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Technical Coordinating Committee

Fourth Floor Banquet Hall, Hall County Government Center Minutes of July 21, 2021 Meeting

Voting Members Present:

Adam Hazell, Chair
Angela Sheppard, City of Gainesville
Jason Justice, City of Gainesville
Rich Atkinson, City of Flowery Branch
Dan Schultz, City of Oakwood
Srikanth Yamala, Hall County
Bill Nash, Hall County
Gina Roy, Jackson County
Phillippa Lewis Moss, Hall Area Transit
Phillip Peevy, GDOT
Kelvin Mullins, GDOT
Sarah McQuade, GHMPO
Joseph Boyd, GHMPO

Others Present:

Beth Davis, GDOT Melodii Peoples, GDOT Justin Lott, GDOT Conner Evans, Gainesville Times

Voting Members Absent:

Rhonda Brady, City of Gainesville Chris Rotalsky, City of Gainesville Jennifer Scott, Town of Braselton

Tricia Terrell, Citizen Michael Haire, GHMPO

1. Welcome

Mr. Hazell opened the meeting at 10:33 AM.

2. Approval of April 21, 2021 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Mr. Yamala made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2021 meeting, with a second from Ms. Sheppard, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

3. Recommend Approval of Draft Title VI Program, Environmental Justice Analysis & Participation Plan

Mr. Haire introduced the 2021 update to the Title VI Program, Environmental Justice Analysis & Participation Plan. The document is currently under review from GDOT and FHWA, but significant changes are not expected because the document is based on a template provided by FHWA. The most significant change in this update of the Title VI plan is the inclusion of the Participation Plan, which was previously adopted as a separate document. The Participation Plan can be found in Appendix F.

MOTION: Ms. Moss made a motion to recommend approval of the Draft Title VI Program, Environmental Justice Analysis & Participation Plan, which was seconded by Ms. Sheppard. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. Recommend Approval of Draft PL Fund Application for the SR 53 Bypass Study

Ms. Roy updated the committee that Jackson County has been working with the MPO in order to apply for additional PL funds to fund a State Route 53 Bypass Study, which would seek to evaluate options for alleviating congestion in the downtown areas of the Towns of Hoschton and Braselton. The application is currently requesting \$125,000, but that can be updated as needed. Additionally, GDOT is considering getting involved with the study and extending the study scope to farther north on I-85 and south into Barrow County, which is located within the Atlanta Regional Commission planning area. While GDOT is still working through the details on the possible study scope, they have asked the TCC to take action on the application as it currently stands. GDOT hopes to have more information prior to the next Policy Committee on August 10, 2021.

<u>MOTION</u>: Mr. Yamala made a motion to recommend approval of the Draft PL Fund Application for the SR 53 Bypass Study, which was seconded by Ms. Roy. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

5. Recommend Approval of Draft Amendment #1 to the FY 2022 UPWP

Mr. Boyd introduced the first amendment to the FY 2022 UPWP. The purpose of Draft Amendment #1 is to transfer \$10,000 of funds from Work Element 1.1 – "Operations and Administration" to Work Element 4.5 – "Special Transportation Studies" in order to accommodate a potential Design Guide document for the Highlands to Islands Intergovernmental Agreement, which would cost approximately \$15,000.

<u>MOTION</u>: Ms. Shepard made a motion to recommend approval of Draft Amendment #1 to the FY 2022 UPWP, which was seconded by Ms. Moss. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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6. 2021 Crash Profiles Update – Hall County & Jackson County

Mr. Haire introduced new Crash Profile reports, detailing vehicular collisions throughout both Hall and Jackson Counties during the year of 2020. These documents contain maps showing collision locations for regular collisions, collisions with an injury, collisions with fatalities, as well as additional data for different conditions surrounding the collisions. Additionally, the Crash Profiles contain data pertaining to trends over a five-year period. Mr. Haire detailed excerpts from the full documents, stating that the full documents are available on the GHMPO website.

Mr. Haire received a question asking if the MPO had this crash data saved as a sharable data package, to which Mr. Haire responded that he did, and he could share it with any interested jurisdictions.

7. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports

Representatives shared the status of projects being completed by their jurisdictions: Mr. Atkinson for the City of Flowery Branch, Mr. Justice for the City of Gainesville, Mr. Schultz for the City of Oakwood, Mr. Boyd on behalf of Ms. Scott for the Town of Braselton, Mr. Hazell for the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission, Ms. Moss for Hall Area Transit, Mr. Yamala for Hall County, Ms. Roy for Jackson County, and Mr. Mullins for the Georgia Department of Transportation.

8. Other

Mr. Boyd provided a brief update on the two TCC subcommittees: the Trails Subcommittee and the McEver Road Subcommittee.

9. Public Comment

Ms. Terrell asked the committee if the Green Street improvement plans will include better bike and pedestrian access, to which Ms. Sheppard replied that they would and that bicycles are being considered in ongoing designs for the corridor.

10. Upcoming Meeting Date: October 20, 2021

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11. Adjourn

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 11:04 AM.

Adam Hazell, GMRC, Chair

Laura Ogletree, Clerk

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