



EDFAC

MPC Mendonsa Hearing Room -- 12:00 p.m.
 110 East State Street, Savannah
 Minutes

April 11, 2019 Meeting minutes of the Economic Development & Freight Advisory Committee (EDFAC)

<u>Voting Members</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Present</u>
Pamela Bernard	Chatham County Engineering	X
CPT Anthony Moltz	Hunter Army Airfield	
Amanda Clement	Bryan county Planning	
Joseph Drake	Gulfstream	
Jared Downs	Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce	X
Tom McQueen	GDOT Planning	X
George Fidler	Savannah Airport Commission	X
Brandt Herndon	Effingham Industrial Development Authority	X
Steve Henry	City of Savannah - Traffic Engineering	
<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Present</u>
Michelle Strickland	City of Savannah – Traffic Engineering	X
Jamie Bowes	Gulfstream	X
<u>Others</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Present</u>
Mark Wilkes	CORE MPO	X
Wykoda wang	CORE MPO	X
Stephanie Rossi	CORE MPO	X
James Small	CORE MPO	X

I. Approval of Agenda

Mr. George Fidler motioned to approve the April 11, 2019 EDFAC meeting agenda; seconded by Mr. Brandt Herndon. The motion was passed with none opposed.

II. Action Items

1.Approval of February 7, 2019 EDFAC meeting minutes

📎 [EDFAC Feb 7.pdf](#)

Mr. George Fidler motioned to approve the February 7, 2019 EDFAC meeting minutes; seconded by Mr. Jared Downs. The motion was passed with none opposed.

III. Other Business

[2. Recap of February 7, 2019 EDFAC Meeting](#)

📎 [Feb7 EDFAC Presentation File.pdf](#)

Mr. Mark Wilkes gave a recap of the February 7, 2019 EDFAC meeting.

- Ms. Pamela Bernard was elected Chairperson and Mr. Brent Herndon was elected Vice Chairperson by a majority of those present.
- Ms. Stephanie Rossie gave a briefing on the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update.
- Mr. Mark Wilkes gave a briefing on two studies, I-95 at Airways Avenue/Pooler Parkway and I-16 at Little Neck Road/future Jimmy DeLoach Parkway interchange. The purpose of the interchange studies is to produce a high-grade study that will meet federal requirements for making a change to the interstate system.
- Ms. Wykoda Wang gave a briefing on recommended freight policies, projects and priorities from the MPO's Freight Transportation Plan.
- EDFAC had a discussion on freight priorities and projects for the 2045 MTP update, including the SR 21 Culvert Replacement project, the movement of the Airport Air Cargo facility, truck traffic on Bay St., improvements to Old River Rd., US 80 and US 280 in Bryan County, and military base access on Mildred Street and Rio Rd.

IV. Status Reports

[3.2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Recommended Project Priorities](#)

Ms. Stephanie Rossi presented on the status of the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan update. A draft financially constrained project list has been developed. The next phase of the process is continuing public involvement and having the recommended plan adopted in August.

GDOT and CORE MPO staff are working to update the CORE MPO Travel Demand Model for use in developing the 2045 MTP. To ensure roadway networks in the 2015 base year model is correct, MPO staff has provided GDOT staff with a list of projects completed in years 2010-2015. The MPO then provided the lists of projects that are completed since 2015, under construction or identified in the 2018-2021 TIP.

GDOT has provided CORE MPO staff a 2015 Base Year Model, "Do Nothing" model results for year 2045, and "Existing plus Committed" system projects model results for the year 2045. These models were reviewed in December 2018. The "Completion of the TIP Projects" model results for 2045 were reviewed in January 2019, and the "Non-financially Constrained project" model results for 2045 were reviewed in February. The financially constrained project list for 2045 was submitted in March and the GDOT model results have been received. EDFAC reviewed the 2045 constrained project list model results.

Ms. Rossi continued to present the project prioritization process and results. Freight related factors for project prioritization include freight related goals, facility Level of Service (LOS), high truck volumes, high crash rates, connection to freight generators, and identification in the freight plan.

Ms. Wykoda Wang summarized the methodology for developing the 2045 MTP Financial Plan focusing on the highway part. The methodology includes how to determine the revenue projections and cost estimates for highway projects.

For Highway Revenues, the revenue forecasts for 2022 – 2045 provided by the GDOT Office of Financial Management based on a three-year average of state's obligation authority are used. Revenues from the adopted FY 2018 – 2021 TIP for FY 2020 and FY 2021 are used for these two years because these are considered committed funds. These revenues are divided into two parts – those for Projects and those for Maintenance. The financial plan for highway revenue projections further assumes \$2.5 million annual

local funds adjusted with inflation factors for use by Projects. The revenue projections assume a 1% annual inflation rate and the total revenues are allocated to three cost bands. The revenues for Projects in each cost band include funding for specific projects and funding set asides for Operational Improvements, Transit Improvements and Non-motorized Transportation projects.

Highway projects' costs are based on the cost estimates in the FY 2018 – 2021 TIP, or the best available cost estimates from GDOT or local sponsors, or estimates based on per mile costs of comparable local projects as expressed in approved concept reports. The appropriate escalation inflation factors were applied to the cost estimates in each cost band based on the projects' development schedule. The annual inflation rate for cost estimating is 3.5%. For set aside category expenditures, policy statements have been developed for Maintenance, Operational Improvements, Transit Improvements, and Non-Motorized Improvements.

Mr. Mark Wilkes presented the draft 2045 cost feasible Transportation Plan and stated that the project list consists of all projects that are currently under development, specific projects from the 2040 MTP, and new projects that are added to the list as they are identified by the advisory committees. Many of the projects in the proposed plan support freight movement and economic development. Total investments of 64.6%, 72.6%, and 73% across cost bands 1, 2, and 3 respectively support freight related projects. Besides these specific projects with freight components, Maintenance and Operational Improvements set asides will include some freight improvements as well.

All identified needs outside the financial constraints will be included in the Vision Plan. The draft vision plan project list and map were presented to EDFAC. There are two opportunities for specific freight improvements that did not make it into the 2045 financially constrained plan to receive funding. They are Surface Transportation Block Grant funds or Z230 funds for projects, and PL funds for studies.

Ms. Rossi summarized the next steps for the 2045 MTP development. From May 2 to June 1, FHWA/FTA/GDOT will review a draft of the plan document. Public meetings and open houses will be held from June to July. The public will review the draft plan from June 13 – July 16. The EDFAC will be asked to endorse the draft plan's financially constrained project list on June 20.

V. Information Reports (verbal)

The committee reviewed the Chatham County and GDOT Projects lists.

VI. Other Public Comments (limit to 3 minutes)

NONE

VII. Announcements

[4.Next EDFAC Meeting: Thursday, June 20, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. in the Chatham County Commission Chamber-Green Room : 124 Bull St.](#)

VIII. Other Non-Agenda Information for Reference

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

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, the April 11, 2019 meeting of the EDFAC 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.