutes of August 11, 2009 Meeting

Voting Members Present:

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

Voting Members Absent:

Lamar Scroggs, City of Oakwood

Others Present:

Randy Knighton, GHMPO
Srikanth Yamala, GHMPO
David Fee, GHMPO
Janice Crow, Hall Area Transit
Bill Andrew, City of Flowery Branch
Stephanie Harmon, GMRDC
Jeff Gill, The Times
Stan Aiken, City of Gainesville

Shelley Davis, Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce
Phillippa Lewis Moss, Gainesville-Hall CSC
Robert Mahoney, GDOT
Jason Crane, GDOT
Jody Woodall, Hall County
Nikki Young, Hall County
Jeff Carroll, Wilbur Smith Associates
Judson Hickinbotham, WDUN News

1. Welcome

Mayor Figueras called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Ms. Crow thanked everyone for attending the meeting at the new Hall Area Transit Administration Building and offered a quick tour of the facility after the meeting.

2. Approval of May 12, 2009 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Mayor Figueras made a motion to approve the May 12, 2009 Minutes with a second by Mayor Hirling and passed by a unanimous vote.

3. Northern Connector Study - Modeling Results

Mr. Carroll presented the four potential concepts based on data layer rankings using the Alignment Alternative Research Tool (AART) software. Two of those concepts were further analyzed for traffic impacts based on travel demand modeling. Projected traffic counts on existing roadways with and without a Northern Connector for the year 2030 were presented. Mr. Yamala noted that the modeling results determined congestion relief on several existing corridors, where severe congestion was projected for the year 2030.

4. Update on Senate Bill 200

Mr. Fee reported that the Georgia General Assembly recently passed SB 200 with a few structural changes to GDOT such as creating a new Director of Planning position. The goal is to create a statewide strategic transportation plan with the primary focus on projects that create economic development and reduce traffic congestion.

5. Amendments to the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) Bylaws

Mr. Yamala informed the committee that the CAC voted unanimously to amend Article 5, Item 2 in the existing CAC bylaws. The proposed amendment would allow the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson to succeed themselves with no limitation on the number of terms. He added that either the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson could be removed by a majority of CAC members.

MOTION: Mayor Figueras made a motion to approve the amendment to the CAC bylaws allowing the Chairperson and Vice-Person to succeed themselves with no term limits; however, they may be removed by majority vote of CAC members. Mr. Chapman seconded motion which passed by a unanimous vote.

6. 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Schedule

Mr. Yamala handed out a draft schedule of the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Schedule. A consultant will be hired for assistance on various activities surrounding the planning process. He explained that the current 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan is required to be updated by August 2011.

7. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports

Representatives discussed the status of transportation projects being completed by their jurisdictions: Mr. Mahoney for GDOT, Mr. Woodall for Hall County, Mr. Andrew for the City of Flowery Branch, Ms. Crow for Hall Area Transit. There were no reports from the City of Gainesville or City of Oakwood.

8. Upcoming Meeting Date

The next Policy Committee meeting will be November 10, 2009.

9. Other

Ms. Moss offered to present an overview on the Census 2010 Complete Count Committee and other Census related activities happening in the Gainesville-Hall area at the next Policy Committee meeting.

Ms. Crow reminded the Policy Committee members and attendees that the tour of new Hall Area Transit Administration Building will begin one the meeting is adjourned.

10. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Myrtle V. Figueras
Myrtle Figueras, Chairperson

Connie Daniels
Connie Daniels, Secretary