



# *Gainesville - Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization*

**GHMPO**

Braselton - Flowery Branch - Gainesville - Oakwood - Hall County - Jackson County

## **POLICY COMMITTEE**

**Hall County Government Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
Minutes of May 12, 2015 Meeting**

### **Voting Members Present:**

Mayor Danny Dunagan, City of Gainesville  
Mayor Lamar Scroggs, City of Oakwood  
Councilwoman Mary Jones, City of  
Flowery Branch  
Chairman Tom Crow, Jackson County  
Matthew Fowler, GDOT

### **Voting Members Absent:**

Chairman Richard Mecum, Hall County

### **Others Present:**

Jody Woodall, Hall County  
Connie Daniels, Hall County  
Gina Roy, Jackson County  
Bill Andrew, City of Flowery Branch  
David Dockery, City of Gainesville  
Stan Brown, City of Oakwood  
Jeff Gill, The Times  
Mayor James Nix, City of Clermont  
Phillippa Lewis Moss, Gainesville-Hall  
Community Service Center  
Adam Ivory, CDM Smith  
Wayne Stradley, Citizen  
Marc Eggers, WDUN

Julia Billings, GDOT  
Kaycee Mertz, GDOT  
Eileen Schwartz-Washington, GDOT  
Garrett Wiley, GHCC  
Robert Horne, Citizen  
Phillip Bonelli, Vision 2030 Committee  
Richard Fangmann, Pond & Company  
Eric Lusher, Pond & Company  
Srikanth Yamala, GHMPO  
Sam Baker, GHMPO  
David Fee, GHMPO  
Zhan Shi, GHMPO  
Stuart Battenger, HAT

### **1. Welcome**

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

### **2. Approval of February 10, 2015 Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** *Mayor Dunagan made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2015, meeting with a second from Councilwoman Jones, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.*

### **3. Public Comments**

Mr. Stradley spoke to the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) regarding the Hall County Trails Initiative and expressed his concerns regarding lack of lighting, security, and parking. He also read a statement regarding the importance of the Lee Gilmer Memorial Airport to Hall County

that the CAC recommended adding to the Gainesville-Hall Regional Transportation Plan: 2015 Update.

**4. Report from the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)**

Mr. Brown reported that the TCC discussed all the items that are on this agenda and recommended approval of them all. They are excited about the progress being made on the trails initiative.

**5. Report from the Citizens Advisory Committee**

Mayor Nix acknowledged the trails briefing Mr. Stradley presented to the CAC. The CAC also questioned whether the section of Spout Springs Road underneath I-985 at Exit 12 was included in the Spout Springs Road widening project; Mr. Baker spoke with GDOT and affirmed that the road widening included this section.

**6. Approve the Resolution Adopting the Gainesville-Hall Regional Transportation Plan (RTP): 2015 Update, Associated FY 2016–2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and Related Conformity Determination Report (CDR)**

Mr. Baker explained that it was a federal requirement to update the GHMPO RTP/TIP every four years and it needs to be adopted by August 8, 2015.

Mr. Fangmann and Mr. Lusher presented an overview of the steps taken to develop the financially constrained project list presented in the Gainesville-Hall RTP: 2015 Update.

***MOTION:*** Mayor Dunagan made a motion to approve the resolution adopting the Gainesville-Hall RTP: 2015 Update, associated FY 2016–2019 TIP and related CDR with a second from Mr. Fowler, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

**7. Approve the Resolution Adopting the FY 2016 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

Mr. Baker stated that the UPWP highlights the work the MPO has accomplished in FY 2015 and outlines the tasks the MPO plans to undertake in the upcoming fiscal year.

***MOTION:*** Mayor Dunagan made a motion to approve the FY 2016 UPWP with a second from Councilwoman Jones, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

**8. Approve an Amendment to the Title VI Program and Environmental Justice (EJ) Analysis**

Mr. Fee relayed there were some deficiencies found in this document and that this amendment was made to conform to Federal Transit Administration (FTA) guidelines. Changes include the bilingual language added to public notices and the inclusion of the complaint form now in English and Spanish.

***MOTION:*** Mayor Dunagan made a motion to approve the amendment to the Title VI Program and EJ Analysis with a second from Councilwoman Jones, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

## **9. Approve the Complete Streets Policy for the Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization**

Mr. Baker explained this policy gives public notice that the GHMPO values multiple modes of transportation and will consider the needs of all users including pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users, not only drivers. This does not mean that all streets and roads will have bicycle or pedestrian paths but that as improvements are made on roadways bicycle and pedestrian facilities will be considered.

***MOTION:*** *Chairman Crow made a motion to approve the Complete Streets Policy for the GHMPO with a second from Mayor Dunagan and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.*

## **10. Approve Name and Logo for the Hall County Trails Network**

Mr. Bonelli presented three possible names ("Highlands to Islands", "Foothills Greenway" or "Foothills Trail") and two different logos for the committee to consider naming the Hall County trails.

***MOTION:*** *Mayor Dunagan made a motion to approve the name Highlands to Islands and logo for the Hall County Trails Network with a second from Councilwoman Jones, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.*

## **11. Transportation Funding Act**

Mr. Yamala briefed the committee on HB 170, which was passed by Georgia legislators on March 31 and goes in to effect on July 1, 2015. Potentially, this will provide \$900 million in additional funds annually that will be distributed throughout the State.

***MOTION:*** *Mayor Dunagan made a motion to direct the GHMPO staff to work with GDOT to incorporate potential funding from HB 170 and amend the Gainesville-Hall RTP: 2015 Update, associated FY 2016–2019 TIP to include regionally significant projects that will benefit the community with a second from Councilwoman Jones, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.*

## **12. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports**

Representatives shared the status of transportation projects being completed by their jurisdictions: Mr. Andrew for the City of Flowery Branch, Mr. Dockery for the City of Gainesville, Mr. Brown for the City of Oakwood, Mr. Fee for the Town of Braselton and GDOT, Mrs. Lewis-Moss for HAT, Mr. Woodall for Hall County and Ms. Roy for Jackson County.

Mr. Yamala congratulated Mr. Brown on being named to the American Public Works Association 2015 Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year.

## **13. Upcoming Meeting Date**

The next PC meeting will be hosted by the City of Oakwood on August 11, 2015.

## **14. Other**

Mr. Baker congratulated Mr. Fee on passing the American Institute of Certified Planners examination and, thus, becoming a certified planner. He also introduced the MPO's intern, Ms. Zhan Shi.

**15. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

  
Lamar Scroggs, Chairman

  
Connie Daniels, Secretary