

## **Technical Coordinating Committee**

**Banquet Hall, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Hall County Government Center  
Draft Minutes of April 24, 2024 Meeting**

### **Voting Members Present:**

Adam Hazell, GMRC, Chair  
Gina Roy, Jackson County  
Matt Tarver, City of Gainesville  
Corey Jones, City of Gainesville  
Anna Peng, City of Flowery Branch  
Dan Schultz, City of Oakwood  
Dan Branch, City of Buford  
Jennifer Scott, Town of Braselton  
Frank Miller, Hall County  
William King, Hall County  
Phillippa Lewis Moss, Hall Area Transit  
Jomar Pastorelle, GDOT  
Justin Lott, GDOT  
Carol Flaute, NEGRC

### **Voting Members Absent:**

Jennifer Kidd-Harrison, City of Hoschton

### **Others Present:**

Elizabeth Johnson, GDOT  
Stephanie Williams, GDOT  
Shannon Young, GDOT

Victoria Hendrix, Modern Mobility Partners  
Jeff Gill, Gainesville Times  
Joseph Boyd, GHMPO  
Michael Haire, GHMPO

### **1. Welcome – Adam Hazell, Chair**

Mr. Hazell opened the meeting at 10:30 AM.

### **2. Approval of January 24, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Ms. Roy made a motion to approve of the January 24, 2024 meeting minutes, which received a second from Ms. Scott, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **3. Election of TCC Chair and Vice Chair for FY 2025**

Ms. Roy nominated Mr. Hazell for another term as the TCC Chair, while Ms. Scott nominated Ms. Roy for another term as the TCC Vice-Chair.

**MOTION:** Ms. Roy made a motion to approve of the TCC Chair and Vice Chair nominations for FY 2025, which received a second from Mr. King, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **4. Presentation on 2020 Base Year and 2055 Do-Nothing Travel Demand Models**

Stephanie Williams, Technical Services Planner II at GDOT Office of Planning, provided a presentation on the 2020 Base Year and 2055 Do-Nothing Travel Demand Models. Ms. Williams provided an overview of the Travel Demand Model, explaining that its purpose is to serve as an analysis tool to forecast travel demand and transportation performance, replicate the existing trip making characteristics, forecast future travel demand, and identify transportation network deficiencies.

The 2020 Base Year Travel Demand Model uses the 2020 Base Year Socioeconomic (SE) Data to model existing traffic conditions and travel demand, providing a level-of-service (LOS) rating for major roads in the GHMPO planning area. The 2055 Do-Nothing Travel Demand Model projects demand out to 2055 based on the 2055 Base Year SE Data, and provides a projected LOS if no more roadway improvements were completed between now and then, aside from projects that already have their construction funding committed in the GHMPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

As this data is analyzed at a Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) level, Mr. King asked Ms. Williams and Ms. Hendrix if TAZ's were similar to Census block groups in size, to which Ms. Hendrix replied that they are made up of multiple census blocks and do not necessarily reach the size of block groups. Mr. King also asked if the coming Blue Ridge Inland Port was included in the model. Mr. Boyd responded back that the base year is 2020, so it would not appear there, but it should be included in the modeling projects for 2055. Ms. Hendrix responded that her team would confirm that the Inland Port was included in the 2055.

**MOTION:** Mr. Branch made a motion to recommend approval of the 2020 Base Year and 2055 Do-Nothing Travel Demand Models, which received a second from Ms. Roy, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **5. First Review of Updated GHMPO Bylaws**

Mr. Boyd introduced a routine update to the GHMPO Bylaws, which govern how the three MPO committees are to be organized. The changes made in this update to the TCC Bylaws include the following:

- Updated list of voting members (*per GDOT*)
- First meeting of the year has been moved from the *third Wednesday of February* to the *fourth Wednesday of January*
- Updated quorum to five (5) voting members
- Added text permitting voting via teleconference or phone (*GDOT reviewing if permitted*)

The GHMPO Bylaw updates are anticipated to be adopted during the next round of Committee meetings in July and August.

Mr. Boyd received comments from Mr. Schultz and Ms. Roy regarding their titles, which should be listed as Community Development Director and Assistant County Manager, respectively. Mr. Boyd stated he would update these titles before the next round of review and send out the updated committee lists when MPO staff email out the draft meeting minutes.

## **6. Recommend Approval of Draft Amendment #2 to the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

Mr. Boyd introduced the second amendment to the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Mr. Boyd explained that this amendment updates the funding for two projects and removes a third project from the TIP. Additionally, this amendment makes minor revisions to the Committee membership lists, and adds language clarifying which project updates are eligible for amendments vs. an administrative modification. The three projects being updated in this amendment are listed below:

- **Project Update: GH-016 / PI 003626 – Sardis Road Connector from SR 60 to Sardis Road near Chestatee Road**
  - Construction (CST) funding updated from \$36,637,685.00 to \$56,476,681.24
  - Construction (CST) year changed from 2024 to 2025
- **Project Update: GH-020A / PI 122060 – Widening of US 129 from Lakeview Street to south of Nopone Road (Phase I)**
  - Construction (CST) funding updated from \$47,173,294.00 to \$58,108,002.91
- **Project Removal: GH-023B / PI 0015280 – Spout Springs Road Widening Phase II – From Union Circle to South of SR 347**
  - Construction (CST) and Utilities (UTL) shifted from 2024 to 2028

Mr. Boyd received questions from Ms. Roy and Ms. Scott regarding the list of Committee members because it did not match what was shown in the aforementioned Bylaws update. Mr. Boyd explained that because the Bylaw updates have not been adopted yet, the Committee member list shown in the TIP is not up-to-date and will benefit from an update once the new Bylaws are adopted and Committee membership is clarified.

**MOTION:** Ms. Moss made a motion to recommend approval of Draft Amendment #2 to the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which received a second from Mr. Branch, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

## 7. Recommend Approval of Draft GHMPO 2024 Participation Plan

Mr. Haire introduced the final draft of the GHMPO 2024 Participation Plan. Mr. Haire explained that this document was previously included as a part of the Title VI Plan and is now, at GDOT's request, being adopted as a standalone document. The purpose of the Participation Plan is to, for the benefit of the public, outline the procedures for the GHMPO planning process and list the strategies that the MPO uses to solicit public participation. This document is anticipated to be adopted at the May 14<sup>th</sup> Policy Committee meeting.

**MOTION:** Ms. Scott made a motion to recommend approval of the Draft GHMPO 2024 Participation Plan, which received a second from Ms. Roy, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

## 8. Recommend Approval of Draft GHMPO 2024 Title VI Plan

Mr. Haire introduced the Draft GHMPO 2024 Title VI Plan, which serves as an update to the 2021 Title VI Plan. The purpose of the Title VI Plan is to ensure that GHMPO does not discriminate against any members of the public when conducting planning activities. The Title VI Plan outlines the processes through which the public can file a Title VI complaint against GHMPO, and lists out all previous investigations, complaints, and lawsuits, of which there are none to date. This document is anticipated to be adopted at the May 14<sup>th</sup> Policy Committee meeting.

Ms. Moss asked if the Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf (TTD) phone number was listed in the Title VI Plan, to which Mr. Boyd and Mr. Haire stated that it would be in the full version of the plan, which can be found online. Upon further review, the TTD phone number is listed throughout the Participation Plan, not the Title VI Plan.

**MOTION:** Mr. King made a motion to approve of the Draft GHMPO 2024 Title VI Plan, which received a second from Ms. Moss, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

## 9. Other

GHMPO staff provided updates on various ongoing projects.

Mr. Haire discussed the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan Updates. Mr. Haire briefly discussed local cash match and reminded jurisdiction staff to send their local match by June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Additionally, Mr. Haire discussed the schedule for the rest of the year, and asked Steering Committee members to be thinking about opportunities for the MPO to engage with the public and obtain survey feedback.

Mr. Boyd notified the Committee that the City of Hoschton is seeking to utilize additional PL funds to create a Hoschton Transportation Plan. MPO staff will have an application ready for the next round of Committee meetings.

Mr. Haire discussed the State Route 13 / Atlanta Highway Corridor Study, which was put out for bid on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. The bid will close on May 30<sup>th</sup>, and the proposals will then be distributed to the evaluation committee for selection, with the project scheduled for a July kickoff.

Mr. Boyd briefly discussed the early stages of the Hall County, Georgia Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Action Plan, which is being conducted by Alta Planning + Design.

## **10. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports**

Representatives shared the status of projects being completed by their jurisdictions: Mr. Jones for the City of Gainesville, Ms. Peng for the City of Flowery Branch, Mr. Schultz for the City of Oakwood, Mr. Branch for the City of Buford, Ms. Scott for the Town of Braselton, Mr. Lott and Mr. Pastorelle for the Georgia Department of Transportation, Ms. Flaute for the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission, Ms. Moss for Hall Area Transit, Ms. Roy for Jackson County, and Mr. Miller for Hall County.

## **11. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

## **12. Upcoming Meeting Date**

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

## **13. Adjourn**

There being no other items of business, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

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Adam Hazell, Chair

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Michael Haire, GHMPO