



CORE MPO Citizens Advisory Committee

MPC Jerry Surrency Room -- 5:30 p.m.
110 East State Street, Savannah
Minutes

August 1, 2019 Meeting Minutes of the CORE MPO Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)

<u>Voting Members</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Present</u>
Anthony Abbott	Chatham County	X
Dr. Daniel Brantley	Chatham County	X
Christopher Middleton	Savannah	X
Brent Buice	Savannah	X
Deborah Sieg-Bowen	Savannah	X
Priscilla Thomas	Garden City	
Vacant	Effingham County	
Vacant	Port Wentworth	
Vacant	Richmond Hill	
Vacant	Pooler	
Vacant	Bloomington	
Vacant	Thunderbolt	
Vacant	Tybee Island	
Vacant	Vernonburg	
Vacant	Chatham County	
<u>Others</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Present</u>
Stephanie Rossi	CORE MPO/MPC	X
James Small	CORE MPO/MPC	X
Wykoda Wang	CORE MPO/MPC	X
Mark Wilkes	CORE MPO/MPC	X
Pamela Everett	MPC	X

I. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Anthony Abbott motioned to approve the August 1, 2019 CORE MPO CAC meeting agenda; seconded by Mr. Brent Buice. The motion was passed with none opposed.

II. Action Items

1. [Approval of June 20, 2019 CORE MPO CAC meeting minutes](#)
 📎 [CAC June 20.pdf](#)

Mr. Brent Buice motioned to approve the June 20, 2019 CAC meeting minutes; seconded by Dr. Daniel Brantley. The motion was passed with none opposed and one abstained, Mr. Anthony Abbott.

2. Adoption of Mobility 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

☞ [Public Notice Mobility 2045 Public Comment](#)

☞ [Period.pdf 2045 Project Pages July.pdf](#)

☞ [August 2019 MTP Update Staff Report.pdf](#)

☞ [Resolution Mobility 2045.pdf](#)

Ms. Stephanie Rossi presented the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

The Goals and Vision statements were formed in the fall of 2018. Six model runs have been performed. Staff has developed the strategies and improvement recommendations. The draft financially constrained project lists were brought to the CAC in April for information and in June for endorsement. Between June and August, staff has received some minor cost changes regarding several projects. These changes have been incorporated into the final financially constrained plan and are outlined below.

- The I-16 Widening and Interchange project's cost increase from \$205.8 million to \$211.9 million due to the ROW phase being moved from FY 2019 to FY 2020.
- The I-16 @ SR 307 project's cost increase from \$20.4 million to \$28,155,497 due to an increase in Construction cost estimates.
- The Brampton Rd. Connector project's cost increase from \$60.3 million to \$62 million due to an increase in Preliminary Engineering.
- The SR 26/US80 @ Bull River and @ Lazaretto Creek project's cost increase from \$93.7 million to \$94.9 million due to additional PE and ROW costs.
- The DeLesseps/LaRoche Ave. project's cost increase from \$5.6 million to \$5.9 million due to an increase in PE and Construction cost estimates.

The 2045 MTP includes \$1.8 billion in projects for the Savannah region over 25+ years. \$1.1 billion is on Highway-focused projects, \$553 million on Preservation, Maintenance and Operations, and \$262 million on Non-Highway projects (FHWA and FTA funds).

Staff has conducted intensive public involvement for the 2045 MTP development, including 81 speaking opportunities. Staff has received 645 responses from the online survey and 484 written comments. Staff has documented these comments and the MPO's responses in Appendix D of the 2045 MTP. The 30-day comment period was open between June and mid-July.

Mr. Anthony Abbot expressed his concern that the noise on the I-16 @ SR 307 and I-16 widening project and asked if there was any ROW acquisition due to the majority of the widening coming from the interior. Ms. Wang stated that there is a very minor ROW acquisition for this project.

Staff has received many comments concerning US Highway 80 to Tybee Island, I-16 @ SR 307 Interchange Improvements, and DeRenne Ave Improvements. These comments have been forwarded to the GDOT project managers, Chatham County and the City of Savannah. Many of the comments on I-16 @ SR 307 and I-16 widening pertained to noise and safety with increased traffic in that area.

Staff has also received comments indicating that the 2045 MTP was lacking specific non-motorized projects. In the 2045 MTP, there is a set-aside category for non-motorized improvements. Specific bike, pedestrian and trail type projects will be selected from the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan which will be updated after the 2045 MTP adoption.

Mr. Anthony Abbott motioned to endorse the Mobility 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan; seconded by Dr. Daniel Brantley. The motion was passed with none opposed.

3. Amendments to FY 2018 - 2021 Transportation Improvement Program

Ms. Wykoda Wang presented the FY 2018 – 2021 TIP Amendments for August 2019.

Staff received 4 requests from GDOT for project amendments.

- PI# 0013727, I-16 @ SR 307. GDOT requested to add a Utility phase to FY 2020 and revised cost estimates for the Construction phase in FY 2020. This project will be funded with Z001 funds and Z230 funds. For the construction portion, the \$2.9 million in Z230 funds will not change but the Z001 funds will be increased to nearly \$24 million.
- PI# 0010560, SR 26 FM JOHNNY MERCER TO OLD US 80; INC BULL RIVER & LAZARETTO CREEK. GDOT requested to add a Preliminary Engineering phase in FY 2020 with \$1 million of HB 170 funds. The additional funds will be used for environmental studies.
- PI# 0006328, BRAMPTON ROAD CONN FROM SR 21/SR 25 to SR 21 SPUR. GDOT requested to add \$1.6 million in FY 2020 for Preliminary Engineering. Approximately \$1.2 million will come from HB 170 funds and roughly \$500 thousand will come from the Georgia Ports Authority as the local sponsor.
- PI# 0010028, CS 1097/DELESSEPS/LA ROCHE AVE FM WATERS AVE TO SKIDAWAY RD. GDOT requested to add a Preliminary Engineering phase in FY 2020 with \$25,000 of HB 170 funds; and add additional local funds to the Construction phase in FY 2020. Z301 funds with local match and Z230 funds with local match have been allocated to the FY 2020 Construction phase. These funds will not change. The cost increase for construction is roughly \$300 thousand and will be provided by the City of Savannah who is the local project sponsor.

The Transportation Improvement Program must be consistent with the most up-to-date Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). All four projects are included in the financially-constrained 2045 MTP. These project cost changes have been incorporated into the 2045 MTP financial plan.

The 15-day comment period for the TIP amendments was advertised and started on July 24. It would end on August 7. Staff has received written comments from Ms. Jo Hickson concerning bike and pedestrian trails connecting to the McQueen's Island Trail related to the US 80 Bridges Replacement project. Staff also received comments from Coastal Georgia Greenway concerning the US 80 project. These comments were forwarded to GDOT and Chatham County. Ms. Hickson also sent comments regarding bike/pedestrian /trail connections that are not related to the TIP amendments but more relevant to the Non-motorized Transportation Plan. These comments will be addressed during the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan amendment process.

Staff is requesting the CAC to endorse the proposed TIP amendments.

Dr. Daniel Brantley motioned to endorse the Amendments to the FY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program; seconded by Mr. Brent Buice. The motion was passed with none opposed.

[4. Updates to Participation Plan and Title VI Planning Documents](#)

🔗 [Title VI and PP Updates Status Report August 2019.pdf](#)

🔗 [CORE MPO Participation Plan May2019-public-review-copypfe comments.pdf](#)

🔗 [CORE MPO TitleVI Plan Consistent with GDOT Template May2019pfecomments.pdf](#)

🔗 [CORE MPO Language Assistance Plan May2019pfecomments.pdf](#)

🔗 [CORE MPO Environmental Justice Plan May2019pfecomments.pdf](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang presented the Participation Plan and Title VI Plan updates.

The CORE MPO is a recipient of federal funds and is required to develop a Participation Plan and Title VI Plan. The Participation Plan outlines the public participation process for development and amendments to MPO plans, programs, and studies. This is one of the main planning products for the MPO under FHWA

regulations. The Title VI Plan is developed in accordance with the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, relating to nondiscrimination statutes, executive orders and regulations. The Title VI plan is related to the Environmental Justice Plan and the Language Assistance Plan.

The Participation Plan undergoes a major update every 5 years in coordination with the MTP update cycle. The Title VI Plan must be updated every 3 years and includes updates to the public participation components within the Participation Plan. The August 2019 updates are outlined below.

Participation Plan

- No major updates were made to the development and amendments processes for the MPO's plans and programs. Those plans include the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP), Participation Plan, Title VI Plan, UPWP, etc. Only minor administrative corrections were made.
- The quantitative Measure of Effectiveness (MOEs) of the MPO's public involvement process since 2016 have been incorporated.
- The public participation summary for the 2045 MTP development was added to the appendix.
- Additional Title VI related goals and objectives were added to Section 3 – Participation Goals and Objectives.
- The Participation Plan can satisfy the requirements outlined in Appendix F of the Title VI Plan.

Participation Plan updates require a 45-day public comment period. That period started on June 27. The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) is charged with overseeing the Participation Plan update and held a public hearing in conjunction with the August 1 CAC meeting.

The public hearing was opened and closed with there being no public comment.

Title VI Plan

A state-wide Title VI Plan template was developed by GDOT in 2018. MPO staff received comments from GDOT on the MPO's existing Title VI Plan. In response to GDOT comments, the MPO's Title VI plan was updated to be consistent with the statewide template. The Title VI Plan updates include revising the summary report to include all required components outlined in the GDOT Title VI Plan template.

- The **Non-Discrimination Policy Statements** have been added to the Title VI Plan and the language revised to match the approved GDOT template language.
- The **Non-discrimination Notice to the Public** has been added to the Plan and language has been revised to match the approved GDOT template. The notice added the assignment of a second person as an Alternate Title VI liaison.
- The **Non-discrimination Complaint Form and Procedures** have been added to the Plan and revised to match the approved GDOT template and procedures.
- **Non-discrimination Records of Complaints and Lawsuits** have been added to the Plan and revised to include records retention procedure requiring the Title VI Plan to be maintained and updated every 3 years.
- **Other** information not included in the previous Title VI plan has been added including 1st time applicant requirement, transportation planning board and advisory committee composition and racial breakdown, a Title VI equity analysis, and more.

The **Environmental Justice (EJ) Report** was revised to an **EJ Plan**. It includes the latest census data and the results of the Environmental Justice impact analysis conducted for the 2045 MTP projects.

Demographic maps and statistics from the EJ Plan satisfy the requirements outlined in Appendix I of the Title VI Plan. CORE MPO must identify the EJ populations in the Savannah area and outline how we address these populations. The MPO is also required to outline the 2045 MTP project impacts on EJ populations.

The **Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan** has been revised to a **Language Assistance Plan (LAP)** that incorporates the latest census data and LAP progress since 2016. Data in the LAP satisfy the requirements outlined in the Appendix H of the Title VI Plan. CORE MPO is required to determine where the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) persons are located in the Savannah area and develop a LAP. The

LAP addresses how to get LEP persons involved in the transportation planning process.

Populations that meet the LEP requirement must be above a certain threshold – either more than 5% of the total population in a region or more than 1,000 in number. For the Savannah area, the Spanish speaking LEP persons meet the threshold with a population of more than 1,000. CORE MPO staff used the latest census American Community Survey (ACS) data when making these determinations.

The Advisory Committee on Accessible Transportation (ACAT) is charged with overseeing the Title VI Plan updates. A public hearing for the Title VI updates will be held during the August 5 ACAT meeting.

Staff is requesting the CAC endorse the Participation Plan and Title VI Planning Documents.

Mr. Anthony Abbott motioned to endorse the updated Participation Plan and the Title VI Planning Documents; seconded by Dr. Brent Buice. The motion was passed with none opposed.

III. Status Reports
NONE

IV. Agency Reports
NONE

V. Other Business

Ms. Deborah Bowen expressed the concerns from the South Bridge residents concerning the noise impact due to the I-16 widening. Ms. Wang stated that these comments have been expressed to GDOT staff.

VI. Other Public Comments (limit to 3 minutes)

Members received reports from Chatham County, GDOT, and the City of Savannah. Any questions from the CAC will be forwarded to the agency's project coordinator. The City of Savannah has four projects and Chatham County has eight with five projects listed as under construction.

VII. Announcements

5. [Next CAC Meeting: Thursday October 17, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at the MPC Offices](#)

VIII. Other Non-Agenda Information for Reference

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

📎 [Chatham District 5 MPO Project Status \(period ending 6-30-19\).pdf](#)

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, the August 1, 2019 meeting of the CAC 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.