



CHATHAM URBAN TRANSPORTATION STUDY

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

Arthur A. Mendonsa Hearing Room
112 East State Street

February 22, 2007
MPC Arthur A. Mendonsa Hearing Room

5:00 p.m.
112 East State Street

Members

Tony Abbott
Brant Attaway
John Bennett
Mark Egan
Phyllis Hardeman
Jason House
Chandler Kinsey
Beth Kinstler
Jack Knops
Henry Levy
Helen McCracken
Clint Murphy, Chairman
Russell Peterson, Vice Chairman
Andrew Rawlings
Linda M. Smith
Joe Steffen
Stephen Traub
James Weaver

Representing

Chatham County
City of Savannah
City of Savannah
Chatham County
Town of Thunderbolt
City of Savannah
City of Tybee Island
City of Savannah
City of Savannah
City of Tybee Island
Town of Thunderbolt
Chatham County
Chatham County
City of Bloomingdale
Port Wentworth
Chatham County
City of Savannah
City of Savannah

Present

X
X

X

X
X
X
X
X
X
X
X
X
X
X
X
X

Others Present

Beverly Davis
Jean Iaderosa
Jane Love
Constance Morgan
Wykoda Wang
Mark Wilkes, P.E., AICP

Representing

Reynolds, Smith and Hills
Chatham Area Transit
MPO
MPC
MPO
MPO

X
X
X
X
X
X

Call to Order

Chairman Clint Murphy called the February 22, 2007 Citizens Advisory Committee meeting to order.

I. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Beth Kinstler **moved** to approve the Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda. Mr. Henry Levy seconded the motion.

CAC Action: the motion to approve the February 22, 2007 CAC Meeting Agenda carried with none opposed.

II. Action Items

A. Approval of the December 7, 2006 Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.

Ms. Beth Kinstler **moved** for approval of the December 7, 2006 CAC Meeting Minutes. Mr. James Weaver seconded the motion.

CAC Action: the motion for approval of the December 7, 2006 CAC Meeting Minutes carried with none opposed.

B. Endorsement of Request to Amend the 2030 LRTP to include Widening of Gulf Stream Road and Widening of Robert Miller Road

Ms. Jane Love gave a brief review of the request to amend the 2030 LRTP to include the widening of Gulf Stream and Robert Miller Road. GDOT is requesting the amendment. She stated that in order to qualify for federal funds; the new projects must be amended to the LRTP before they are eligible for inclusion in the TIP. GDOT is intending to provide the MPO with the necessary funding so that projects already in the LRTP and the TIP will not lose funds as a result of the requested amendment. Descriptions of the two projects were: Widen Gulf Stream Road from two to five lanes (including a two-way left turn lane) between west of the Gulfstream facility entrance to SR21. The widening of Robert Miller Road from two to three lanes (including auxiliary turn lanes) from the intersection with Gulf Stream Road to a point 0.54 miles south of that intersection. After answering questions and concerns of the Committee, Ms. Love said that further study would allow staff to answer more of the questions and recommended that the Committee endorse further study..

It was moved and seconded to endorse further of the requested Amendment to the 2030 LRTP to include the widening of these roads.

CAC Action: the motion to endorse further study of the requested Amendment to the 2030 LRTP to include the widening of these roads.

III. Status Reports

A. CAC Chairman's meeting with Policy Committee Leaders.

Chairman Murphy informed the CAC Committee Members of the details discussed at the meeting he attended on January 29, 2007 with Policy Committee Leaders. He stated that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss how the CAC can assist the Policy Committee in the planning process, and how communication between the committees can be improved along with how the CAC can improve communications between the PC and the community. He expressed Mayor Otis Johnson's interest in understanding the role of the CAC. He distributed handouts which consisted of an excerpt from the CAC Bylaws about the role of the CAC.

B. Chatham Area Transit (CAT) Transportation Development Plan (TDP)

This report was presented later in the meeting due to temporary technical difficulties with the projection system.

C. East President Street Plans

This report was delayed due to temporary technical difficulties with the projection system.

D. TIP Priorities

Wykoda Wang gave a brief summary of the TIP Priorities policy. She explained that CUTS is required to prepare a Transportation Improvement Program and that TIP is the MPO's short-range programming document. All transportation projects must appear in an approved LRTP and TIP before they may receive federal funds for implementation. Due to limited funding, TIP projects must be prioritized therefore, a prioritization policy was created. "Top Priorities" are projects that had construction programmed in the FY 2006 - 2008 TIP, including those projects whose construction was authorized in FY 2006. "First Priorities" are projects that have significant regional impact. "Second Priorities" are projects in the FY 2006-2008 TIP with high benefit/cost ratio. A list of Highway Priority Projects for Chatham County and Transit Priority Projects was included in the staff report. There was a brief period for questions and answers.

E. Requested Report on Skidaway Road Widening

Ms. Jane Love gave a brief status report on Skidaway Road. She stated that, according to the Assistant County Engineer Al Black, GDOT has requested changes in the plan documents that have required that the County start a new contract. The plan must be converted from metric to English units with additional changes to design criteria, software and surveying. The County has approved a new contract to make these changes to the plans. The project is scheduled for bid in the year 2010. Mr. Black's telephone number was included in the status report, in case Committee members had further questions.

Mr. Henry Levy made the motion to take as a resolution to the Policy Committee the recommendation to include Context Sensitive Design principles in the new design specifications for Skidaway Road. Ms. Beth Kinstler seconded the motion.

CAC Action: The motion to recommend that the Policy Committee encourage the County to use CSD principles in the new design specifications for Skidaway Road carried with none opposed.

B. Chatham Area Transit (CAT) Transportation Development Plan (TDP)

Ms. Jean Iaderosa reported on the updated Transportation Development Plan. This plan makes recommendations for public transportation for the next five years. She briefly highlighted areas of study such as Public Involvement, Service Analysis, Market Research, Paratransit Evaluation, Fare Policy, Technology Review, Service Expansion, the Downtown Transit Station and the Financial Plan. The public will have opportunities to provide feedback on the TDP before the CAT board adopts it.

Ms. Love announced that a Public Meeting was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. and asked the Chairman if he would like to continue the items not discussed until after the Public Meeting or the members could hear the status report on these items at the Policy Committee Meeting next week. Chairman Murphy directed questions to the Board Members, as to whether or not they wanted to resume the CAC meeting after the Public Meeting or to place those items not heard on the next CAC Agenda. He added those members interested could also attend the Policy Committee Meeting on February 28, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. located in the Mendonsa Hearing Room.

It was decided that the status reports on East President Street, GDOT's Chatham County Interstate Needs Study; and GDOT's Statewide Truck Only Lanes Study could be placed on the agenda for the next CAC meeting.

Chairman Murphy encouraged members to remain to hear about the SAFETEA-LU Required Update of the Long Range Transportation Plan, to be discussed at the Public Meeting immediately following.

IV. Adjournment

There being no other business to come before this Committee, the February 22, 2007 Citizens Advisory Committee was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Love
Transportation Planner