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Citizens Advisory Committee

Virtual/Public Meeting Due To State & Federal COVID-19 Public Health Recommendations Minutes of April 29, 2021 Meeting

Voting Members Present:

Tony Millwood, City of Oakwood, Chair
Patrick O'Rourke, Hall County, Vice-Chair
Brent Hoffman, Hall County
Heather Taylor, Hall County
Sloan Spivey, Hall County
Berlinda Lipscomb, City of Gainesville
Beverly Nordholz, City of Gainesville
Connie Propes, City of Gainesville
Sammy Smith, City of Gainesville
William Bush, City of Gainesville
Pat Jones, City of Oakwood
Chip McCallum, City of Flowery Branch
David Jones, City of Flowery Branch
Michele Price, Jackson County

Voting Members Absent:

Nick Allen, Hall County
Joe Kennedy, Hall County
Greg Simpson, Hall County
Renee Gerrell, Hall County
Jennifer Kidd-Harrison, Town of Braselton

Others Present:

Jeff Gill, Gainesville Times
Sarah McQuade, GHMPO

Joseph Boyd, GHMPO
Michael Haire, GHMPO

1. Welcome

Mr. Millwood opened the meeting at 4:00 PM.

2. Approval of February 25, 2021 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2021 meeting, with a second from Ms. Jones. The motion passed by unanimous vote.



3. Recommend Approval of Draft FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Boyd introduced the newest draft of the FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program, providing a brief overview of recent updates, most notably the inclusion of a potential sidewalk inventory study for later in the fiscal year.

Mr. Boyd received a question from Ms. Propes seeking more information on a webinar on the Supreme Court case *American Legion v. American Humanist Association*, which was listed under the employee training and education section of the UPWP. Mr. Boyd stated that while he did not remember the specifics of that webinar, the case was related to transportation as it involved a public intersection.

Mr. Boyd also received a question from Mr. Smith regarding the new infrastructure bill that has been proposed by the White House, and how that funding might apply to the Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization. Mr. Boyd responded that the MPO will have a better idea of how that may apply to GHMPO if and when the bill is adopted, but it may provide more grants that the GHMPO will have the opportunity to apply for, and that the UPWP will be adjusted accordingly in partnership with GDOT.

MOTION: Mr. O'Rourke made a motion to recommend approval the Draft FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program, with a second from Ms. Propes, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. Other

Mr. Boyd updated the committee on recent developments from the two active TCC Subcommittees, the Trails Subcommittee and the McEver Road Subcommittee. The Trails Subcommittee is currently updating proposed trail routes and conducting the preliminary planning work, while also having discussions on funding, including exploring SPLOST availability as well as potential grant opportunities. Additionally, the Trails Subcommittee is finalizing the trail maintenance agreement and working through a draft of the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) that will govern the inter-jurisdictional trail network.

The McEver Road Subcommittee is currently exploring options for alleviating congestion near key intersections along McEver Road south of Mundy Mill Road. Work is still in progress.

Mr. Boyd also provided an update on the Braselton Trail Study, stating that GHMPO and Town of Braselton staff have selected Alta as their consultant on the study, and work should kick off on July 1st, with the study expected to be completed by Fall 2021.

The committee then moved in to elections for the Chair and Vice-Chair positions. Mr. Millwood was nominated to serve another term as Chair.

MOTION: Mr. Hoffman made a motion to approve of Mr. Millwood's continued service in the role of Chair, to which he received a second from Mr. Smith, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Additionally, Mr. O'Rourke was nominated to serve another term as Vice-Chair.

MOTION: Mr. Smith made a motion to approve of Mr. O'Rourke's continued service in the role of Vice-Chair, to which he received a second from Ms. Jones, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

5. TCC Agency Reports

Mr. Boyd gave a brief overview of the agency and local jurisdiction updates that local jurisdiction representatives provided at the Technical Coordinating Committee on April 21, 2021.

6. Public Comment & Other Items of Business

The committee received a question from Mr. McCallum regarding whether there were any updates on the Phase II of the Spout Springs Road widening, specifically asking if there was a date for when they would begin bidding. Mr. Boyd responded that to his knowledge, there was no firm date as of yet. Mr. Boyd received a follow-up question regarding any updates to the SR 211 widening, to which he responded that there were none, but he could follow up with other agencies to check. Ms. McQuade added that the Hall County Chamber of Commerce is hosting a transportation forum on May 4, 2021, where projects such as this would be discussed by GDOT.

Ms. Price asked what project was occurring at the intersection of State Route 211 and Covered Bridge Road. Mr. Boyd responded that he would have to check with GDOT to see what was being installed at this particular intersection.

To close, Ms. McQuade jumped in to thank the committee for their continued work and ideas, as the Flat Creek Bridge Quick Response Project originated as an idea from the Citizens Advisory Committee, affirming that citizens have a tangible impact on the planning process.

7. Upcoming Meeting Date: July 29, 2021

Mr. Millwood reminded the committee of the upcoming meeting on Thursday, July 29, 2021 at 4:00 PM.

8. Adjourn

There being no other items of business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM.



Tony Millwood, Chair



Laura Ogletree, Clerk