

Gainesville - Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization

GHMPO

Flowery Branch - Gainesville - Hall County - Oakwood

POLICY COMMITTEE

Hall County Government Center, 2nd Floor Commission Meeting Room
Minutes of March 12, 2013 Meeting

Voting Members Present:

Mayor Danny Dunagan, City of Gainesville
Mayor Mike Miller, City of Flowery Branch
Mayor Lamar Scroggs, City of Oakwood
Chairman Richard Mecum, Hall County
Matthew Fowler, GDOT

Voting Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

Sarah McQuade, GMRC
Dee Taylor, City of Gainesville
Jerry Gunn, WDUN
Stan Brown, City of Oakwood
Richard Fangmann, Pond & Company
Julia Billings, GDOT
Kim Coley, GDOT
Brandon Kirby, GDOT

Adam Ivory, CDM Smith
Bill Andrew, City of Flowery Branch
Jeff Gill, The Times
Phillippa Lewis Moss, Gainesville-Hall
County Community Service Center
David Fee, GHMPO
Commissioner Jeff Stowe, Hall County
Jody Woodall, Hall County

1. Welcome

Mayor Dunagan called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Approval of November 7, 2012 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Mayor Dunagan made a motion to approve the November 7, 2012 Minutes with a second by Mr. Fowler and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

3. City of Gainesville Transportation Study

Mr. Fangmann presented the goals of the study: manage congestion, enhance safety, increase connectivity, support redevelopment as well as increase pedestrian and bicycle mobility. He said he had examined existing conditions and projections on future conditions. He outlined his next steps as: establishing the focus group, posting website materials with an online survey and completing a needs assessment. Mr. Fangmann told committee members he would send them a copy of his presentation and an updated schedule.

4. GHMPO 2010 Census Adjusted Urbanized Area

Ms. Spivey presented map of Hall County indicating the Gainesville Urbanized Area (UZA) boundaries determined by both the 2000 and 2010 censuses as well as a proposed adjusted 2010 boundary. She said federal law dictates that all MPOs must encompass newly identified UZA territory and the MPOs have the opportunity to adjust or "smooth" irregular boundaries into a single contiguous area. Mr. Andrew voiced his concern about the implications of the Atlanta Regional Commission's (ARC's) UZA expanding into the City of Flowery Branch's public roads and other transportation related issues without any prior consultation with ARC.

MOTION: Mayor Dunagan made a motion to approve the GHMPO 2010 Census Adjusted UZA Map with a second by Chairman Mecum. The motion passed by a 4-1 vote with Mayor Miller opposed.

5. Review and Discussion of Draft FY 2014 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Mr. Fee briefly explained the document's format with previous work the GHMPO had done in FY 2013 and activities planned for FY 2014 with accompanying deliverables. He then directed the attention of the committee to the Funding Summary table. He said there were more PL funds budgeted this year and more carryover funds which would be channeled into the 4.1 Long Range Transportation Plan work element as the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan needs to be updated by August 2015. Mr. Fee added that the GHMPO could help use planning funds for a Major Transportation Study by a member jurisdiction similar to the current Gainesville Transportation Study.

6. Review and Discussion of FY 2012-2017 TIP Amendments

Mr. Fee submitted two TIP amendments for the committee's approval. The first amendment (GH-015) would add \$800,000 in FY 2013 to Preliminary Engineering (PE) funds to the new interchange, Exit 14, on I-985 north of SR 13/Atlanta Hwy near Martin Rd. The second amendment (GH-050) would add \$50,000 in FY 2013 to PE funds to the SR 284/Clarks Bridge Rd at the Chattahoochee River Bridge project.

Mr. Fee pointed out that during the public review and comment period, the GHMPO had received one comment via phone. Mr. Robin Kopp of Flowery Branch expressed his opposition to the Exit 14 amendment on the grounds that there was not enough traffic in the vicinity to warrant an interchange and that the funds would be better spent on other road projects in Hall County.

Mr. Fee informed the committee that the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) and Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) had unanimously recommended approval of the amendment to GH-050. He added that the TCC unanimously recommended approval for the GH-015 amendment; however, the CAC denied recommending the Exit 14 amendment by a 2-7 vote.

MOTION: Mayor Dunagan made a motion to approve both TIP amendments with a second by Mayor Miller and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

7. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports

Representatives discussed the status of transportation projects being completed by their jurisdictions: Mayor Miller for the City of Flowery Branch, Mr. Taylor for the City of Gainesville, Mr. Brown for the City of Oakwood, Mr. Fee for GDOT, Ms. McQuade for GMRC, Ms. Lewis-Moss for HAT and Mr. Woodall for Hall County.

8. Upcoming Meeting Date

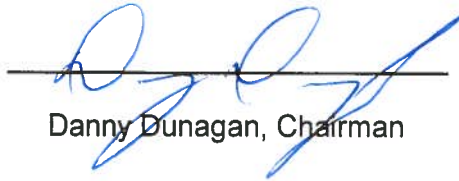
The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for May 7, 2013.

9. Other


Mr. Fee said the GDOT Annual Transportation Forum would be held at the University of North Georgia tomorrow.

10. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 10:59 a.m.



Danny Dunagan, Chairman



David Fee, Acting Secretary