



## CORE MPO Advisory Committee on Accessible Transportation

December 13, 2021 at 1:00 pm

### DECEMBER 13, 2021 Advisory Committee on Accessible Transportation (ACAT) Meeting

<b>Voting Members</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Present</b>
James Aberson	Chatham County	
Vacant	Savannah Council of the Blind	
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.	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	
Asia Hernton	CORE MPO/MPC	X
Clealice Timmons	Coastal Center for Development Services	
Terry Tolbert	Economic Opportunity Authority	
Tia Baker	Chatham Area Transit	X
Vacant	GVRA/Chatham County Coastal Chapter - GA Assoc of the Deaf Interested Citizen	
<b>Voting Alternates</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Others</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Present</b>
Evan Schein	Public	X
Jessica Mathis	Public	X
Nick Fazio	Advanced Planning/MPC	X

Wykoda Wang	CORE MPO	X
Alicia Hunter	CORE MPO	X
Sally Helm	CORE MPO/MPC	X
Pam Everett	MPC	X
Julie Yawn	MPC/IT	X
Shanon Ginn	Living Independence for Everyone (LIFE), Inc.	X

## I. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Asia Hernton motioned to approve the agenda; Ms. Brenda Pollen seconded. The ACAT committee members that were present (not enough for a quorum) were in support of approving the agenda.

### Action Items

#### [1. Approval of the October 25, 2021 CORE MPO ACAT Meeting minutes](#)

Ms. Asia Hernton motioned to approve the October 25, 2021 CORE MPO ACAT meeting minutes; seconded by Ms. Brenda Pollen. The ACAT committee members that were present (not enough for a quorum) were in support of approving the minutes.

#### [2. FY 2022 UPWP Amendment](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang stated the UPWP is a document that details what the CORE MPO staff does over the year. The current UPWP covers fiscal year 2022 which runs from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. This amendment proposes that the US 80 Corridor Study be moved from the unfunded section to the funded section of the UPWP, change the study limits, and change the cost estimate.

Prior to submitting the PL discretionary funds application in September, the US 80 Corridor Study was amended into the FY 2022 UPWP as an illustrative project. Since the Call for Projects, the US 80 Corridor Study was awarded CRRSAA funds. The CRRSAA funds do not require a local match. The project sponsor (the City of Pooler) revised the study cost estimate from \$175,000 to \$285,000. Pooler will coordinate with Bloomingdale, Garden City, and the City of Savannah in conducting the study. The study limits have been updated to “from the Effingham-Chatham County line to I-516 @ SR 25”.

Staff is asking for the ACAT committee to endorse the FY 2022 UPWP Amendment.

Mr. Evan Schein, a member of the public, asked if there was a budget for external service providers or was this for this organization only. Ms. Wang stated a consultant will be secured for this project.

Ms. Asia Hernton motioned to endorse the FY 2022 UPWP Amendment; seconded by Ms. Brenda Pollen. The ACAT committee members that were present (not enough for a quorum) were in support of the motion.

### 3. Draft FY 2023 Unified Planning Work Program

Ms. Wykoda Wang stated the FY 2023 UPWP covers the CORE MPO staff work to be conducted between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023. The tasks are divided by highway and transit sections. The UPWP will have multiple focus areas, including the 2050 MTP Update, Congestion Management Process Update, the Freight Plan Update, and the Urban Flooding Model. The 2045 MTP and the FY 2021 – 2024 TIP are being managed as well. The study recommendations will feed into the Long-Range Transportation Plan.

The work categories will be charged to different tasks, such as administration, operation, public involvement, data collection, and system planning. For example, the 2045 MTP, the 2050 MTP, CMP, TIP, and Freight Plan will be covered under system planning. The Long-Range Transportation Plan which includes the 2045 MTP maintenance and update as well as the development of the 2050 MTP, will be covered under the MTP. TIP is multi-modal, so it covers highway, transit, and non-motorized transportation. Transit administration, short-range planning, and the Transit Development Plan (with coordination from CAT) will be covered in the Transit section.

There will be a 30-day review period by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT). The next step would be adoption of the FY 2023 UPWP. At this meeting, staff is asking ACAT committee to endorse the proposed draft of the FY 2023 UPWP. At the February 2022 meeting, the committee will see a revised version of the UPWP with the comments from FHWA, FTA and GDOT incorporated.

Mr. Evan Schein, member of the public, asked if this was a working document that was guiding the CORE MPO strategy. Ms. Wang stated this document guides what the staff does. Mr. Schein stated he was new to the region, trying to get involved in transportation planning. He was trying to start an electric vehicle company and potentially do some work to support Chatham Area Transit Authority. He recently spoke to them regarding capturing some data regarding movement in the region, trying to see what role technical service providers would play in the planning process.

Mr. Neil Ligon motioned to endorse the FY 2023 UPWP; seconded by Ms. Asia Hernton. The ACAT committee members that were present (not enough for a quorum) were in support of the motion.

### 4. December Amendments to FY 2021 - 2024 TIP

Ms. Alicia Hunter stated the TIP is the short-range programming document that lists all the surface transportation projects that use federal, state, and local funding. As projects change, the TIP is modified to reflect those changes.

From August to September, the MPO conducted a Call for Projects for Z230 and CRRSAA funds. Several projects were awarded funding. The proposed TIP amendments include programming those projects with funding award. These include four highway projects and two transit projects - Chevis Road Improvement, Garrard Avenue Improvement, Truman Linear Park Trail Phase II-B, US 80 Corridor Study, CAT fixed route diesel buses, and CAT Bus Stop Improvement Program. In addition, in October and November, the MPO received several requests from GDOT and Chatham County proposing updates. The summary for the December TIP amendments is listed below.

- I-95 @ SR 21 Augusta Road Interchange – GDOT started the project development process and requested to add a scoping phase for FY 2022.
- SR 26 from I-516 to CS 180 Victory Drive – GDOT requested to move the construction and utilities phases from FY 2022 to FY 2023 with both phases receiving slight increases in cost estimates.
- I-16 from I-95 to 516 – GDOT provided updates to the funding source and cost estimates to the construction phase in FY 2022.
- I-516 @ CS 1503 DeRenne Avenue – GDOT provided an update on funding source and cost estimate for the right-of-way phase in FY 2022.
- Chevis Road Improvement Project – Chatham County requested the construction phase be moved from FY 2023 to long-range (FY 2025) and the right-of-way phase be moved from FY 2022 to FY 2023. This project was awarded Z230 funds for the right-of-way phase and CRRSAA funds for the preliminary engineering (PE) phase.
- Garrard Avenue Improvement Project – the project was awarded Z230 funds for the right-of-way phase in FY 2023 and for the construction phase in FY 2024.
- I-16 @ SR 17 – Chatham County requested the ROW phase be moved from FY 2023 to FY 2024 (this request is subject to GDOT concurrence).
- Truman Linear Park Trail Phase II-B – the project was awarded CRRSAA funds for the construction phase in FY 2022.
- US 80 Corridor Study – the study was awarded CRRSAA funds for PE phase in FY 2022.

Ms. Hunter also stated that a new way of contacting CORE MPO staff is being introduced: texting to email addresses. This will give people more ways to conveniently and directly contact the CORE MPO.

Staff is recommending endorsement of the December Amendments to FY 2021 – 2024 TIP.

Ms. Pamela Oglesby asked about the bus stop updates from CAT. The City of Savannah does not have representation at the ACAT meeting and one of the bus stops that needs to be updated is on the City's right-of-way. The City of Savannah will need to coordinate with CAT to update this bus stop.

Ms. Asia Hernton motioned to endorse the FY 2021 – 2024 TIP Amendments; seconded by Ms. Brenda Pollen. The ACAT committee members that were present (not enough for a quorum) were in support of the motion.

### 5. 2022 Safety Performance Management Targets

Ms. Alicia Hunter stated the Safety Performance Management is defined by FHWA as a strategic approach that uses system information to make investment and policy decisions to achieve performance goals. FHWA requires DOTs to set safety performance targets annually to measure and approve the transportation system performance. In coordination with DOTs and transit operators, MPOs will track performance measures and set targets for those measures. Projects are then prioritized based on those performances set by the targets. MPOs will update their TIPs and MTPs to reflect the performance-based planning process and develop a system performance report to document progress. PBPP enables DOTs, MPOs and transit operators to efficiently allocate resources and maximize return on investment. This helps achieve a desired performance outcome for the transportation system and increase accountability and transparency for the public.

Safety performance measures are quantifiable indicators used to gauge performance or conditions set by FHWA. Safety performance targets are set by DOTs and MPOs which are targets that are quantifiable levels of performance or conditions to be achieved. There are five safety performance measures:

- Number of Fatalities
- Rate of Fatalities per 100 million Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)
- Number of Serious Injuries
- Rate of Serious Injuries per 100 VMT
- Number of Non-Motorized Fatalities and Non-Motorized Serious Injuries

MPOs may either adopt the states' targets, set their own, or a combination of both. MPOs must establish targets by February 27th of the calendar year for which they apply. FHWA reviews MPO progress towards meeting targets during certification review. In coordination with GDOT, the CORE MPO staff agrees to support the state adopted targets.

Staff is asking the committee to endorse the 2022 Safety Performance Management Targets.

Ms. Asia Hernton motioned to endorse the 2022 Safety Performance Management Targets; seconded by Ms. Brenda Pollen. The ACAT committee members that were present (not enough for a quorum) were in support of the motion.

### **III. Status Reports**

None.

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

The agency reports are attached to the agenda under Notices.

## **V. Other Business**

None.

## **VI. Public Participation Opportunities**

Ms. Jessica Mathis, member of the public, Community & Disability Advocate, stated she is concerned about the pickups on CAT Mobility. If a reservation is made, you might not get picked up. We don't get to the places we need to go. How do you schedule rides when CAT has shortages of drivers? The buses are breaking down. Ms. Mathis stated: "earlier today prior to this meeting, the bus broke down at my house. The lift wouldn't deploy". She asked what can be done to ease or rectify the situation.

Ms. Pamela Oglesby stated at the last meeting the concern was brought up regarding Paratransit drivers. It was asked to be addressed at this round of meetings.

## **VII. Notices**

[6. November Administrative Modifications to FY 2021 - 2024 TIP](#)

[7. GDOT Project Status Report](#)

[8. Chatham County Project Status Update](#)

[9. City of Savannah Project Status Report](#)

[10. CAT Project Status Report](#)

Ms. Tia Baker stated each driver's salary was increased in September. The time of their ratification was when they got their increases. There is a salary increase each year. Paratransit operators do not get paid as much as fixed route drivers. Their union contract ended this year. The union is still trying to negotiate a new contract.

There is still a driver shortage. Currently there is a contract being reviewed by our lawyers with the Coastal Regional Commission (CRC) to help us during this time. They are looking into possibly getting contracts with Uber and Lyft to help ease the current issues. There is a contract in place with CRC.

[11. LATS Project Status Update](#)

[12. TIP Project Tracking in December 2021](#)

[13. Next CORE MPO ACAT Committee Meeting, February 28, 2022 at 1:00 pm.](#)

## **VIII. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the December 13, 2021, meeting of 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.