



## CORE MPO Advisory Committee on Accessible Transportation

CAT Joe Murray Rivers, Jr. Intermodal Transit Center – 1:00 p.m.  
610 W. Oglethorpe Avenue, Savannah  
Minutes

### April 22, 2019 Meeting Minutes of the CORE MPO Advisory Committee on Accessible Transportation (ACAT)

<b><u>Voting Members</u></b>	<b><u>Representing</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>
James Aberson	Chatham County	X
Teresa Brenner	Savannah Council of the Blind	X
Wayne Dawson	Savannah - Chatham County Fair Housing Council	
Brenda Pollen	Housing Authority of Savannah	
Pala Valdez	Savannah Center for the Blind and Low Vision	X
Carol Hunt	NAACP - Savannah Branch	
Jackie Immel	Georgia Infirmary Day Care Center for Rehabilitation	
Neil Ligon	Living Independence for Everyone (LIFE), Inc.	X
Patti Lyons	Senior Citizens Savannah - Chatham County, Inc.	
Pamela Oglesby	Savannah - Chatham Council on Disability Issues (SCCDI)	X
Tyrone Palmer	National Federation of the Blind, Local Chapter	X
President & CEO	Goodwill Industries of the Coastal Empire	
Representative	Effingham County	
Representative	GDOT District Five	
Representative	Richmond Hill	
Wykoda Wang	CORE MPO/MPC	X
Clealice Timmons	Coastal Center for Development Services	
Leslie Wilson	Economic Opportunity Authority	
Demetria (DeDe) Freeman	Chatham Area Transit	X
Stu Klugler	Interested Citizen	
Dr. Frank Lala	GVRA/Chatham County Coastal Chapter - GA Assoc of the Deaf Interested Citizen	X
<b><u>Voting Alternates</u></b>	<b><u>Representing</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>
<b><u>Others</u></b>	<b><u>Representing</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>
Stephanie Rossi	CORE MPO/MPC	X
James Small	CORE MPO/MPC	X
Dean Stonecipher	Savannah Center for the Blind and Low Vision	X
Kathleen Holmes	Visitor	X

## **I. Approval of Agenda**

Ms. Teresa Brenner motioned to approve the April 22, 2019 CORE MPO ACAT meeting agenda; seconded by Ms. Pamela Oglesby. The motion was passed with none opposed.

## **II. Action Items**

### 1. Approval of February 25, 2019 ACAT meeting minutes

[ACAT Feb 25 Minutes.pdf](#)

Mr. Neil Ligon motioned to approve the February 25, 2019 ACAT Meeting Minutes; seconded by Ms. Teresa Brenner. The motion was passed with none opposed.

### 2. Update ACAT Bylaws to include Chatham County Coastal Chapter - Georgia Association of the Deaf as a voting member

[ACAT Bylaws Update - GA Assoc of the Deaf.pdf](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang presented the changes to the ACAT bylaws. Adding the Chatham County Coastal Chapter – Georgia Association of the Deaf as a voting member will increase the ACAT voting membership to 24. Staff is requesting ACAT endorse the changes to the bylaws. By endorsing the changes, the MPO Board can vote for approval of the bylaws at the upcoming MPO Board meeting.

Ms. Teresa Brenner motioned to endorse the Updated ACAT bylaws to include Chatham County Coastal Chapter – Georgia Association of the Deaf as a voting member; seconded by Mr. Neil Ligon. The motion was passed with none opposed.

## **III. Status Reports**

### 3. 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update

[April 2019 MTP Update Staff Report edit.pdf](#)

Ms. Stephanie Rossi presented on the status of the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan update. A draft financially constrained project list has been developed. The next phase of the process is continuing public involvement and having the recommended plan adopted in August.

GDOT and CORE MPO staff are working to update the CORE MPO Travel Demand Model for use in developing the 2045 MTP. To ensure roadway networks in the 2015 base year model is correct, MPO staff has provided GDOT staff with a list of projects completed in years 2010-2015. The MPO then provided the lists of projects that are completed since 2015, under construction or identified in the 2018-2021 TIP.

GDOT has provided CORE MPO staff a 2015 Base Year Model, “Do Nothing” model results for year 2045, and “Existing plus Committed” system projects model results for the year 2045. These models were reviewed in December 2018. The “Completion of the TIP Projects” model results for 2045 were reviewed in January 2019, and the “Non-financially Constrained project” model results for 2045 were reviewed in February. The Financially constrained project list for 2045 was submitted in March and the GDOT model results have been received.

The financially constrained project list was determined by conducting the prioritization process and by incorporating the Travel Demand Model (TDM) results, needs identified in the planning studies, the freight plan recommendations, and the congestion management process recommendations. Staff has reviewed and evaluated these planning products to determine the greatest areas of needs. Most of the projects in the 2040 Plan that have not been completed or under construction and are in various development stages for implementation have been carried over into the new 2045 Plan. Many of these projects scored high on the prioritization spread sheet.

Ms. Rossi further reported that from May 2 to June 1, FHWA/FTA/GDOT will review a draft of the plan document. Public meetings and open houses will be held from June to July. The public will review the draft plan from June 13 – July 16.

#### [4.FY 2045 MTP Financial Plan Development](#)

📎 [2045 MTP Update Financial Plan Development.pdf](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang summarized the methodology for developing the 2045 MTP Financial Plan and presented the financially constrained projects lists. The methodology includes how to determine the revenue projections and cost estimates for both Highway and Transit projects.

For Highway Revenues, the revenue forecasts for 2022 – 2045 provided by the GDOT Office of Financial Management based on a three-year average of state’s obligation authority are used. Revenues from the adopted FY 2018 – 2021 TIP for FY 2020 and FY 2021 are used for these two years because these are considered committed funds. These revenues are divided into two parts – those for Projects and those for Maintenance. The financial plan for highway revenue projections further assumes \$2.5 million annual local funds adjusted with inflation factors for use by Projects. The revenue projections assume a 1% annual inflation rate and the total revenues are allocated to three cost bands. The revenues for Projects in each cost band include funding for specific projects and funding set asides for Operational Improvements, Transit Improvements and Non-motorized Transportation projects.

Highway projects’ costs are based on the cost estimates in the FY 2018 – 2021 TIP, or the best available cost estimates from GDOT or local sponsors, or estimates based on per mile costs of comparable local projects as expressed in approved concept reports. The appropriate escalation inflation factors were applied to the cost estimates

in each cost band based on the projects' development schedule. The annual inflation rate for cost estimating is 3.5%. For set aside category expenditures, policy statements have been developed for Maintenance, Operational Improvements, Transit Improvements, and Non-Motorized Improvements

For Transit revenues, the financial plan assumes \$7.5 million annual transit funds adjusted with inflation factors. The annual inflation rate is 1%. The transit revenues will be allocated to three cost bands to fund transit capital projects. The capital improvement projects are identified by CAT through the CAT's planning process.

Since ACAT focuses on accessible transportation, Ms. Wang put an emphasis on transit improvements and sidewalk improvements. She stated that the transit improvements will be funded by the transit revenues as presented in the CAT capital project list and the transit set-aside category expenditure in the highway project list. She further stated that bike, pedestrian and trail improvements will be funded by the Non-Motorized Set Aside in the 2045 MTP. This could include funding for sidewalks that connect to transit destinations. The Non-Motorized set aside funding is based on the estimated allocation of Transportation Alternatives (TA) funds. With the allocated funds and local match, the annual available TA funds are estimated to be roughly \$500k. We assume that TA funds will be used for bicycle and pedestrian projects, but applicants may apply for Z230 funds as well.

Mr. Neil Ligon asked if staff considered CAT's redesign project when developing the MTP. What impact could CAT's decision concerning usage vs coverage have on the plan? This could potentially result in longer walks to the bus stops depending on what plan is accepted. Ms. Wang stated that bus stops and sidewalks can be eligible expenses for both transit and highway funding depending on the level of service and changes made by CAT. These would be considered capital expenses. The set aside policy statements for transit improvements and Non-Motorized improvements in the highway plan allow more flexibility rather than assigning funds to specific projects. However, the 2045 MTP does not include operations results from the re-design process.

Ms. Pamela Oglesby asked if the Delesseps Ave. and Truman Linear Park Trail projects are a part of the Tide to Town Project. Ms. Wang stated she will check on that. The Tide to Town includes different segments for improvements. If a project is in the Non-Motorized plan, the project is eligible for the Non-Motorized set aside funding and project sponsors can apply for the funds. The Non-Motorized plan will be updated following the adoption of the 2045 MTP.

#### **IV. Agency Reports (verbal)**

Chatham Area Transit is asking community members to take the CAT redesign survey. CAT is in the process of implementing their travel training program. This training program teaches paratransit eligible riders how to use fixed route transit

services. Riders who take the travel training program will be able to ride fixed route transit for free.

Living Independence for Everyone (LIFE), Inc. hosted their Celebrate Abilities Resource Fair.

## **V. Other Business**

## **VI. Public Participation Opportunities**

## **VII. Announcements**

[5.Next ACAT Meeting: Monday, June 24, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. at the CAT Joe Murray Rivers. Jr. Intermodal Transit Center](#)

## **VIII. Other Non-Agenda Information for Reference**

[6.Chatham District 5 MPO Project Status Updates](#)

[Chatham District 5 MPO Project Status \(3-31-19\) \(003\).pdf](#)

## **IX. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the April 22, 2019 meeting of the CORE MPO ACAT was adjourned.

The Chatham County - Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission provides meeting summary minutes which are adopted by the respective board. Verbatim transcripts of minutes are the responsibility of the interested party.