

Others Present:

Representing:

Allan Black, P.E.	Chatham County	x
John Broderick	Chatham Area Transit Authority	x
Linda Carpenter	Wilbur Smith Associates	x
Betty Carter	GDOT – Jesup	x
Latoya Jones	FHWA Community Planner	x
Keith Melton	GDOT – Atlanta	x
Thomas Thomson, P.E., AICP	MPC Executive Director	x
Wykoda Wang	MPO Staff	x
Mike Weiner, P. E.	City of Savannah	x
Mark Wilkes, P.E., AICP	MPO Staff	x

Call to Order

Mr. Liakakis called the June 22, 2005 Policy Committee Meeting/ Public Hearing to order.

I. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Liakakis stated that the agenda has been revised and proceeded with the revised agenda.

II. Committee Reports (verbal)

A. Advisory Committee on Accessible Transportation

Mr. Lamar gave a brief review of the action items approved at the June 15, 2005 ACAT meeting. He stated the need for sensitivity and diversity of disability representation.

B. Citizens Advisory Committee

Mr. Mundell reported that all action items were approved from the June 16, 2005 CAC meeting. The Citizens Advisory Committee made a motion to make the congestion relief on Bay Street and the completion of Truman Pkwy priority issues.

C. Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)

Mr. Wilkes reviewed the decisions made at the June 16, 2005 TCC Meeting. The TCC endorsed the FY 2006 Unified Planning Work Program Amendments, the FY 2006-2008 Transportation Improvement Program and the Connecting Savannah Action Plan.

III. Action Items

D. **Public Hearing and Action on Amendment of 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program to Incorporate proposed strategies for the Connecting Savannah process.**

- **Staff Presentation**

Ms. Linda Carpenter gave a brief presentation on the Connecting Savannah process and its action plan.

- **Public Comments**

The summary of the comments from the public on this issue appear as attachment (A) to the minutes.

- **Close Public Hearing**

Mr. Liakakis called the public hearing to a close.

- **Board Discussion and Action**

Mr. Winger moved to approve the next step as recommended by staff. Mr. Simpson seconded the motion.

Mr. Thomson gave a brief overview of the action plan element, which was followed by a question and answer period.

In response to public comment, Mr. Ben Rozier called for an investigation of the Tax Assessor's Office regarding the lowering of property taxes in the DeRenne neighborhoods.

Policy Committee Action: The motion to approve the recommendations of the Connecting Savannah Process carried with none opposed. The recommendations were to approve the Connecting Savannah Action Plan with amendments to the long-range transportation plan and TIP to continue to the next steps.

A. **Approval of April 27, 2005 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Abolt moved to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2005 Policy Committee Meeting. Mr. Mackey seconded the motion.

Policy Committee Action: The motion to approve the April 27, 2005 Committee Meeting Minutes carried with none opposed.

B. Approval of Amendment to FY 2006 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Wilkes gave a brief summary of the changes proposed for the 2006 Unified Planning Work Program.

Mr. Abolt moved to adopt the amendment. Mr. Parker seconded the motion.

Policy Committee Action: The motion to approve the amendment to the FY 2006 Unified Planning Work Program carried with none opposed.

C. Public Hearing and Adoption of FY 2006-2008 Transportation Improvement Program

- **Staff Presentation**

Mr. Wilkes gave a brief updated presentation of the Transportation Improvement Program.

- **Public Comment**

Beth Kinsler, Resident, encourages better planning by remembering history. It has not been proven that creating more roads alleviates traffic problems. Taking Atlanta as an example, the city has been ruined. That is not what we want for our city.

- **Close Public Hearing**

Mr. Liakakis called the public hearing to a close.

- **Board Discussion and Action**

Mr. Abolt moved to approve the FY 2006 -2008 Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Small seconded the motion.

Policy Committee Action: The motion to approve the FY 2006-2008 Transportation Improvement Program carried with none opposed.

Mr. Thomson welcomed the two new Policy Committee representatives: Mr. Carl Palmer, Director of CAT, and LTC Carl Coffman, Commander of Hunter Army Airfield, and Ms. Latoya Jones, Community Planner from the Federal Highway Administration.

Ms. Jones stated that CUTS underwent its first Triennial Certification Review which is a requirement for continued eligibility for federal transportation funds. As a result of the review, CUTS received several commendations for current planning practices and recommendations for improving the process. There were no corrective actions. This is an

excellent result for the MPO's first certification review. The final report documented all the findings.

IV. Adjournment

Due to the lateness of the hour, all other items were postponed. The June 22, 2005 Policy Committee meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Mark A. Wilkes, P. E., AICP
Director of Transportation Planning