



Gainesville - Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization

GHMPO

Flowery Branch - Gainesville - Hall County - Oakwood

POLICY COMMITTEE

Room C, Georgia Mountains Center
Minutes of March 9, 2010 Meeting

Voting Members Present:

Ruth Bruner, City of Gainesville
Diane Hirling, City of Flowery Branch
Sam Chapman, Hall County
Lamar Scroggs, City of Oakwood
Tom McQueen, GDOT

Voting Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

Srikanth Yamala, GHMPO
Randy Knighton, GHMPO
James Riker, City of Flowery Branch
Bill Andrew, City of Flowery Branch
Larry Sparks, City of Oakwood
Stan Brown, City of Oakwood
Montie Robinson Sr., City of Oakwood
Connie Daniels, Hall County
Kevin McInturff, Hall County
Robert Mahoney, GDOT
Andrew Heath, GDOT Planning
Kim Coley, GDOT Planning and
Programming
Talya Trudell, ARC

Dee Taylor, City of Gainesville
Debbie Lawson Davis, LLCPA
Janice Crow, Hall Area Transit
Phillippa Lewis Moss, Gainesville-Hall CSC
Jason Close, The Architecture Group
Richard Jones, Garyfield Realty
Stephanie Harmon, GMRC
Judson Hickinbotham, WDUN-AM
Ron Osterloh, Pond & Company
Jeff Gill, Gainesville Times
Shelly Davis, Greater Hall Chamber
Rob Heitner, Gainesville Vision/Vision Capital
Partners

1. Welcome

Ms. Bruner introduced herself as the Chair and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Approval of November 10, 2009 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Ms. Hirling made a motion to recommend approval of the November 10, 2009, Minutes with a second by Mr. Scroggs and passed by a unanimous vote.

3. Review Draft FY 2011 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Yamala explained that the Draft FY 2011 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is a federally mandated document for the MPO which describes the organization's planning goals and activities for the upcoming fiscal year. He mentioned that due to uncertainties on funding from GDOT at the present time, the overall funding summary will be finalized later. GDOT is considering withdrawing its usual 10% match leaving the GHMPO to double its local funding source to a 20% match for federal funding. An update on the funding situation will be presented at the next PC meeting.

4. Update on the City of Flowery Branch Transportation Study

Mr. Osterloh presented an update on the City of Flowery Branch Transportation Study. He went over the purpose of the study, consistent themes gleaned from the public workshop, needs assessment, along with existing conditions and future needs. He anticipated providing the City of Flowery Branch a final report in the next couple of weeks.

5. Update on Hall Area Transit Maintenance Facility Feasibility Study

Mr. Close provided an update on the Hall Area Transit Maintenance Facility Feasibility Study. He said that there are three selected sites which will be analyzed for their suitability for the facility. A draft of their study will be provided at the next meeting. Mr. Chapman asked that the Hall County Board of Education be contacted regarding this study.

6. Discussion of Howard Road Extension Concept

Mr. Taylor introduced a conceptual plan for an extension to Howard Road that the Gainesville City Council would like to see added to the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). This would be a connector road from SR 365 to US 129. The idea behind the concept is to explore new corridors and promote development in the area.

7. 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Mr. Yamala explained federal requirements mandate that regional transportation plans in metropolitan areas with air quality nonattainment standards be updated every four years. The GHMPO selection committee interviewed consultants to assist with the 2040 MTP and would finalize the selection before the next PC meeting. The consultant's first priority will be to prepare a detailed schedule for the next eighteen months as this plan must be adopted by August 2011. There will be several public meetings held during this time period and the MPO staff will keep the committees advised of the progress.

8. Recommendation to Adopt the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program Amendment Process

Mr. Yamala mentioned that to ensure a consistent and equitable process is followed for project changes statewide, GDOT agreed with FHWA to amend the current Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment Process for the state and the MPOs. Mr. Yamala highlighted those changes stating it streamlines the process.

MOTION: Mr. Chapman made a motion to adopt the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program Amendment Process with a second by Ms. Hirling and passed by a unanimous vote.

9. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports

Representatives discussed the status of transportation projects being completed by their jurisdictions: Mr. McInturff for Hall County, Mr. Taylor for the City of Gainesville, Mr. Riker for the City of Flowery Branch; Mr. Brown for the City of Oakwood, Ms. Crow for Hall Area Transit and Mr. Mahoney for GDOT.

10. Upcoming Meeting Date

The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for May 11, 2010.

11. Other

12. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the chairman at 11:02 a.m.



Ruth Bruner, Chairperson



Connie Daniels, Secretary