GAINESVILLE-HALL
Metropolitan Planning Organization

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Policy Committee

Commission Meeting Room, 2nd Floor, Hall County Government Center
Minutes of August 11, 2026 Meeting

Voting Members Present:
Mayor Zack Thompson, *City of Gainesville* – **Chair**
Mayor Lamar Scroggs, *City of Oakwood* – **Vice-Chair**
Mayor Oliver McClellan, *City of Flowery Branch*
Chairman David Gibbs, *Hall County*
Commissioner Jeff Stowe, *Hall County*
Megan Weiss, *GDOT*

Voting Members Absent:
Commissioner Kathy Cooper, *Hall County*
Chairman Marty Clark, *Jackson County*

Others Present:
Chris Rotalsky, *City of Gainesville*
Dan Schultz, *City of Oakwood*
Jamie Jackson, *Jackson County*
John Gentry, *Hall County*
Casey Ramsey, *Hall County*
Katie Ahmed, *Hall County*
Michael Patroski, *Hall County*
Vamsee Polamarasetty, *Hall County*
Brent Cook, *Hall County*
Jordan Wallace, *Hall County*
Phillippa Lewis Moss, *HAT*
Justin Lott, *GDOT*
Joseph Boyd, *GHMPO*

1. Welcome

Mayor Thompson opened the meeting at 10:00 AM.

2. Approval of May 12, 2026 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Commissioner Stowe made a motion to approve the May 12, 2026 meeting minutes, which received a second from Mayor McClellan, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

3. Update from the TCC and CAC

Mr. Boyd provided a brief recap of the most recent Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) and Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings.

The CAC asked to pass along their gratitude to the local Public Works departments for their quick response to the recent rainfall events and damage across Hall County. Additionally, the CAC

requested that GHMPO send a letter to the railroad company to request possibly adding additional safety measures for pedestrians throughout the industrial corridor in Gainesville in light of a recent event where a pedestrian was struck by a train and killed. The Policy Committee agreed with this suggestion and requested to view the letter before being sent by MPO staff.

4. Approval of the Draft PL Application for the Hall County Master Transportation Plan

Mr. Boyd and Mr. Cook presented the draft application for additional PL (Planning) funds to conduct the Hall County Master Transportation Plan, a first for unincorporated Hall County. This Plan would provide the County with both short and long-term transportation improvements that will be utilized when planning future budgets as well as SPLOST and TSPLOST referendums. The Plan will be paid for utilizing $240,000 PL funds with a $60,000 cash match from Hall County, for a total expected cost of $300,000. Commissioner Stowe commented that he would like to see more small-scale projects that can be quickly implemented when an issue arises, to which Mr. Cook responded that this Plan will indeed identify those smaller-scale intersection projects as well as the larger major corridor projects. The Plan itself will position the County to be able to apply for various grants to help fund the design and construction of these projects.

MOTION: Commissioner Stowe made a motion to approve of the Draft PL Application for the Hall County Master Transportation Plan, which received a second from Mayor McClellan, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

5. Review of the First Draft of the FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Boyd presented the first draft of the FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). This is the short-range implementation plan for the 2055 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and covers fiscal years 2027-2030. Mr. Boyd highlighted the overall fiscal constraint and walked the Committee through the listed projects. Mr. Boyd also explained that, according to GHMPO's federal and state partners, the project information must match the information sent out to all Georgia MPOs in April 2026. Due to this constraint, certain project information may already be outdated, but he explained that the project sheets would be updated via an administrative modification shortly after the official adoption of the TIP in November 2026. Additional projects utilizing state and local funding sources are also expected to be added in at that time.

The TIP will undergo a 30 day public comment period in October, followed by the official adoption on November 10, 2026.

6. Review of the 2025 GHMPO Crash Profile Report

Mr. Boyd presented the 2025 Crash Profile Report for the GHMPO planning area. This report highlights all crashes that occurred during calendar year 2025, including specific information related to total crashes, hot spots, injury crashes, fatality crashes, and five year trends. Mr. Boyd reminded the Policy Committee that this data is available at request through the MPO and that reports can be created to highlight certain cities, corridors, intersections, or any areas of interest at any time.

7. Other

There were no other items brought up for discussion.

8. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports

Representatives shared the status of projects being completed by their jurisdictions and agencies: Mr. Rotalsky for the City of Gainesville, Mr. Schultz for the City of Oakwood, Mr. Lott for the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), Ms. Wallace for Hall County, and Ms. Jackson for Jackson County.

9. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

10. Upcoming Meeting Date: November 10, 2026

Mayor Thompson reminded the Policy Committee that their next meeting would be on November 10, 2026.

11. Adjourn

There being no other items of business, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.

Mayor Zack Thompson, Chair

Joseph Boyd, GHMPO