



Gainesville - Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization

GHMPO

Flowery Branch - Gainesville - Hall County - Oakwood

POLICY COMMITTEE

Room B, Georgia Mountains Center
Minutes of August 10, 2010 Meeting

Voting Members Present:

Lamar Scroggs, City of Oakwood
Ruth Bruner, City of Gainesville
Bill Andrew, City of Flowery Branch
Tom McQueen, GDOT

Voting Members Absent:

Sam Chapman, Hall County

Others Present:

Dee Taylor, City of Gainesville
Phillippa Lewis-Moss, Gainesville/
Hall County Community Service Center
Stan Brown, City of Oakwood
Larry Sparks, City of Oakwood
Jerry Gunn, WDUN
Jeff Carroll, Wilber Smith
Stephanie Harmon, GMRC
Srikanth Yamala, GHMPO
David Fee, GHMPO

Carlos Gonzalez, FHWA
Jeff Gill, The Times
Andrew Heath, GDOT
Robert Mahoney, GDOT
Kim Coley, GDOT
Jack Buie, LLCPA
Jack Price, LLCPA
Annette Forster, LLCPA
Randy Knighton, GHMPO

1. Welcome

Mayor Scroggs introduced himself as the Chair and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Approval of November 10, 2009 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Ms. Burner made a motion to recommend approval of the June 8, 2010, Minutes with a second by Mr. Andrew and passed by a unanimous vote.

3. 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Status Update

Mr. Carroll gave a brief overview of the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). He explained the plan process would cover existing conditions such as commuting patterns, travel time to work, multimodal considerations and implementation/funding policies. The kickoff meeting with GHMPO and GDOT staff was held in May. The first public meeting was held on July 14th with about 50 people attending the meeting. There will be at least three additional public meetings during the duration of this plan update.

Mr. Ross reported that they expect both the population and employment opportunities in Hall County to nearly triple between now and the year 2040. The 2008 population of Hall County was 184,814 and is forecast to grow to 561,812 by 2040.

4. Draft GHMPO Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan

Mr. Fee presented a draft of the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan. All federally funded agencies including MPOs are required to have an LEP Plan which promotes access to government services for those who are less than fluent in English. The GHMPO had already implemented most of the requirements with translators present at all MPO public meetings and public notices in both English and Spanish. The refined plan will be brought back before the Policy Committee for their approval in November.

5. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports

Representatives discussed the status of transportation projects being completed by their jurisdictions: Mr. Andrew for the City of Flowery Branch, Mr. Taylor for the City of Gainesville, Mr. Brown for the City of Oakwood, Mr. Mahoney for GDOT, Ms. Harmon for GMRC, Ms. Lewis-Moss for Hall Area Transit and there was no representative present for Hall County.

6. Upcoming Meeting Date

The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2010.

11. Other

Mr. Yamala brought up a motion made by the Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) that the widening of U.S. 129/Athens Highway to four lanes to the Jackson County line be a high priority project. He noted funds are not currently available but the project is listed in long-range.

He informed the committee about a request from GDOT to add SR347/ Lanier Islands Parkway to the current 2030 LRTP. He cautioned any capacity adding changes must be coordinated with ARC for air quality modeling as Hall County is part of the Atlanta non-attainment area for air quality.

MOTION: Mayor Scroggs made a motion to support the CAC recommendation to make the widening of U.S. 129/Athens Highway a high priority project. The motion was seconded by Mr. Andrew and passed by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Yamala announced that Todd Long, GDOT Planning Director, will speak in Oakwood on HB 277 in early September and all GHMPO committee members will be invited.

12. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the chairman at 11:03 a.m.

Lamar Scroggs
Lamar Scroggs, Chairperson

David L. Fee
David Fee, Acting Secretary