



CHATHAM URBAN TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

Arthur A. Mendonsa Hearing Room
112 East State Street

November 10, 2004

5:00 p.m.

<u>Members</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Present</u>
Brant Attaway	City of Savannah	x
James Blue	City of Savannah	
Harold Burgstiner	Chatham County	
Tom Campbell	Chatham County	
Charles Coovert	Town of Port Wentworth	
William L. Grainger	Chatham County	
Phyllis Hardeman	Thunderbolt	Excused
Johnny Hearn	City of Garden City	
Chandler Kinsey	City of Tybee Island	x
Ronald Kolman	Chatham County	x
Joe Laufenberg	City of Savannah	x
Stratton Leopold	Town of Vernonburg	
Henry Levy	City of Tybee Island	x
Helen McCracken, Vice Chair	Thunderbolt	x
Mark McDonald	City of Savannah	x
Lee Mundell	City of Savannah	x
Joyce Murlless	City of Savannah	
Bill Reese	City of Savannah	
Roger Shank	City of Savannah	
Stephen Traub	Chatham County	x
Jill Weaver	Chatham County	x

Others Present:

Al Black, P. E.
Scott Lansing
Teresa Scott
Thomas L. Thomson, P.E., AICP
Wykoda Wang
Michael Weiner, P.E.
Mark Wilkes, P.E., AICP

Representing:

Chatham County Engineering
Chatham Area Transit Authority
GDOT, Jesup
MPC, Executive Director
MPO Staff
City of Savannah Traffic Engineer
MPO Staff

I. Call to Order

Mr. Mundell called the meeting to order. He called the roll. Hearing no comments, the agenda was approved as submitted.

II. Action Items

- A. Approval of September 16, 2004 Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Mr. Kinsey requested clarification on a statement from Page 3 of the minutes.

Mr. Thomson replied that the statement would be reworded to the following: "Mr. Thomson indicated that because the project is funded with federal and state funding, the process is long. If only local funds were used, the process could be shorter."

It was **moved** to approve the minutes. Mr. Laufenberg seconded the motion.

CAC Action: The motion to approve the September 16, 2004 Citizen Advisory Committee minutes carried with none opposed. Voting were Mr. Attaway, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Kolman, Mr. Laufenberg, Mr. Levy, Ms. McCracken, Mr. McDonald, Mr. Traub, and Ms. Weaver.

2. Review of Draft FY 2006 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Mr. Wilkes stated that a copy of this document was included in the pre-meeting mailing. The UPWP is the staff work program for the MPO for the fiscal year that will begin on July 1, 2005. GDOT would like to have a draft copy of the document by December 1, 2004 and a final by June 1, 2004. Changes from the current year include less money for the LRTP, more funds for the Congestion Management Study in order to revisit several priority corridors in the next year.

Mr. Levy **moved** to receive the document as information. Mr. Kolman seconded the motion.

Mr. Thomson stated that an annual staff work program is required in order to comply with the federal requirements necessary to continue to receive planning funds and project funds. Although the financial aspects are formula driven, it is important to pay attention to what is being done with the money.

CAC Action: The motion to receive the draft FY 2006 UPWP as information carried with none opposed. Voting were Ms. Weaver, Mr. Traub, Ms. McCracken, Mr. Levy, Mr. Laufenberg, Mr. McDonald, Mr. Kolman, Mr. Kinsey, and Mr. Attaway.

III. Status Reports

A. Connecting Savannah Study

Mr. Thomson stated that the Connecting Savannah Study is a proactive, citizen driven decision making process. Projects would come from this process. The initial Stakeholders Conference was held on October 12, 2004 at the Coastal Georgia Center. Following an introductory presentation, five working groups were established to examine issues in more detail. Another meeting, which has been scheduled for November 30, 2004, will feature a presentation about the existing plans and programs. This would provide everyone with basic information. A meeting has been tentatively scheduled for December 16, 2004 to begin to identify solutions or alternatives. Feedback on those proposals would be ready by March.

B. Chatham Intermodal Freight Study

Mr. Wilkes stated that this matter would be deferred until the next meeting in order for a representative from the Georgia Ports authority to be present.

C. GDOT Interstate Improvement Study

Ms. Scott stated that stakeholder meetings were held in Savannah last year about a statewide interstate study. These meetings identified problem areas on Interstate 95 and Interstate 16. Funds have been earmarked for this study, which would focus on the following interchanges: I-16 and I-95, I-16 and SR307, and I-16 and I-516.

D. CAT Downtown Transfer Station Study

Chairman Mundell introduced Scott Lansing, Executive Director of CAT, who was present to discuss the status of the Downtown Transfer Station. He reviewed the purpose of the project, as well as the details in order to provide a better understanding of what CAT is attempting to accomplish with this project. He also reviewed the process required by the National Environmental Protection Act and where CAT is in that process. A handout was distributed.

Informational Reports (verbal)

A. Georgia Department of Transportation

Ms. Scott reviewed the status of projects that are planned for Chatham County. A report was distributed at the meeting. There are no significant milestones on any of the projects.

To a comment from Mr. Kolman, Ms. Scott stated that she would research the criteria for providing rest stops along interstates in Georgia. Other states have rest stops every 30 miles.

B. Chatham County

Mr. Black distributed a status report on projects that are underway in Chatham County with One-Percent Sales Tax money. There were no questions on any of the projects on the list.

C. City of Savannah

Mr. Weiner presented a short summary on traffic projects in the City of Savannah. A status report was distributed at the meeting. Street calming devices are planned to reduce or eliminate cut through traffic and speeding in the Paradise Park neighborhood. This temporary plan will be introduced on December 6, 2004.

VI. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Citizens Advisory Committee, the November 10, 2004 meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark A. Wilkes, P.E., AICP
Director of Transportation Planning