



CORE MPO Citizens Advisory Committee

Virtual Meeting
August 20, 2020 5:30 PM
Tentative Agenda

AUGUST 20, 2020 CORE MPO Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)

<u>Voting Members</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Present</u>
Anthony Abbott	Chatham County	
Dr. Daniel Brantley	Chatham County	X
Christopher Middleton	Savannah	X
Brent Buice	Savannah	
Deborah Sieg-Bowen	Savannah	X
Vacant	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>
Wykoda Wang	CORE MPO	X
Mark Wilkes	CORE MPO	X
Pam Everett	CORE MPO	X
Mary Mitchell	CORE MPO	X
Jackie Jackson	CORE MPO	X

I. Approval of Agenda

Dr. Daniel Brantley motioned to approve the August 20, 2020 CORE MPO CAC meeting agenda; seconded by Ms. Deborah Sieg-Bowen. The motion was passed with none opposed.

II. Action Items

1. [Approval of the December 5, 2019 CORE MPO CAC meeting minutes.](#)

[Dec 5 CAC.pdf](#)

Dr. Daniel Brantley motioned to approve the December 5, 2019 meeting minutes; seconded by Ms. Deborah Sieg-Bowen. The motion was passed with none opposed.

[2. Resolution of Support for SR 307 Corridor Study](#)

[resolution-for-illustrative-project-funding-application-sr 307-8-26-2020.pdf](#)

[PL Funding Application for State Route 307 Corridor Study.pdf](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang stated that Chatham County would like to do a study on SR 307 from Ga Ports Authority gate to US 17 to look at what improvements need to be made. Any specific recommendations will be outlined in the study. The MPO will hire a consultant for this study. The TCC has discussed this project at two separate meetings. The MPO will be submitting a funding application to the GA PL Funds Review Committee for around \$200,000. Chatham County and Ga Ports Authority will provide the local match. Once the resolution is adopted by the CORE MPO Board supporting this study, we will be able to apply for the discretionary funds. We are asking CAC for endorsement of the resolution to support this study.

Dr. Daniel Brantley motioned to endorse the Resolution of Support for SR 307 Corridor Study; seconded by Ms. Deborah Sieg-Bowen. The motion was passed with none opposed.

[3. FY 2021 - 2024 TIP Project Prioritization](#)

[FY 2021-2024 TIP Priority Establishment Staff Report.pdf](#)

Ms. Wang stated that priority establishment is a part of the development process for the FY 2021 – 2024 TIP. There needs to be Priority Projects listed out due to limited resources, to program the funds to the higher priority projects.

The MPO has authority to prioritize projects funded by urban attributable (Z230) funds, highway infrastructure program (HIP) funds, and transportation alternatives (Z301) funds. The MPO conducted Calls for Projects for expected revenues from these funding sources and received several applications for each funding source. These applications were then scored and ranked by the TCC members based on their respective ranking criteria.

For the HIP funds there were 3 applications.

- Chatham County's I-16 and Jimmy DeLoach Interchange Improvements project ranked #1.
- Tybee Island's US 80 Bridges Replacement project ranked #2.
- Garden City's Pricilla Thomas Way at State Route 21 Signalization project ranked #3.

Because of overlap in eligibilities, these three projects have applied for Z230 funds as well. The MPO also receive applications for Z230 funds for four other projects. The Z230 rankings are listed below.

- Tybee Island's US 80 Bridges Replacement project ranked #1.
- Chatham County's I-16 and Jimmy DeLoach Interchange Improvements project ranked #2.
- Garden City's Pricilla Thomas Way at State Route 21 Signalization project ranked #3.
- City of Savannah's Traffic Control Center project Ranked #4.
- Chatham Area Transit's Electric Bus Conversion Initiative project ranked #5.
- Chatham County's Old River Road improvement project ranked #6.
- Pooler's Quacco Road Widening project ranked #7.

If these projects are programmed with HIP funds, they might not need Z230 funds. There will be a special called TCC meeting to focus on how to program the funds to the priority projects.

The transportation alternatives (Z301) funds can be used for bicycle ways, pedestrian sidewalks, and trails. There were two applications received, both from Chatham County. The rankings are listed below.

- Chevis Road Improvement project ranked #1.
- Gerard Avenue Improvement project ranked #2.

Both projects include sidewalk, trails, and bike improvements.

For projects funded by revenues from funding sources other than Z230, HIP and Z301, those already included in Cost Band One of Mobility 2045 should be considered priority projects. They have gone through the two-screening prioritization process of Mobility 2045.

Dr. Daniel Brantley motioned to approve the Rankings for the TIP Project Prioritization; seconded by Ms. Deborah Sieg-Bowen. The motion was passed with none opposed.

[4. Participation Plan Updates for Virtual Public Involvement](#)

📎 [Participation Plan Updates Authorization.pdf](#)

Ms. Wang stated that the MPO's Participation Plan needed to be updated to accommodate the virtual public involvement process due to COVID 19. Volunteers are needed to work on the plan update. Dr. Brantley asked if there would be a central place to meet to discuss the plan. Ms. Wang replied that virtual meetings might need to be set up. Mr. Middleton asked how involved the neighborhood associations are. He said Cuyler Brownville was concerned about the lack of communication. They have a large meeting room with the technology set up and would see about participating from that area. Ms. Wang stated that the MPO staff would be available to address specific issues and projects to the neighborhood, but the Participation Plan update is addressing the MPO's public involvement process which the residents in the neighborhood might not be interested. However, the plan will be available for public review and comment during the comment period.

Dr. Brantley, Christopher Middleton, Deborah Sieg-Bowen volunteered to participate in the Participation Plan update.

Dr. Brantley motioned to support the Participation Plan updates; seconded by Ms. Deborah Bowen. The motion passed with none opposed.

III. Status Reports

[5. FY 2021 - 2024 TIP Development](#)

📎 [FY 2021-2024 TIP Development Schedule.pdf](#)

📎 [Savannah - Total HWY Funds 2021 -2024.pdf](#)

📎 [Savannah Detail - FY 21 - 24.pdf](#)

Ms. Wang gave an overview of the Development Schedule for the FY 2021 – 2024 TIP. The earliest the TIP can be adopted is December 2020 and the latest being February 2021. GDOT has provided the expected revenues and a draft project list, but specific programming is still being worked on.

[6. SR 21 Access Management Study Garden City](#)

Ms. Wang presented the report. The MPO applied for the discretionary planning funds for Garden City's SR 21 Access Management Study. The funding was awarded. The next step is for the MPO to prepare a funding contract between the MPC and GDOT, and at the same time the MPC will sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the MPO and Garden City. Garden City will provide the local match. Once the contract and the MOU are completed, then the RFQ or RFP will be issued to start the consultant procurement process. Once a consultant firm is procured, they will then work on developing the study recommendations for the SR 21 Access Management Study for Garden City. November 2020 is the earliest time a consultant will be able to come on board. Mr. Middleton as well as Dr. Brantley had questions about the consultant qualification process. Ms. Wang stated that GDOT has guidelines as to the pre-qualifications and the fields the consultants would qualify for.

[7. 2021 Update of the Chatham County - Savannah Comprehensive Plan](#)

📎 [MPO Comp Plan Process Timeline_080520.pdf](#)

Ms. Jackie Jackson presented the report for the Chatham County-Savannah Comprehensive Plan. The MPC will be updating the Comprehensive Plan for un-incorporated Chatham County, City of Savannah, City of Pooler, and requests to look at Garden City as well. The Comprehensive Plan is the vision document for the community, a long-range document. This plan is called Plan 2040 because it goes out to the year 2040 for these jurisdictions. Community input and community feedback are required on each area of the plan. The focus areas are Housing, Economic Development, Land Use, Transportation, as well as Quality of Life. Quality of Life encompasses more areas with regards to Education and Public Safety, Historic Resources as well as Broadband. Broadband is a new requirement we are looking at, to ensure that everyone in the community at least has access to broadband. An important aspect of the Comprehensive Plan is that it is a pre-requisite to ensure that local governments can access spending money through grants and resources. Examples include CDBG funds, Environmental funds through GEFFA, Water and Sewer loans and One GA Authority funds which are for rural communities. The last full Comprehensive Plan update for un-incorporated Chatham County and City of Savannah was back in 2006. There were amendments done in 2012 and 2016. Pooler and Garden City are following this same timeline. There are processes that the County has in place called the County Blueprint and the recently adopted Vision Savannah Plan. Both of those are goals and strategies that have also been vetted and will be incorporated into the 2040 plan as well. Natural Resources will be called out as a standalone chapter because of where we are in the coastal community. This is a huge asset we need to ensure we are protecting for the long term. Also included is a strategic plan and work program where the capital projects are listed out and identified. The Transportation focus areas include sustainability, resiliency, climate change, Sea Level Rise, and Transit Oriented Development (TOD). The TOD is looking at development to be focused specifically around the urban centers or nodes where there are bus stops and easy walking distance or bicycling to the important epicenters where people need to go. A big part of this plan update process is the public participation and access. There is a deadline of October 31, 2021 for this plan to be adopted.

Mr. Middleton asked for clarification as to what Broadband was. Ms. Jackson explained it was internet, the wires and utility makeup or underground structure that enable the community to get internet. There is a need for equal access to the internet in all communities. There are people who do not want the internet, but our goal is to try to make sure everyone has the capability of being able to access it if they did want it.

Dr. Brantley asked about future goals and what are the quantifications for those goals. Ms. Jackson explained there are checks and balances in place with short term goal checklists as well as every five years there must be an update report given to the State and to the local community.

Mr. Middleton asked about a focus to seek out local contractors to perform any of these services. Ms. Jackson stated all the plan update work would be done in house at the MPC with the Advanced planners, designers, GIS Analyst, development services, transportation department and others. The writing of the document will be done in house. For implementation of the specific goals and strategies identified in the Comprehensive Plan, that is filtered down to the local jurisdiction. They will then disseminate within their departments that are associated with that discussion topic. They each must go through their own criteria for RFPs and procurement requirements.

IV. Agency Reports

[Project status reports from various agencies are included in Other Non-Agenda Information for Reference. Any questions from the CAC will be forwarded to the agency's project coordinator.](#)

V. Other Business

None.

VI. Other Public Comments (limit to 3 minutes)

None

VII. Announcements

[8. Next CAC Meeting: Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. \(Virtual Meeting\)](#)

VIII. Other Non-Agenda Information for Reference

[9. CORE MPO's Responses to GDOT's FY 2020 Title VI Questionnaire](#)

[📎 FY 20 Annual Title VI Questionnaire August 2020.pdf](#)

[10. August 2020 TIP Administrative Modifications 📎 TIP Administrative Modification 8-7-2020.pdf](#)

[11. Chatham County's Project Status Report](#)

[📎 August 2020 Chatham County Report.pdf](#)

[12. City of Savannah Project Status Update](#)

[📎 City of Savannah Project Status Update.pdf](#)

[13. CAT Project Status Report](#)

[📎 CAT Status Report.pdf](#)

[14. GDOT Project Status Report](#)

[📎 GDOT Report - Aug 2020_final.pdf](#)

[15. USDOT/FHWA/FTA Reply to AMPO Letter](#)

[📎 COVID AMPO.Reg Relief.pdf](#)

[📎 COVID AMPO.Reply.pdf](#)

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, the August 20, 2020 meeting of the CORE MPO 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.