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POLICY COMMITTEE
Hall County Government Center
2875 Browns Bridge Road, Gainesville, GA 30504
Minutes of March 10, 2020 Meeting

Voting Members Present:

Chairman Tom Crow, Jackson County, Chair
Mayor Mike Miller, City of Flowery Branch
Commissioner Shelly Echols, on behalf of
Chairman Richard Higgins, Hall County
Charles Robinson, GDOT
Commissioner Jeff Stowe, Hal County

Voting Members Absent:

Mayor Danny Dunagan, City of
Gainesville
Mayor Lamar Scroggs, City of Oakwood
Commissioner Kathy Cooper, Hall County

Others Present:

Sarah McQuade, GHMPO
Joseph Boyd, GHMPO
Laura Ogletree, Hall County
Kevin McInturff, Hall County
Srikanth Yamala, Hall County
Jock Connell, Hall County

Bill Andrew, City of Flowery Branch
Chris Rotalsky, City of Gainesville
Matt Tarver, City of Gainesville
Gina Roy, Jackson County
Steve Cote, RS&H
Marc Eggers, WDUN

1. Welcome

Chairman Crow opened the meeting at 10:04 AM.

2. Approval of September 17, 2019 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Commissioner Stowe made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2019 meeting, with a second from Mayor Miller, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

3. Report from the Technical Coordinating Committee

Mr. Boyd, on behalf of the TCC Chair Adam Hazell, presented a summary of the Technical Coordinating Committee meeting on February 19, 2020.



4. Report from the Citizens Advisory Committee

Mr. Body, on behalf of the CAC Chair Renee Gerrell, presented a summary of the Citizens Advisory Committee meeting on February 27, 2020.

5. Approval of the Resolution Adopting Amendment #4 to the FY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Boyd presented a draft of Amendment #4 to the FY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) which is being requested by the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT). This amendment would shift funds for construction of the following project into fiscal year 2020:

- GH-109 / PI 0013545 – I-85 Widening from North of SR 53 to North of SR 11 / US 129

MOTION: Mayor Miller made a motion to approve the resolution adopting Amendment #4 to the FY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program, with a second from Commissioner Stowe, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

6. Review of the Draft FY 2021 Unified Planning Network Program

Mr. Boyd presented the first draft of the Fiscal Year 2021 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) which highlights all MPO activities and budget occurring between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. This draft is currently under review by the Georgia Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration. Comments regarding this draft will be accepted until May, when the GHMPO Policy Committee is scheduled to adopt the FY 2021 UPWP on May 12, 2020.

7. Review of the Draft Regional Transportation Plan: 2020 Update

Mr. Cote with RS&H provided the final update on the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP): 2020 Update. Since the previous meeting in September, the project team has worked to conclude the first draft of the plan, which includes recommendations regarding bicycle, pedestrian, and transit projects within the GHMPO planning area. The first draft of the RTP document is now available for review and comment on the GHMPO website. The RTP is scheduled for adoption by the GHMPO Policy Committee on May 12, 2020.

8. 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. McInturff for Hall County, and Ms. Roy for Jackson County.

A discussion was had about culverts and why they may have failed while Mr. McInturff was presenting for Hall County. Mr. McInturff stated that due to the recent heavy rains, one of the

culverts failed due to old age and another one had failed do to the metal eroding away. Both will be replaced shortly.

9. Upcoming Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2020

The location of the May 12, 2020 meeting will be determined shortly. If space is available, the meeting will be held at Flowery Branch City Hall.

10. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

11. Other

Commissioner Stowe made a request that GDOT take a second look at the possibility of installing a traffic signal at the intersection of U.S. 129 and Gaines Mill Road due to the number of accidents that occur and to the increase in traffic as a result of the numerous houses that have been built in the past two years along the corridor. Commissioner Stowe stated that there has been a developer offer to give \$50,000 toward the traffic signal installation. He asked that staff formally send a request letter to GDOT and staff confirmed that they would.

Commissioner Stowe also stated that he would like GDOT to look at the bridge over Flat Creek on Atlanta Highway (State Route 13) as there is no existing shoulder for pedestrians to walk on while crossing the bridge. He stated there are only guard rails and the bridge is already very narrow as it is. He requested that GDOT explore options that would allow for pedestrian access across the bridge instead of having to cross into the travel lanes to do so. Staff confirmed they would send the request letter to GDOT.

12. Adjourn

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:36 AM.



Chairman Richard Higgins, Hall County, Vice-Chair



Laura Ogletree, Clerk