



Technical Coordinating Committee

Banquet Hall, 4th Floor, Hall County Government Center

Minutes of October 18, 2023 Meeting

Voting Members Present:

Adam Hazell, GMRC, Chair
Gina Roy, Jackson County, Vice-Chair
Corey Jones, City of Gainesville
Chris Rotalsky, City of Gainesville
Dan Branch, City of Buford
Jennifer Scott, Town of Braselton
Bill Nash, Hall County
Jorge Gomez, Hall County
Phillippa Lewis Moss, Hall Area Transit
Jomar Pastorelle, GDOT
Joseph Boyd, GHMPO

Voting Members Absent:

Srikanth Yamala, Hall County
Frank Miller, Hall County
Angela Sheppard, City of Gainesville
Matt Tarver, City of Gainesville
BR White, City of Oakwood
Rich Atkinson, City of Flowery Branch

Others Present:

Carol Flaute, NEGRC
Shelly Ramey, GDOT

Elizabeth Johnson, GDOT
M. Brian Wellmeier, Gainesville Times
Michael Haire, GHMPO

1. Welcome – Adam Hazell, Chair

Mr. Hazell opened the meeting at 10:31 AM.

2. Approval of July 19, 2023 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Ms. Scott made a motion to approve of the July 19, 2023 meeting minutes, which received a second from Mr. Branch, 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. Moss made a motion to approve of Draft Amendment #1 to the FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program, which received a second from Ms. Roy, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. Recommend Approval of Draft PM1 Safety Targets for 2024

Mr. Haire gave a brief overview of PM1 (Safety), PM2 (Bridge and Pavement), and PM3 (National Highway System, Freight, and CMAQ). Mr. Haire 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. Branch made a motion to approve of the Draft PM1 Safety Targets for 2024, which received a second from Ms. Roy, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

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.

6. Presentation on Base Year 2020 SE Data for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP): 2025 Update

Mr. Haire provided an update on the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP): 2025 Update. Mr. Haire explained the purpose behind the plan, the progress so far, and the next steps for the plan. The Metropolitan Transportation Plan is the long-range planning document for GHMPO, which projects transportation needs and priorities over a 30-year period ending in 2055. The MTP takes in existing conditions and creates a future needs assessment which comes with project recommendations for safety enhancements and congestion relief.

GHMPO is currently working with consultant RS&H, as well as GDOT, to complete 2020 Base Year SE Data and 2055 Future Year SE Data in order to enable GDOT to develop the Travel Demand Model (TDM), which will identify future congestion and identify and prioritize transportation projects and needs.

Mr. Haire explained that the MPO, alongside RS&H, would like to have a virtual stakeholder meeting in November to discuss the results of the 2055 Future Year SE Data and obtain stakeholder feedback. Mr. Haire added that he would be in touch in the near future for a scheduling poll.

7. 2022 Crash Profiles for Hall and Jackson Counties

Mr. Haire 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. Haire briefly discussed five-year trends, and discussed the analytical tools provided by the platform Numetric, which GHMPO was given access to by GDOT. Lastly, Mr. Haire offered to provide further analysis and data for local jurisdictions at request.

8. Update on GDOT’s Carbon Reduction Strategy

GDOT’s Brandon North provided a brief update on GDOT’s Carbon Reduction Strategy (CRS). He stated the purpose of the document, which is to act as a menu of strategies and metrics to help choose strategies that can be incorporated into plans and projects to advance the overlapping priorities of the State and the purposes of the federal Carbon Reduction Program. GDOT staff also discussed the next steps for the plan, which is currently in the public review process. The public review period will end on October 30th, and the document will be submitted to FHWA on November 15th.

9. Other

Mr. Boyd briefly discussed the status of the TCC subcommittees. The Trails Subcommittee will plan to meet in the near future to discuss next steps for the Highlands to Islands Trail upon the completion of the design work for the Gainesville Airport Connector Trail.

Hall County is still at work with the planned roundabout on McEver Road at Lights Ferry.

10. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports

Representatives shared the status of projects being completed by their jurisdictions: Mr. Jones for the City of Gainesville, Ms. Scott for the Town of Braselton, Ms. Ramey for the Georgia Department of Transportation, Ms. Flaute for the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission, and Mr. Gomez for Hall County.

Mr. Jones stated that the City of Gainesville would like to work with GHMPO staff in the near future on applying for additional Planning (PL) funds to conduct a I-985 Alternatives study, which would look at various routes around the interstate and identify potential improvement projects for those corridors including the SR 13/Atlanta Highway Corridor, State Route 60, Old Cornelia Highway, and others. MPO staff will work with Gainesville and present a draft PL fund application at the winter round of MPO meetings.

11. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

12. Upcoming Meeting Date: January 24, 2024

Mr. Hazell reminded the committee of the upcoming TCC meeting on January 24, 2024.

13. Adjourn

There being no other items of business, the meeting adjourned.


Adam Hazell, Chair


Michael Haire, GHMPO