

GHMPO

Gainesville - Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization

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

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE Hall County Government Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room Minutes of July 20, 2016 Meeting

Voting Members Present:

Ken Rearden, Hall County
Gina Roy, Jackson County
Bill Andrew, City of Flowery Branch
Matt Tarver, City of Gainesville (for Rhonda Brady)
Stan Brown, City of Oakwood
Julia Billings, GDOT
Brandon Kirby, GDOT
Sam Baker, GHMPO

Voting Members Absent:

Denise Farr, Hall County
Kevin McInturff, Hall County
Jennifer Dees, City of Braselton
David Dockery, City of Gainesville
Rusty Ligon, City of Gainesville
Adam Hazell, GMRC
Stu Ballenger, HAT
Srikanth Yamala, GHMPO

Others Present:

Kim Coley, GDOT
Chris Shelnutt, SEI
Scott Jordan, SEI
Jennie Agerton, SEI
John Girardeau, Citizen
Andrea Timpone, Citizen
Jane White, Citizen

Wayne Stradley, GHMPO CAC
Jan McCord, Citizen
Brad Farrow, Citizen
Gary McClung, Citizen
Jeff Gill, The Times
Joseph Boyd, GHMPO
Connie Daniels, Hall County

1. Welcome

Mr. Andrew called the meeting to order, and introductions were made.

2. Approval of April 20, 2016 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Mr. Rearden made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2016, meeting, with a second from Ms. Roy, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

3. Public Comments

Ms. McCord, representing the Martin Road community, read a letter to the Committee detailing its opposition to the proposed Exit 14 interchange. Mr. Farrow expressed concern agencies they had contacted for information had not responded to them.

4. Recommend Approval of the Resolution Amending the Regional Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Baker relayed that GDOT had requested the GHMPO to amend its Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program to program funds for the replacement of the Elachee Drive bridge over I-985. This will not affect funding of other projects or the financial constraint of the RTP.

Mr. Girardeau, Chairman for Elachee Board of Trustees, stated Elachee Nature Center has over 100,000 visitors a year, and they expect this number to increase. They request that the bridge plan addresses safety issues for pedestrians and bicyclists by incorporating high railings and fencing in the design.

MOTION: *Mr. Brown made a motion to recommend approval of the resolution amending the Regional Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program with emphasis on bicycle and pedestrian safety issues being addressed. The motion received a second from Mr. Rearden, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.*

5. Recommend Approval of the Resolution Requesting Additional PL Funds for a Bike-Share Feasibility Study

Mr. Baker stated that the GHMPO staff recommends requesting \$75,000 of additional planning funds to conduct a bike-share feasibility study. The study would evaluate specific locations, define the size and phasing of the system and recommend a business model to follow.

MOTION: *Ms. Roy made a motion to recommend approval of the resolution requesting additional PL funds for a Bike-Share Feasibility Study, with a second by Mr. Rearden, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.*

6. Green Street Corridor Study: Phase 1 Completion Results

Ms. Agerton and Mr. Jordan provided an overall assessment of their findings on the Green Street Corridor Study. Drainage, condition of pipes, paving, trees, and utilities (electric, sewer, water, gas and telephone), were some of the things they analyzed. The street is too narrow with an aged infrastructure and has double the truck traffic of most state routes.

7. Proposed Rulemaking on Metropolitan Planning Organization Coordination and Planning Area Reform

Mr. Boyd announced that the U.S. Department of Transportation has proposed rules for MPOs that will substantially alter the MPOs' planning area boundaries and coordination among them. The goal of the proposed revisions is to result in unified planning products for each urbanized area, even if there are multiple MPOs designated within that urbanized area. This proposal could potentially affect the GHMPO's existence, planning area, planning documents and extent of coordination with ARC.

The Gainesville urbanized area which is significantly different and unique from the Atlanta urbanized area could be required to merge as a result of the proposed rules. The governor

and MPO, however, can make the determination not to merge MPOs, based on size and complexity. Even if GHMPO is allowed to remain separate, certain planning documents will be required to merge with Atlanta, which would result in loss of local voice and control over our region.

Mr. Baker stated the MPO is drafting a formal response and encouraged individual jurisdictions to submit comments and provide the MPO with their comments and concerns to incorporate in the MPO's response.

8. Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

MOTION: Mr. Baker made a motion to nominate Jennifer Dees as Chairperson and Gina Roy, on behalf of Kevin Poe, as Vice Chairperson. The motion received a second by Mr. Brown and passed by a unanimous vote.

9. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports

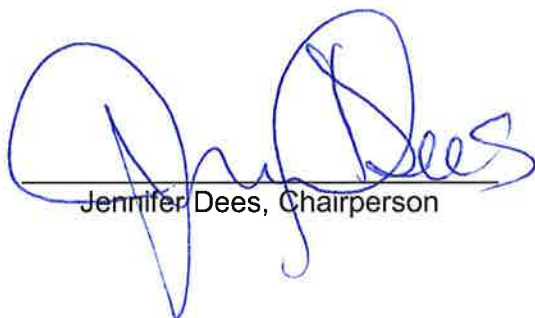
Representatives shared the status of transportation projects being completed by their jurisdictions: Mr. Andrew for the City of Flowery Branch, Mr. Tarver for the City of Gainesville, Mr. Kirby for GDOT, Mr. Rearden for Hall County and Ms. Roy for Jackson County.

10. Upcoming Meeting Date

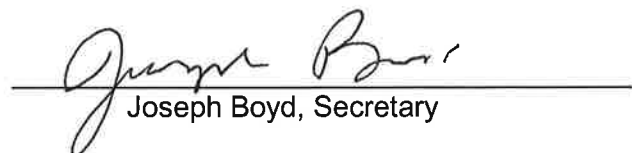
The next TCC meeting will be on October 12, 2016.

11. Adjourn

MOTION: Ms. Roy made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:25 p.m., with a second by Mr. Baker, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.



Jennifer Dees, Chairperson



Joseph Boyd, Secretary

