

## **POLICY COMMITTEE**

### **The Station Meeting Room, City of Gainesville Administrative Building Minutes of March 9, 2021 Meeting**

#### **Voting Members Present:**

Chairman Richard Higgins, Hall County, Chair  
Mayor Danny Dunagan, City of Gainesville, Vice  
Chair  
Mayor Mike Miller, City of Flowery Branch  
Commissioner Jeff Stowe, Hall County  
Mayor Lamar Scroggs, City of Oakwood  
Gina Roy, on behalf of Chairman Tom Crow,  
Jackson County  
Charles Robinson, GDOT

#### **Voting Members Absent:**

Commissioner Kathy Cooper, Hall County

#### **Others Present:**

Bryan Lackey, City of Gainesville  
Chris Rotalsky, City of Gainesville  
Matt Tarver, City of Gainesville  
Srikanth Yamala, Hall County  
Frank Miller, Hall County  
Bill Andrew, City of Flowery Branch  
B.R White, City of Oakwood  
Philippa Lewis Moss, Hall Area Transit  
Adam Hazell, GMCR


Kelvin Mullins, GDOT  
Johnathan McLoyd, GDOT  
Tricia Terrell, Citizen  
Eric Lusher, Pond  
Sarah McQuade, GHMPO  
Joseph Boyd, GHMPO  
Michael Haire, GHMPO  
Laura Ogletree, GHMPO

#### **1. Welcome**

Chairman Higgins opened the meeting at 10:03 AM.

#### **2. Approval of November 10, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Mayor Dunagan made a motion to approve the draft meeting minutes of the November 10, 2020 Policy Committee meeting, with a second from Ms. Roy, and the motion passed unanimously.



### **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 17, 2021, stating that they unanimously recommended approval of all voting items.

### **4. Report from the Citizens Advisory Committee**

Mr. Boyd, on behalf of the CAC Chair Tony Millwood, presented a summary of the Citizen Advisory Committee meeting on February 25, 2021, stating that they unanimously recommended approval of all voting items. Mr. Boyd added that the Citizens Advisory Committee would like to propose a potential sidewalk inventory study that was discussed at the meeting. This will be placed within the Draft FY 2022 UPWP document to be further discussed at future meetings.

### **5. Approval of the Draft Amendment #6 to the FY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

Mr. Haire introduced the sixth amendment to the FY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program, explaining that until the FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program is formally adopted at a state level, the FY 2018-2021 TIP is still considered active and must be amended with the same changes as the FY 2021-2024 TIP. For this amendment, the Georgia Department of Transportation has requested that \$800,000 of local (LOC) funds provided by the City of Gainesville be added to the PE phase for FY 2021 for the Green Street median project (GH-121). As this project previously did not have funding during the TIP program years, this amendment is allocating FY 2021 PE funding to the project as well as adding this project to the TIP.

**MOTION:** Mayor Dunagan made a motion to approve Draft Amendment #6 to the FY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), with a second by Mayor Miller, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **6. Approval of the Draft Amendment #1 to the FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

Mr. Haire presented the first amendment to the FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program, which, like Amendment #6 to the FY 2018-2021 TIP, adds \$800,000 of local (LOC) funding for the PE phase in 2021 for the Green Street Median Project (GH-121), adding this item to the TIP's program years.

**MOTION:** Mayor Miller made a motion to approve Draft Amendment #1 to the FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which was seconded by Mayor Dunagan, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

## **7. Review of the Draft FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program**

Mr. Boyd provided brief updates on the FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program. He specifically noted the availability of funding under Section 4.5 for future studies. Ms. Roy updated the committee on the proposed Braselton/Hoschton State Route 53 Bypass Study. This study would ideally include a small portion of Barrow County, which expressed interest in helping fund the study. Mr. Boyd stated that the MPO will plan on applying for additional PL funding in September to conduct this study, which would need to be approved by the Policy Committee at their August 10, 2021 voting meeting.

## **8. Approval of Draft State Route 365/Jesse Jewell Parkway Traffic Impact Study**

Mr. Rotalsky introduced Eric Lusher, Project Manager at Pond, who gave a brief overview of the Draft State Route 365/Jesse Jewell Parkway Traffic Impact Study.

**MOTION:** Mayor Dunagan made a motion to adopt the final draft of the SR 365/Jesse Jewell Traffic Impact Study, which was seconded by Mayor Miller, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

## **9. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports**

Representatives shared the status of transportation projects in their jurisdictions: Mr. Andrew for the City of Flowery Branch, Mr. Tarver for the City of Gainesville, Mr. White for the City of Oakwood, Mr. Mullins for the Georgia Department of Transportation, Mr. Hazell for the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission, Ms. Moss for Hall Area Transit, Mr. Miller for Hall County, and Ms. Roy for Jackson County.

## **10. Other**

Mr. Mullins provided updates to several requests that have been made to GDOT District 1 over the past year. He stated that an RCUT was proposed at the intersection of US 129 and Gaines Mill Road, but was not installed by request of Hall County due to citizen feedback. GDOT is currently looking into other solutions to improve traffic at the intersection of State Route 13/Atlanta Highway and Tumbling Creek Road since current traffic counts do not support a traffic signal. Finally, GDOT is looking into whether or not a left-turn signal is warranted for southbound traffic along US 129 at the intersection with State Route 52.

Finally, GDOT is currently awaiting better weather to begin the Quick Response project along the Flat Creek Bridge on State Route 13/Atlanta Highway to add a sidewalk for increased pedestrian safety.

## **11. Public Comment**


There were no public comments


*GHMPO welcomes people with disabilities and their trained service animals. For questions about accessibility or to request reasonable accommodation to an event or facility, please contact Maria Tuck, Hall County Compliance Specialist at 770-531-6712 by 48 hours prior to the event or as soon as possible.*

**12. Upcoming Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 11, 2021**

**13. Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Mayor Dunagan made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mayor Miller, and the motion passed by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 10:30AM.

  
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Chairman Richard Higgins, Hall County, Chair

  
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Laura Ogletree, Clerk