



## 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

### June 24, 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	X
Pala Valdez	Savannah Center for the Blind and Low Vision	
Carol Hunt	NAACP - Savannah Branch	
Jackie Immel	Georgia Infirmary Day Care Center for Rehabilitation	
Neil Ligon	Living Independence for Everyone (LIFE), Inc.	
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	
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	LIFE Board President	X
Dr. Frank Lala	GVRA/Chatham County Coastal Chapter - GA Assoc of the Deaf Interested Citizen	
<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
Franklin Albright	Albright Technology	X

## **I. Approval of Agenda**

Ms. Pamela Oglesby motioned to approve the June 24, 2019 CORE MPO ACAT meeting agenda; seconded by Ms. Teresa Brenner. The motion was passed with none opposed.

## **II. Action Items**

### 1. Approval of April 22, 2019 ACAT meeting minutes

📎 [ACAT April 22.pdf](#)

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

### 2. Approval of the DRAFT Financially Constrained Mobility 2045 Project List

📎 [June 2019 Project List Staff Report.pdf](#)

Ms. Stephanie Rossi presented the Draft Financially Constrained Mobility 2045 Project Lists. Staff is requesting the ACAT to endorse the draft financially constrained project lists. Staff will present the final lists and the full 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan for adoption in August.

The financially constrained 2045 MTP highway project list was presented to the MPO board and advisory committees in April for initial review. No major changes have been made to this list between April and June. All projects currently under development in the TIP are included in the 2045 Plan. Other projects included in the 2045 MTP were identified through advisory committees, travel demand modeling results, needs identified through planning studies, and projects in the 2040 MTP with high prioritization scores. Some projects that are a part of the financially constrained highway project list were not mapped, including those in the set-aside categories. From the anticipated highway revenues in the 2045 Plan, four policy-based set-asides are defined. Those are Maintenance, Non-motorized Improvements, Operational Improvements, and Transit Improvements (bus replacement). The projects in the set-aside categories are not specifically identified, so they cannot be mapped now.

The other financially constrained project list for the 2045 MTP is for transit projects. These transit projects have been identified as priorities by Chatham Area Transit and for the Chatham County SPLOST funding, and will be funded by the 2045 MTP Transit Anticipated Revenues from FTA and local sources.

Ms. Rossi explained that the projects in the highway list are unchanged from April. Staff presented the map and the spreadsheet previously. Today, staff is presenting both the highway project list and the transit project list. One of the set-aside categories from the highway project list is Transit Improvements. Thus, the total Transit Funds will be \$221 million from the transit revenue projection plus \$18 million

from the highway revenue set-aside.

Mr. James Aberson asked what the cost bands are. Ms. Rossi explained that the spreadsheet lists out the projects illustrating the projects' phases, time bands, and costs. Cost Band I is 2020-2027, and many of the projects in this cost band are already in the works. Cost Band II is 2028-2036, and lists projects in the mid-range timeframe. Cost Band III is 2037-2045 and outlines projects in the longest range. Ms. Pamela Oglesby asked if the document illustrates how far along the projects are. Ms. Rossi stated that the document does not show this specifically, but it does tell what projects are in the Right-of-Way phase or moving into Construction. For Cost Band I projects, if the project only has a Construction phase, that project is further along. If the projects are in the Preliminary Engineering phase, they are at the beginning of the project development process. Mr. Klugler asked whether staff would be supporting the smart city concept by installing electric charging stations. Ms. Rossi stated that the installation of the stations is for CAT electrical buses only.

Ms. Wykoda Wang motioned to endorse the DRAFT Financially Constrained Mobility 2045 Project Lists; seconded by Ms. Pamela Oglesby. The motion was passed with none opposed.

### [3. Amendments to FY 2018 - 2021 TIP](#)

📎 [FY 2018-2021 TIP Update Staff Report June 2019.pdf](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang presented the FY 2018 - 2021 TIP Amendments.

Near the end of the fiscal year, staff reviewed all projects and phases programmed in the TIP to determine project status. For Highway projects, all but 3 projects are on schedule and have funds authorized. Two of these three projects not on schedule are:

- The I-16 Widening project - Right-of-Way is programmed in 2019 but the funds are being moved to 2020. The funds will not be authorized by June 30<sup>th</sup> of this year.
- The US-80 Bridge Replacement to Tybee Island project - Right-of-Way is programmed in 2019, and those funds are being moved to 2020.

The changes for these two projects have been processed as TIP administrative modifications and are included as an information item on the agenda.

The June 2019 TIP amendments are all for transit projects. For the Transit programmed funds, only the FTA Section 5307 funding obligation for FY 2018 - 2019 is completed. TIP amendments need to be made to other transit projects, including the following.

- FTA Section 5307(h) Program - 2019 funds will be moved to 2020.
- FTA Section 5337 Program - funding for FY 2018 - 2019 have not been obligated and will be moved to 2020.
- FTA Section 5339 Program - the FY 2018 vehicle purchase funds have

been obligated and will not change. Only a portion of the facility enhancement funds and none of the ITS funds in FY 2018 – 2019 have been obligated. The non-obligated FY 2018 – 2019 funds will be moved to FY 2020. All FY 2020 funds will be used for ITS. Following that, the FY 2021 funds will be used for facility enhancements and vehicle purchase.

- FTA Section 5339 C Program - FY 2019 funds have not been obligated and will be moved to FY 2020.
- FHWA Ferry Boat Program Formula Funds - FY 2018 - 2019 funds have not been obligated and will be moved to 2020.

After the TIP amendments are adopted, CAT needs to prepare for the funding applications in the FTA system and we will look to FTA for approval and have the funding obligation.

In addition, new programs have been added to the transit section of the TIP.

- M301 Funding Flexed to FTA - The M301 funds were originally programmed in the Highway section for the bikeshare program. It was decided that the funds would be used for ITS development. These funds have been authorized by GDOT/FHWA and flexed to FTA.
- M230 Funding Flexed to FTA - CAT was awarded some M230 funding in previous years for transit vehicle purchases. The funds were programmed in FY 2015 – 2018 and have been authorized by GDOT/FHWA and flexed to FTA.
- Z230 Funding Flexed to FTA - CAT was awarded some Z230 funds in FY 2019 for transit vehicle purchases and infrastructure maintenance and improvements as well as some Z230 funds for ITS implementation. These funds have been authorized by GDOT/FHWA and flexed to FTA.

These flexed funds need to be included in the transit section of the TIP. CAT has prepared the applications and are waiting for the adoption of the TIP amendments. The applications can be submitted to FTA after the TIP amendments are adopted.

Ms. Oglesby asked where the new ferry dock will be built. Ms. Wang stated that it is to be built on the West end of River Street near the Kessler development. Water ferry projects have multiple funding sources.

Ms. Pamela Oglesby motioned to endorse the proposed 2018 - 2021 TIP amendments; seconded by Ms. Demetria Freeman. The motion was passed with none opposed.

### **III. Status Reports**

#### [4.2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update](#)

📎 [June 2019 MTP Update Staff Report.pdf](#)

Ms. Stephanie Rossie presented the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update. Besides the financially constrained project lists that have been presented in the previous agenda item, we are now in the public comment period for the 2045 MTP which started on June 17<sup>th</sup> and would end on July 16<sup>th</sup>. The draft plan is out for review and posted on the CORE MPO website.

The first step in the process is to send the DRAFT plan to GDOT, FTA, and FHWA for a 30-day review. Staff received comments back on May 30<sup>th</sup>. Most of the comments were concerning structure and flow of the document. Staff satisfied all content requirements by addressing the GDOT/FHWA/FTA comments on the report and advertised in local newspapers and via email blast for the public comment period for the revised DRAFT Plan.

Staff has been working on public outreach and have scheduled community open house meetings throughout the month of June. MPO staff has presented to Gulfstream staff, Richmond Hill City Council, the Coastal Georgia Indicators Coalition, the Effingham Transportation Advisory Board, and the West Side Community Neighborhood Association. After the public comment period ends, staff will review, summarize, and address the comments. Staff has experienced the best public involvement when staff reaches out to an existing meeting, getting scheduled on the agenda to present. These comments will be shared at the August meeting. Staff created an interactive map that outlines project information.

The draft plan includes 7 sections and an appendix.

- Section 1 is an overview of the document.
- Section 2 includes the regional goals that were adopted in October 2018 and the performance measures used in the performance-based planning process.
- Section 3 covers the regional transportation network. It illustrates the different modes of transportation we have in the region and what we do operationally.
- Section 4 reviews public engagement, illustrating what has been done to spur engagement and what has been covered at the community open house meetings.
- Section 5 covers the project selection process and includes the technical analysis, modeling review, and the TCC working group project prioritization process.
- Section 6 outlines the financial plan and project recommendations including cost estimates, inflation factors, revenue projections, and forecast. This section also includes the vision project list information.
- Section 7 includes the impact analysis and mitigation factors. This includes Environmental Justice information and various mitigation factors as they relate to transportation projects.
- The appendix includes more information about projects that is not outlined in the 7 sections - information concerning performance-based planning, information related to contributing studies and plans, greater detail on the financial plans, technical modeling analysis, level of service maps, and public

outreach information including all 300+ comments received thus far.

Staff will go before the MPO Board on August 7<sup>th</sup> requesting the adoption of the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

### 5.FY 2019 UPWP Administrative Modifications

📎 [FY 2019 UPWP administrative modifications staff report.pdf](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang stated that staff needs to satisfy administrative requirements to close out the FY 2019 contracts for Highway Planning and Transit Planning funds. Budget adjustments were done for the FY 2019 UPWP. Funds were reallocated across the funding categories without changing the total. Budget adjustments to the PL funds were made in May and June, and budget adjustments were made to the TR funds in April. The final amounts have been updated. When GDOT conducts the contract closeout they will reference the information provided. This information is being presented to the ACAT for transparency.

### 6.FY 2020 UPWP Administrative Modifications

📎 [FY 2020 UPWP administrative modifications staff report.pdf](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang stated that the CORE MPO must operate under new contracts for FY 2020. The Highway Planning funds are fine, but administrative modifications must be made to the Transit Planning funds. When the CORE MPO Board adopted the FY 2020 UPWP in February, \$27,000 of discretionary Section 5303 funds were documented but not included in the funding summary table because at that time those funds were at the funding application stage.

When the UPWP was adopted, GDOT had not approved these funds. Now that GDOT has awarded these funds, we must make an administrative modification to include them in the FY 2020 UPWP funding summary table and the funding table for Task 4.2. These funds will be used primarily for CAT projects, including licensing, tools, and data purchases. GDOT will use the updated financial information as the basis to develop the FY 2020 Transit Planning contract. These funds are from the FTA Discretionary funds.

### 7.Updates to the Title VI Plan

📎 [Title VI Up Date Status Report June 2019.pdf](#)

📎 [CORE MPO TitleVI Plan Consistent with GDOT Template May2019.pdf](#)

📎 [CORE MPO Participation Plan May2019.pdf](#)

📎 [CORE MPO Language Assistance Plan May2019.pdf](#)

📎 [CORE MPO Environmental Justice Plan May2019.pdf](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang stated that this item is in response to the GDOT Intermodal

requirement to update the Title VI Plan every three years and to revise the Title VI Plan to be consistent with the new template developed by GDOT. The item is presented here for information and invitation for comments on the revised Title VI Plans. Details on the specific updates will be presented at the August meeting.

Ms. Wang has scheduled three public hearings in August - August 1st at the CAC meeting, August 5th at the ACAT meeting, and August 7th at the MPO Board meeting. The CAC is responsible for overseeing the updates to the Participation Plan while ACAT is responsible for overseeing the Title VI Plan updates. Title VI focuses on preventing and combating all types of discrimination based on race, color, national origin or other categories in the transportation planning process. Any updates to the Title VI Plans require a 45-day public comment period. The comment period for this update started Monday, June 17, 2019 and will end July 31, 2019. Staff will request the MPO Board to adopt the updated Participation Plan and Title VI Plans at the August 7, 2019 MPO Board meeting.

The last comprehensive Title VI updates occurred in 2016. The 2019 updates include revisions to the Title VI Plan, the Participation Plan, the Language Assistance, and the Environmental Justice Plan.

For people with Limited English Proficiency (LEP), since 2016, staff has updated the Language Assistance Plan (LAP) to include current American Community Survey (ACS) Census data to ensure previous statistics are valid. It was determined that Spanish speakers are the highest LEP population that need English assistance in the community. The threshold for this is 5% or more of the population that does not speak English well or at all. The second largest LEP population would be a few Asian communities, but these numbers have not met the 5% threshold for language assistance based on ACS statistics.

Mr. Aberson asked about American sign language. Ms. Wang stated that American sign language is not included in the data. It is not totally excluded, but the Language Assistance Plan is particularly focused on those with Limited English Proficiency. The Language Assistance Plan is more related to CAT because they have more information that must be disseminated to the public such as maps and bus schedules. Ms. Demetria Freeman stated that CAT recently created a Spanish route schedule and has a Spanish speaking agent on staff. Mr. Aberson asked if CAT has any paratransit riders who primarily speak Spanish. Ms. Freeman stated that if they do, the riders speak enough English to communicate with the drivers or someone calls into CAT on their behalf. Mr. Aberson stated that by law, they should be able to make their own reservations without having to depend on someone else to do this for them. Ms. Freeman stated that when a person calls into CAT, a prompt response is available that gives them the option to speak to someone in English or Spanish. Ms. Wang stated that the Language Assistance Plan outlines ways to determine how

often a language assistance seeking person contacts the agency and how the agency is prepared to assist this person. This can include training, staffing, translation, and more. CAT will be updating the Transit Development Plan (TDP) that will include a survey on language assistance. MPO staff will request that CAT attempt to gather Language Assistance Program data with the next TDP update. Staff wants to be sure the field data validates the ACS census data used.

The Environmental Justice (EJ) Plan addresses the needs of the low income, poverty stricken, and minority communities. We want to be sure that the MPO's Metropolitan Transportation Plan and the Transportation Improvement Programs do not have negative impacts on the EJ populations. We also want to be sure that EJ populations are involved in the transportation planning process. This EJ Plan will illustrate how staff intends to evaluate the Transportation plans and programs as they pertain to the EJ populations.

The Title VI Plan, the Participation Plan, the Language Assistance Plan and the Environmental Justice Plan are available for public review and comment, and written comments should be sent to Ms. Wykoda Wang.

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

The Para-transit ADA manager of the Chatham Area Transit has resigned. This role is currently being advertised. The CAT CEO Mr. Curtis Koleber has resigned, and an interim CEO will be appointed. CAT is hosting an ADA Requirement for Public Service workshop from August 14-15, 2019. The workshop will cover requirements for fixed route bus service and requirements for demand response services, including paratransit. Mr. Jess Segivia from Navigator Mobility Consulting will be leading the workshop.

CAT staff will be presenting the final segment of the travel training survey to the CAT Board and attending the National Travel Trainers Conference in Atlanta in August. They have received the equipment for travel trainers and have the brochures ready for printing. The CAT Board has not voted to allow those who attend the local travel training to use the City buses for free.

#### **V. Other Business**

#### **VI. Public Participation Opportunities**

#### **VII. Announcements**

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

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

### [9.Administrative Modification to add the 2019 System Performance Report to the Total Mobility 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan and FY 2018-2021 TIP](#)

[☺ Total Mobility 2040 System Performance Report May 2019.pdf](#)

### [10.June 2019 Administrative Modifications to FY 2018 - 2021 TIP](#)

[☺ TIP Administrative Modification 6-11-2019.pdf](#)

## **IX. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the June 24, 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.