



CORE MPO Citizens Advisory Committee

Minutes
April 25, 2022 at 5:00pm

April 25, 2022 CORE MPO Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting

Voting Members	Representing	Present
Anthony (Tony) Abbott	Chatham County	X
Dr. Daniel Brantley	Chatham County	X
Vacant	Chatham County	
Eric Curl	Savannah	X
Armand Turner	Savannah	X
Yolandra Shipp	Savannah	
Vacant	Pooler	
Vacant	Garden City	
Brett Bennett	Effingham County	
Vacant	Port Wentworth	
Vacant	Richmond Hill	
Bill Grainger	Bloomingdale	
Robert Milie	Thunderbolt	X
Vacant	Tybee Island	
Vacant	Vernonburg	
Others	Representing	Present
Julie Yawn	MPC/IT	X
Wykoda Wang	CORE MPO	X
Asia Hernton	CORE MPO /Advanced Planning	X
Sally Helm	CORE MPO / MPC	X

I. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Eric Curl motioned to approve the agenda; seconded by Mr. Robert Milie. The motion passed with non-opposed.

II. Action Items

[1. Approval of the February 17, 2022 CORE MPO CAC Committee Meeting Minutes](#)

Mr. Eric Curl motioned to approve the February 17, 2022 CORE MPO CAC meeting minutes; seconded by Mr. Armand Turner. The motion passed with non-opposed.

[2. Amendments to FY 2023 UPWP](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang said the UPWP is the staff's work program. The FY 2023 UPWP covers July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. The planning activities in the work program are supported by the formula FHWA and FTA funds with matching

funds from MPO member agencies. The UPWP was adopted in February of this year. When the UPWP was developed, we didn't have the actual PL revenue estimate from the state. GDOT instructed staff to use the same level of PL revenue amount as in FY 2022. Therefore, the FY 2023 UPWP was developed with the assumption that the total estimated PL funding for FY 2023 will be the same as for FY 2022. The amounts for the highway planning are:

- Federal share (80%): \$360,143.03
- Local Match (20%): \$90,035.76
- Total: \$450,178.79

In March 2022, CORE MPO received from GDOT the updated PL funding amount (consisting of Y450 and Z45E funding):

- Federal share (80%): \$428,685.48
- Local Match (20%): \$107,171.37
- Total: \$535,856.85

In addition, at the beginning of the year, there will be a set-aside available for activities falling under Increasing Safe & Accessible Transportation Options (Y410) which is a separate line item in the UPWP and would require a separate supplemental contract. The CORE MPO's share is:

- Federal share (80%): \$10,548.78
- Local Match (20%): \$2,637.19
- Total: \$13,185.97

CORE MPO proposed to amend the FY 2023 UPWP to include the newly available funds for the planning activities.

- Allocate the additional PL funds (\$68,542.45 federal share, \$17,135.61 local share, \$85,678.06 total) to two planning tasks: Task 1 Administration, and Task 4 Systems Planning and Operations. The funds will be evenly split between these two tasks.
- Add a new Task 7 for the Increasing Safe & Accessible Transportation Options (Y410) funds. These funds will be used for Thoroughfare Plan Update and Non-Motorized Transportation Plan Update.

Besides the proposed amendments, GDOT assigned an official PI number for the US 80 Corridor Study and changed the study name to SR 26 Chatham County line to SR 21. This will be processed as an administrative modification.

Mr. Tony Abbott motioned to approve the Amendments to FY 2023 UPWP; seconded by Mr. Eric Curl. The motion passed with non-opposed.

[3. April 2022 AMENDMENTS TO FY 2021 -2024 TIP](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang said there are both highway and transportation amendments for April. We are still in the 15-day public comment period which ends on Wednesday. Some of this information is still subject to finalization.

The current FY 2021 – 2024 TIP was adopted by the CORE MPO Board in December 2020 and has been updated in 2021 through amendments and administrative modifications. In March 2022, CORE MPO received several TIP update requests from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), Chatham County, the City of Savannah, and the Chatham Area Transit Authority (CAT). It is important to incorporate the updates and make sure that the information contained in the FY 2021 – 2024 TIP is current and reflective of the most up-to-date revenue projections, cost estimates and development schedules.

Highway Project Amendments

- Truman Linear Park Trail Phase 2B – City of Savannah requested to move construction phase from FY 2022 to FY 2023.
- Old River Road Improvement Project – delete project from the TIP (Effingham County unable to secure their portion of funding)
- Chevis Road Improvement Project – receive portion of funding released from the deleted Old River Rd project, funds to be added in FY2022 to PE phase
- Garrard Avenue Improvement Project – receive remaining Z230 funds released from the Old River Rd project, funds to be added in FY2022 to PE phase
- Project DeRenne –additional PE funds added in FY 2022 (Environmental Impact Statement requires additional EJ analysis.)

- Proposed Transit Updates - replacing the partial funding with the actual allocation. Transit Improvements for various funding and program updates to the Section 5307 and 5307(h) programs. CORE MPO staff is working with CAT on updating the 5307 funding table.

Staff is asking the committee to endorse the April 2022 Amendments to the FY 2021-2024 TIP with corrections to be made.

Mr. Tony Abbott motioned to endorse the April 2022 Amendments to the FY 2021-2024 TIP with corrections; seconded by Mr. Armand Turner. The motion passed with non-opposed.

III. Status Reports

[4. CORE MPO Regional Freight Transportation Plan Update](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang said the CORE MPO was awarded \$240,000 of discretionary PL funds in late 2021 to conduct the CORE MPO Regional Freight Transportation Plan Update. The local match is to be provided by the MPO. The total funding amount for the study is estimated to be \$300,000. We received three proposals. TCC and review committee conducted the interviews, with Cambridge Systematics being the top ranked consulting firm. CORE MPO staff worked with the consulting firm in negotiating and executing the contracts. Since the Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) hosts CORE MPO, the contract agency is MPC. The kick-off meeting is this Friday. The study has an expected completion date of July 2023. The study will feed into the development of the 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan.

[5. SR 26 From Chatham County Line to SR 21](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang said Pooler was awarded \$285,000 of CRRSAA funds to conduct the study. The study limit is from Chatham County and Effingham County, County line from the west passing through Bloomingdale, Pooler, Garden City, City of Savannah, and Unincorporated Chatham County. This study will detail the improvements needed along this corridor.

Pooler will be the project manager for this project. They are currently in the RFP process. The City of Pooler intends to award a contract for work by the end of June 2022 with a completion date of no later than June 30, 2023. Once the Project Framework Agreement (PFA) is executed between Pooler and GDOT, Pooler will execute a contract with the selected consultant to undertake the study.

[6. FMT for Optimize Planning of CORE MPO Transportation Infrastructure Systems](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang said the CORE MPO was awarded discretionary planning (PL) funds in the amount of \$120,000 to conduct the Dynamic Flood Modeling Tools (FMT) for Optimized Planning of CORE MPO Transportation Infrastructure Systems. With a 20% local match from CORE MPO dues, the total amount of funding for the study is estimated to be \$150,000.

This includes resiliency planning such as hurricanes, storm surge, storm water levels etc. Resiliency planning is part of the MTP requirements. The University of Georgia (UGA) was the highest ranked consultant. The MPC is negotiating a scope of services contract with UGA. The funding contract between MPC and GDOT has been executed. We hope to have the contract finalized this week so next week at the MPC meeting the contract can be executed. The project has a projected completion date of August 2023.

[7. 2050 MTP Update](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang said there are three required planning documents of the MPO, the most important being the Long-Range Transportation Plan (also called Metropolitan Transportation Plan or MTP). The current 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan was adopted in August 2019. The MTP must be updated every 5 years. The update process takes approximately 2 years. This current update, titled the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan update, must be adopted in August 2024. Currently there are several tasks that are ongoing.

- Social Economic Data Development – This will be the input for the travel demand model which guides the way for the whole MTP development process. The MPC's Advanced Planning Department will be working on this task. The base year for the model will be 2019 and the horizon year is 2050.
- Savannah Urbanized Area delineated by the census – The data from the newest US Census will be used to update MPO's planning boundary. The current boundary is Chatham County, part of Bryan County, and a portion of Effingham County. Once the new boundaries are determined, the by-laws, MOU, and committee structure will be updated. The census data is expected to be released this summer.

- Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures – The process has been started. Staff wants the goals, objectives, and performance measures be adopted by August of this year. This information has previously been shown to the CORE MPO Board and advisory committees. The next step is to receive public input.
- Public Engagement Process – The goal of the public meetings is to collect information on how the public views the goals and objectives, prioritization methodology, etc.
- Several studies will feed into the 2050 MTP: Freight Plan Update, Congestion Management Process Update, Non-Motorized Transportation Plan Update, Thoroughfare Plan Update, and the City Pooler's US 80 Corridor study. Staff has completed two studies: the SR 307 Corridor Study and SR 21 Access Management Study. These study recommendations will feed into the development of the 2050 MTP as well.

8. 2022 Z230 Call for Projects

Ms. Wykoda Wang stated the Z230 Call for Projects relates to the TIP. There is limited funding for project implementation, so only the highest ranked priority projects from the Long-Range Transportation Plan can be included in the TIP. The Z230 funds are the funds the MPO manages. TIP normally covers four years. Within this four-year program, there are projects like I-16 Widening and I-95/I-16 Interchange. Those are large funding projects that get funding from GDOT. There is a certain amount of funding that the MPO controls, which allows the MPO to do Call for Projects. The MPO committees will rank the applications and award the project funding. There is approximately \$5 million in Z230 funding for each year. The federal portion is \$4 million. These funds are flexible. They can be used for highway projects, transit projects, bike, and pedestrian projects. The project phases can be preliminary engineering, right-of-way, construction, or design.

The FY 2021 and 2022 funds are balanced. There were not enough applications for the FY 2023 and 2024 funds during the previous Call for Projects, so we have positive balances for these two years. More project applications are needed to program those funds into the TIP. There is additional information from GDOT with previous years' allocated Z230 funds that can be available for obligation at any time. Those funds along with some newly available FY 2023 funds from the new transportation funding legislation will be added to the FY 2023 and 2024 funds. MPO staff is collaborating with GDOT to determine how much funding will be available over the next 2 years. Staff can then decide how much to allocate to projects.

During the last Z230 Call for Projects, some local jurisdictions sent applications that were not eligible. MPO staff is going to host a pre-application workshop to help the local jurisdictions understand the eligibility requirements. This will eliminate future obstacles as well as help build a robust waiting list for future projects. For all the planning studies, GDOT and FHWA have special procedures to follow. There is a two-committee meeting discussion requirement with the TCC. Those ideas will then be put into the illustrative section of the UPWP. Once the funds are secured, the studies will then be moved into the funded section of the UPWP.

IV. Agency Reports

The agency reports are attached under Notices.

V. Other Business

None

VI. Other Public Comments (limit to 3 minutes)

None

VII. Notices

[9. SR 307 Corridor Study Final Report](#)

[10. GDOT Project Status Update](#)

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

Mr. Tony Abbott asked what it meant that the Chatham County's I-16 at Jimmy DeLoach Pkwy Interchange was not authorized. Ms. Wang said that was the ROW status. The project is just starting. The project has not reached the ROW stage at this point.

Mr. Abbott asked for more information on the Quacco Road Widening project.

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

[13. CAT Project Status Report](#)

[14. LATS Project Status Report](#)

[15. TIP Project Tracking in April 2022](#)

[16. Next CORE MPO CAC Committee Meeting, June 16, 2022 at 5:30pm](#)

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business, the April 25, 2022 CAC committee meeting is 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.