

Citizens Advisory Committee

**HR Training Room, 2nd Floor, Hall County Government Center
Minutes of October 26, 2023 Meeting**

Voting Members Present:

Renee Gerrell, Hall County – *Chair*
Patrick O’Rourke, Hall County – *Vice-Chair*
Pat Jones, City of Oakwood
Chip McCallum, City of Flowery Branch
John Rudio, City of Flowery Branch
Berlinda Lipscomb, City of Gainesville
Betsy Wigington, City of Gainesville
Brent Hoffman, Hall County
Billy Edwards, Town of Braselton

Voting Members Absent:

Toni Buffington, Hall County
Nick Haynes, Hall County
Joe Kennedy, Hall County
Tony Millwood, City of Oakwood
Rick Marzano, City of Flowery Branch
Beverly Nordholz, City of Gainesville
Sammy Smith, City of Gainesville
Kim Jackson, Hall County
Adrienne Rice, Hall County
Jim Southard, Jackson County

Others Present:

Joseph Boyd, GHMPO

Katie Greenway, Hall County

1. Welcome – Renee Gerrell, Chair

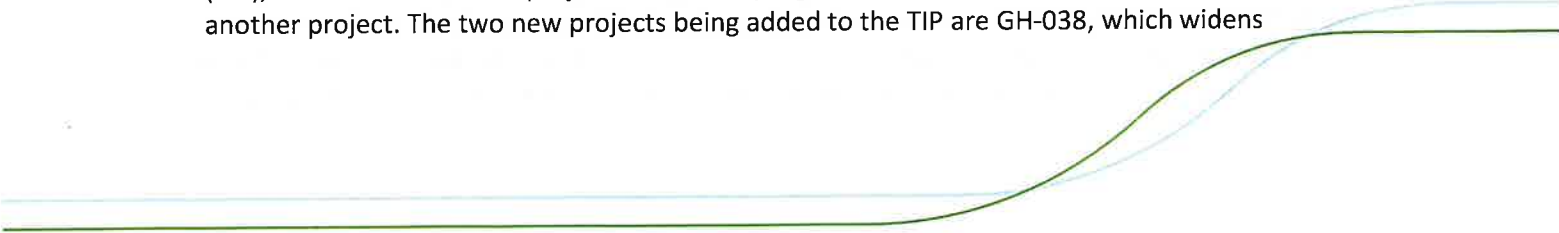
Ms. Gerrell opened the meeting at 4:00 PM.

2. Approval of July 27, 2023 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Ms. Jones made a motion to approve of the July 27, 2023 meeting minutes, with a second from Mr. O’Rourke, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

3. Recommend Approval of Draft Amendment #1 to the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Boyd introduced Amendment #1 to the FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which adds two new projects to the TIP program years and adds retroactive funding to another project. The two new projects being added to the TIP are GH-038, which widens



State Route 60 / Thompson Bridge Road from two to four lanes from State Route 136 / Price Road to Yellow Creek Road, and GH-130, which widens State Route 60 / Thompson Bridge Road from State Route 400 in Lumpkin County to Yellow Creek Road in Hall. Mr. Boyd explained to the committee that these are not new projects, but they previously did not have to be reflected in the TIP because they are funded by HB170 funds. As the MPO is now going to start showing all projects that receive state or federal funding, these projects will now be moved into the official TIP programming.

Additionally, retroactive funding is being added to GH-020A (State Route 11/Cleveland Highway Widening from Lakeview Street to South of Nopone Road – Phase I). This funding was already authorized but not reflected in MPO documents.

MOTION: Ms. Lipscomb made a motion to recommend approval of Draft Amendment #1 to the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program, with a second from Mr. Hoffman, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. Recommend Approval of Draft PM1 Safety Targets for 2024

Mr. Boyd gave a brief overview of PM1 (Safety), PM2 (Bridge and Pavement), and PM3 (National Highway System, Freight, and CMAQ). Mr. Boyd explained that performance management targets are set by GDOT, and PM1 targets are the only targets adopted annually. These PM1 (Safety) targets set targets for the number of fatalities, number of serious injuries, fatality rate, serious injury rate, and total number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries. The targets required for calendar year 2024 are actually identical to the targets adopted for 2023, so this resolution will be extending these adopted performance measures into 2024.

MOTION: Mr. O'Rourke made a motion to recommend approval of the Draft PM 1 Safety Targets for 2024, with a second from Ms. Jones.

5. First Review of Draft FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Mr. Boyd introduced the first draft of the FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The UPWP is the annual budget document for the MPO that provides funding for planning activities over a single fiscal year, including any studies that local jurisdictions would like to conduct. Mr. Boyd briefly discussed the funding amounts listed, and explained that the amounts listed for the base PL grant are not final. Mr. Boyd stated he anticipates to have finalized funding amounts by the winter round of MPO meetings.

This draft document also includes the SR 60/US 129 Connectivity Study in the "Anticipated Unfunded Products in FY 2025" section, with an estimated cost of \$150,000, made up of \$120,000 in additional PL funds and \$30,000 in local cash match.

Mr. Hoffman and Ms. Gerrell both commented that though the SR 60/US 129 Connectivity Study would be welcomed, they still feel that the entire corridor needs to be evaluated in one large study so that future right-of-way and roadway designs can create a seamless northern arc across the top of Gainesville. Mr. Boyd responded that he would pass those comments along to Hall County.

6. 2022 Crash Profiles for Hall and Jackson Counties

Mr. Boyd briefly discussed the 2022 Crash Profiles for Hall and Jackson Counties, which display all crashes, crashes with injuries, and crashes with fatalities throughout both Hall and Jackson Counties. Mr. Boyd discussed five-year trends, and discussed the analytical tools provided by the platform Numetric, which GHMPO was given access to by GDOT. Lastly, Mr. Boyd offered to provide further analysis and data for anyone at their request.

Mr. Hoffman made the comment that we should be utilizing the high crash locations to prioritize future transportation projects, to which Mr. Boyd responded that as part of the ongoing Metropolitan Transportation Plan update, the project team would be analyzing crash data and seeing where new projects would be needed and appropriate.

7. Other

Mr. Boyd provided brief updates from the TCC Trails Subcommittee. Gainesville is finalizing the design of the Airport Connector Trail, with hopes that construction can begin sometime during the winter of 2023/2024.

Mr. Boyd next provided a status update on the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP): 2025 Update and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update. Staff was working with RS&H on the creation of the socioeconomic data needed to conduct the study updates. A kickoff meeting for the Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan Update is scheduled for some time in December 2023.

Mr. Boyd provided updates on the following:

- State Route 13/Atlanta Highway at Memorial Park Road – Explore congestion solutions including, but not limited to, adding a right-turn lane from Atlanta Highway (southbound) onto Memorial Park Road. Mr. Boyd said he had talked with GDOT and Hall County and that there was not currently enough right-of-way to install a turn lane at this time, but that other options are being explored to help alleviate congestion at this intersection.
- Browns Bridge Road/State Route 369 at Pearl Nix Parkway – Explore adding capacity to the left-turn lane from Pearl Nix Parkway (northbound) onto Browns Bridge Road (westbound). Mr. Boyd stated that he had talked with Hall County Public Works, who maintains Pearl Nix Parkway, and that they would look into this issue and see if a future project could be programmed utilizing local funds/SPLOST VIII.

8. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports

Mr. Boyd provided a brief recap of the local jurisdiction project updates that were provided at the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) meeting on October 18, 2023.

9. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

10. Upcoming Meeting Date: January 25, 2024

Ms. Gerrell reminded the Committee that their next meeting would be on January 25, 2024.

11. Adjourn

There being no other items of business, the meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM.



Renee Gerrell, Chair



Michael Haire, GHMPO