



## CORE MPO Board

August 24, 2022 at 10:00am  
Minutes

### August 24, 2022 CORE MPO Board Meeting

<b>Voting Members</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>On-Line</b>
Pamela Oglesby	Advisory Committee on Accessible Transportation		
Mark Ott	City of Richmond Hill		
Tim Callanan	Effingham County Commission	X	
Nick Palumbo	City of Savannah	X	
Joseph Welch	Metropolitan Planning Commission		
Scott Robider	City of Garden City		
Mark Denmark	Savannah Airport Commission		X
Deidrick Cody	Chatham Area Transit Board of Directors	X	
Shawn Gillen	City of Tybee Island	X	
Beth E. Goette	Town of Thunderbolt		
James Hungerpillar	Town of Vernonberg		
Faye DiMassimo	Chatham Area Transit Authority	X	
Tom Hutcherson	City of Pooler	X	
Mayor Van Johnson	City of Savannah	X	
Radney Simpson	Georgia Department of Transportation		
Jamie McCurry	Georgia Ports Authority		
Daniel Brantley	Citizens Advisory Committee		
Gary Norton	City of Port Wentworth		
Charles Ackridge	City of Bloomingdale		
Chester Ellis	Chatham County Commission (Chairman)	X	
Dr. Estella Shabazz	City of Savannah	X	
Michael Kaigler	Chatham County	X	
Pamela Bernard	Economic Development & Freight Advisory Committee		
Tanya Milton	Chatham County	X	
<b>Voting Alternates</b>	<b>Representing</b>		
Les Fussell	City of Richmond Hill	X	
Jim Aeillo	Savannah Airport Commission	X	
Robert Milie	Town of Thunderbolt	X	
Allen Blake	Economic Development & Freight Advisory Committee	X	
Steve Davis	Port Wentworth – City Manager		X
Tom Ciaifa	GDOT		X
<b>Others</b>	<b>Representing</b>		
Robbie Caudill	Georgia Department of Transportation		X
Heath Lloyd	City of Savannah	X	
Katie Proctor	GDOT		X
Barry Stanton	City of Savannah		X
Ashley Goodrich	Chatham Area Transit	X	
William Sedgwick	Chatham Area Transit	X	

Steve Henry	City of Savannah	X	
Joseph Shearouse	City of Savannah	X	
Christy Lovett	GDOT		X
Joseph Longo	FHWA		X
Nathaniel Panther	Chatham County		X
Wykoda Wang	CORE MPO	X	
Asia Hernton	CORE MPO	X	
Sally Helm	CORE MPO/MPC	X	
Jasmine Champion	CORE MPO	X	
Julie Yawn	MPC IT		
Nick Fazio	Advanced Planning/MPC		X
Jackie Jackson	Chatham County/Resiliency Program		X
Akeen Smith	Member of the Public		X
Pamela Everett	MPC		X
Melanie Wilson	MPC	X	
Teresa Concannon	Effingham County		X
Melissa Phillips	POND CO		X
Jeff Ricketson	Liberty County Consolidated Planning Commission/HAMPO		X

## I. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Les Fussell motioned to approve the agenda; seconded by Mr. Tom Caiafa. The motion passed with non-opposed.

## II. Committee Reports (verbal)

**ACAT** – Ms. Asia Hernton said the ACAT committee met this past Monday and endorsed all action items presented.

**CAC** - Ms. Wykoda Wang said the CAC committee met and endorsed all action items.

**TCC** - Mr. Alan Blake said the TCC committee met and endorsed all action items.

**Executive Directors Report** – Ms. Melanie Wilson introduced the new CORE MPO staff member, Jasmine Champion, from the Memphis MPO area.

## III. Action Items

### [1. Approval of the June 22, 2022 Meeting Minutes](#)

Mr. Nick Palumbo motioned to approve the June 22, 2022 meeting minutes; seconded by Mr. Shawn Gillen. The motion passed with none opposed.

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

Ms. Wykoda Wang said the UPWP is the staff's work program. We are updating the UPWP for three studies. The project sponsors will apply for either the PL discretionary funds or the Y230 funds to conduct the studies. For both funds, the studies must be included in the unfunded section of the UPWP before funding application. When the funds are awarded, the studies can then be moved into the funded section. The deadlines for submitting applications to the PL discretionary funds and the Y230 funds are August 29<sup>th</sup> and September 26<sup>th</sup> respectively.

- I-16/MLK Ramp Removal Interchange Modification Report from the City of Savannah - the original IMR was finished in 2014 which is now out of date. They must restart the IMR process. Discussion for this study began in June at the TCC meeting and finished in the August round of meetings. The cost for this study is approximately \$300,000 (Federal \$240,000/ Local \$60,000). The City of Savannah is also interested in applying for the Reconnecting Communities (RC) funds which is directly from the USDOT.

Including this study into the unfunded section of the UPWP will help the City's RC funding application as well.

Mr. Tom Caiafa asked what meeting you are wanting to apply for the discretionary PL funds. Has that been determined yet?

Ms. Wang said if we apply for the funds in August and get funding awards, the City can start the IMR as early as April of next year.

- The SR 25/US 17 Corridor Study was amended into the UPWP at the June meeting. After the meeting there was a cost estimate update. When the study was originally amended into the UPWP, the cost was \$350,000 with a federal portion of \$280,000 and Chatham County providing \$70,000 local match. The County Engineering Department updated the estimate based on the SR 307 Corridor Study with a per mile basis. The calculation was bumped up to \$500,000. When they apply for the funds, they will now be applying for \$400,000. Chatham County will provide the \$100,000 local match.
- Chatham Area Transit wants to add a study into the Transit Planning tasks. The study is the AOPP funded study. This is for FTA's Area of Persistent Poverty program. CAT will study the potential to connect emerging job centers to areas that have high levels of racial inequity or persistent poverty. The award CAT received is approximately \$400,000. CAT will provide the 10% local match. Eventually these funds will be included into the TIP as well. CAT is waiting for the federal guidance (coding) before programming those funds.

Ms. Faye DiMassimo said one thing that is important about these grants, the Persistent Poverty Program, is that these are going to be fully incorporated. We have come up with a complete coordination plan for the Master Transit Plan effort and the Comprehensive Operational analysis that are ongoing so there won't be duplication of effort. We are making sure everything works together in a coordinated integrated fashion. All of Chatham County will have the opportunity to participate in all of these, both in how we utilize the resources we are being granted and the overall vision of where we want to go.

Ms. Wang said we are updating our Non-Motorized Transportation Plan (Bike, Pedestrian, and Trail Plan). If you want to pursue federal dollars in the future, you will want to include the bike/ped project into the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan. Chairman Ellis said it helps if you are pursuing State funding as well. The feds have given the State money that is going to flow down this way. If we don't cross our T's and dot our I's, we get stalled into receiving that money. We need to make sure that on all levels, we are all in one accord with documentation/implementation of the funding process. These are competitive grants from all over the country.

Mayor Van Johnson motioned to approve the FY 2023 UPWP Amendments; seconded by Dr. Estella Shabazz. The motion passed with none opposed.

### [3. Authorize Study for 2045 MTP Amendment](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang said staff has started the 2050 MTP update process, but we are still governed by the 2045 MTP. The Long-Range Transportation Plan is divided into three different cost bands. Each cost band is financially constrained. There are limited revenues to cover limited projects.

There was a request from GDOT. They would like to include the SR 404 Talmadge Bridge project in the TIP. The PE phase is approximately \$15 million in FY 2023. Construction Phase is \$175 million in FY 2024. This project cannot be included in the TIP yet because it is not included in the financially constrained 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). In order to include this project into the MTP, the financial plan of the MTP must be evaluated. We cannot include more projects than revenue allows. Further analysis needs to be done to see where this project could fit in. The first step of the MTP amendment is for the MPO to endorse/authorize further analysis. This will help us understand what this project is, what is involved, and how this will impact the financial balance in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. If the project can secure additional revenue, that will help. The findings will be presented at the next round of meetings.

Mr. Tom Caiafa said the project is being considered a maintenance project for the moment. It involves replacement of the cables and the cable stays, investigating roadway barriers, as well as having a crew going out on the bridge over the next two weeks including some lane closures next week. There are possible additional items that may come up, but we have not been provided that information at this time by our Office of Program Delivery.

Chairman Ellis asked if this was one of the projects that GDOT is working on with GA. Port Authority? Mr. Caiafa said they (GDOT Planning) were tentatively involved now but again; his office has not been involved in those discussion directly. Mayor Johnson said since no further details have been provided on this project, his concern is whether this is authorization for staff to get more information or this is for the MPO Board to make the amendment? Ms. Wang said it is to collect more information regarding the project, the cost, and details of the project. Staff is asking the board to endorse further analysis.

Dr. Estella Shabazz motioned to Authorize study for 2045 MTP amendment and allow the MPO staff to collect further information regarding the project; seconded by Ms. Tanya Milton. The motion passed with none opposed.

#### 4. August Amendments to FY 2021-2024 TIP

Ms. Jasmine Champion said GDOT has requested amendments to the FY 2021 – 2024 TIP. The amendments requested are for:

- I-516 @ CS 1503 / DeRenne Avenue - remove ROW phase programmed in FY 2024 and move it to FY 2025.
- SR 404 Spur/ US 17 Savannah Harbor Pkwy to Back River – move Construction phase programmed in FY 2024 to FY 2025.
- SR 26/ US 80 at Bull River – move ROW phase programmed in FY 2023 to FY 2024.
- SR 26 from I-516 to CS 188/Ogeechee Rd – cost revision for UTL adjusted from \$3,436,007 to \$3,951,665.64.

Chairman Ellis properly motioned to open meeting for public hearing.

There were no public comments.

Chairman Ellis properly motioned to close the public hearing.

Dr. Estella Shabaaz asked for an explanation on why I-516 @ DeRenne's ROW phase is being moved. Ms. Christy Lovett said it is being shifted since the Federal Highway Administration is asking for additional Environmental Justice analysis to be done.

Ms. Shabazz said the EJ was discussed at the last meeting for the ROW portion for Project DeRenne. She is questioning this because of the anticipation of the public and her constituents in the City of Savannah in reference to this project. The frustration is for this project continuously moving from year to year. We have been looking for a ROW approval to move forward since 2019. Now we are talking about 2025. She understands we can't move forward until the Federal Highway Administration is satisfied but how long is this going to take? Ms. Lovett said we are developing the plan. We do not have a certain timeline. The City of Savannah was developing a plan and sending it to FHWA. They must agree to the plan of what the additional outreach will even look like. At this time, we could not definitively say what the timeframe will look like.

Mr. Heath Lloyd said we concur with the notion of the EJ piece. Where we are - we have submitted information to the Federal Highway Administration. We have given them what we think is our path towards enhancing the EJ that we have done. We are waiting to hear back from them. The City of Savannah has submitted to the Federal Highway what we believe is additional Environmental Justice as it related to their concerns. We are waiting to hear if that meets the mark of what the Federal Highway Administration is waiting for. We are trying our best to have a conversation with the Federal Highway Administration to expedite this process to get clarity as it relates to what we have submitted. If there is anything Christy can do to help expedite a conversation, we would appreciate that. Mr. Joseph Longo, Federal Highway, said he will look into this and get back with the City.

Mayor Johnson said we have started some of those conversations. It is simply a change of administration with a change in rules. We did what was required under the Trump administration and were fully compliant. The Biden administration requires different rules. Our position is we followed the rules that were in place at the time of the application. We are having those conversations regarding that aspect of the process. Chairman Ellis asked for the CORE MPO staff be included in those conversations.

Mr. Palumbo said there are many people waiting to determine what to do with their homes and their lives out of this. He wants to make sure before we move ahead today, we don't do something to put this at the bottom of someone's out box. Would it be possible to amend this particular item before we get more information from the Federal Highway Administration and communicate with our partners before moving ahead with this amendment?

Chairman Ellis said, until you get the information from the Federal Highway, you don't have anything to give the constituents except what you have already done. They may not understand the dynamics from one administration to the other and the change that has been required. Until GDOT or the City of Savannah hears from the Federal Highway, there is no other information to be given.

Ms. Wang said the only concern we have is to make sure the Y230 funds allocated to this project move with the project to a later year. We want to make sure the project does not lose that funding. Previously the ROW for this project was in FY 2022. In June an amendment was made to move the ROW to FY 2024. GDOT had given a schedule thinking the additional EJ analysis takes approximately 18 months. Now they are saying more time is needed than the 18 months. The ROW phase will need to be moved to FY 2025 with the caveat of keeping the Y230 funds.

Mr. Robert Milie asked could we approve it as recommended by staff then, once the project unfolds and the City gets more information from the Federal Highway, it will move faster, correct? We are not delaying the process by approving the amendment as prepared, and the process can still move more speedily than this. This is just a procedural matter that needs to be done, is that correct? Ms. Wang said yes, if the City of Savannah, GDOT, and Federal Highway Administration decided they could cut the additional EJ analysis shorter, we can move the project back.

Mr. Peter Gulbranson asked why is the Bull River Bridge being delayed from FY 2023 to FY 2024? Ms. Christy Lovett said there was originally only one causeway project which included the two bridges, but those have been broken up to three separate projects. The environmental process for this project is required like the DeRenne Avenue project. Federal money is being used for this project as well.

Dr. Estella Shabazz motioned to approve the August Amendments to FY 2021-2024 TIP; seconded by Mr. Nick Palumbo. The motion passed with none opposed.

#### [5. Non-Motorized Plan - Green Island Road Trail Amendment](#)

Ms. Asia Hernton said for the Transportation Alternatives funding, bike and pedestrian projects need to be consistent with the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan to receive those funds. Chatham County is coordinating with the MPO staff to add the Green Island Road Trail project to the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan.

The Green Island Road Trail Project is a proposed multi-purpose trail from Diamond Causeway to the end of Green Island Road. The project, which is located near the Landings neighborhood, will add two miles of trail to the existing trail on Diamond Causeway, and will link to neighborhoods and a commercial center. The design is to utilize "Complete Streets" criteria to enable safe, attractive, and comfortable access and travel for users such as pedestrians, bicyclists, golf carts and those with a disability. This enhanced connectivity will encourage non-motorized transportation alternatives and provide a better quality of life for residents.

Chatham County will incorporate this trail into the Public Works inventory and will manage and maintain the trail as it currently does on nearby Diamond Causeway. Swales and ditches will be managed and inspected as a part of the County's MS4 inventory. There are several benefits to this project.

- Health and Safety
- Accessibility/connectivity
- Environment

The total cost estimate is approximately \$3 million.

Chairman Ellis made the proper motion to open the public hearing for this item.

There were no public comments.

Chairman Ellis made the proper motion to close the public hearing.

Ms. Tanya Milton motioned to approve the Non-Motorized Plan-Green Island Road Trail Amendment; seconded by Nick Palumbo. The motion passed with none opposed.

#### [6. Call for Projects for Y301 Transportation Alternatives \(TA\) Funds](#)

Ms. Asia Hernton said the CORE MPO will conduct a Call for Projects for the FY 2023 – 2027 Y301 Transportation Alternative (TA) funds. The TA funding was most recently authorized by Congress in 2021 as a set aside of the Surface Transportation Block Grant program funds under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs

Act. The focus of Transportation Alternatives is to promote the feasibility of alternatives to motor vehicle travel, such as through bicycle and/or pedestrian projects. CORE MPO will start the Call for Projects in August 2022 to allocate the Y301 funds.

CORE MPO staff is asking the board for approval of the Y301 Call for Projects manual, form, and schedule.

Dr. Estell Shabazz motioned to approve the Call for Projects for Y301 Transportation Alternatives Funds; seconded by Mr. Tom Caiafa. The motion passed with none opposed.

#### 7. Call for Projects for Y230 Funds

Ms. Jasmine Champion said the CORE MPO will conduct a Call for Projects for the FY 2023 - 2027 Y230 Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds. The STBG funding was most recently authorized by Congress in 2021, with a program continuation under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Pub. L. 117-58, also known as the "Bipartisan Infrastructure Law" (BIL)). The STBG program funds are flexible funds that can be used to address regional transportation. CORE MPO will start the Call for Projects in August 2022 to allocate the Y230 funds.

CORE MPO staff is asking the board for approval of the Y230 Call for Projects manual, form, and schedule.

Mr. Shawn Gillen motioned to approve the Call for Projects for Y230 Funds; seconded by Ms. Faye DiMassimo. The motion passed with none opposed.

#### 8. Authorize Discretionary PL Funds Applications

Ms. Wykoda Wang said each year the GA PL Funds Review Committee will issue the Call for Plans or Studies in September and March. MPOs have the opportunity to submit applications during these times. The MPO staff is requesting to submit applications for three studies for September consideration.

- I-16 Exit Ramp Removal IMR Update – recently amended into the UPWP's unfunded section. Amount being requested for the study is \$240,000 with the City of Savannah providing the \$60,000 local match.
- US 17 Corridor Study – Cost is \$500,000, requesting federal portion \$400,000 with Chatham County providing local match of \$100,000.
- President Street at Truman Parkway Railroad Crossing Study - Cost for the study is \$300,000, requesting federal portion \$240,000 with Chatham County providing the \$60,000 local match.

Once the CORE MPO Board adopts and signs the resolutions, CORE MPO staff will submit the applications on behalf of Chatham County and the City of Savannah. The GA PL Funds Review Committee meets in September. At that meeting we will know whether or not the funds will be awarded for these projects.

Mr. Tom Caiafa said regarding the end dates for each of the PL funded studies, he would suggest adding about 6 months but no less than 18 months. GDOT have been recommending to many of our MPOs for proposals to add additional time for a buffer so MPOs don't have to request a time extension. That will likely come up at the PL Funds Review Committee meeting next month as it goes before the board. This is just a recommendation from the Planning Dept.

Mr. Robert Milie motioned to Authorize Discretionary PL Funds Applications; seconded by Mr. Shawn Gillen. The motion passed with none opposed.

#### **Other Business**

None.

### **V. Status Reports**

#### 9. 2050 MTP Update

Ms. Wykoda Wang said CORE MPO staff has started the 2050 MTP update process.

Kait has been working on the Socio-Economic Data for the Travel Demand Model. She is working on the base year data. We are working with GDOT. There are some issues with the census data - there are more occupied households showing than population. Those issues need to be resolved.

Staff is also working on updating Goals, Objectives, & Performance measures. We are developing a survey. After the last meeting, several of the committee members sent comments for us to incorporate into the survey. We will translate the survey into Chinese, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

For the Travel Demand Model, Asia has been checking the model links for the functional classifications and the number of lanes. Effingham County and Bryan County are complete. Chatham County links are more complicated.

For the travel demand model network development, staff sent out a list of projects regarding the first, second, and third networks, looking for comments from committee members. The first network includes the projects that have started construction or completed construction between 2015 and 2020. The second network are the projects that have started construction or finished construction between 2015 and 2022. The third network will include the projects that have construction funds committed. The fourth network will include those projects that not only have construction funds but also have ROW funds committed. The fifth network would be the ones that have Preliminary Engineering funds committed. Those would be the later ones. We are focusing on the ones that have started construction or are under construction between 2015 and 2022.

There are several studies ongoing - Freight Plan Update, US 80 Corridor Study, Non-Motorized Transportation Plan Update, Urban Flooding Model Study, CAT's Transit Development Plan and Master Development Plan. All of these studies will feed into the 2050 MTP.

Staff has also drafted the Public Involvement Plan. This will guide the public engagement process for the 2050 MTP update. Staff will follow the participation plan as well as have prioritization meetings, kickoff meetings, etc. There will be three rounds of public meetings.

- The first round will be to kick off, explaining what the MPO is, what the MTP is and distribute the survey.
- The second round will have more information available. The Non-Motorized Transportation Plan and the Freight Plan update will be nearing completion. The Congestion Management Plan will be ongoing. Those will feed into the MTP update as well as several of the studies currently going on.
- The third round, we will present the final recommendations.

Staff will be distributing information at the neighborhood meetings, coordinating with Chatham Area Transit's development plans, presenting at Council meetings, and hosting public outreach events. There is an established website set up. We are in the translation stage for the surveys. There are three populations in our area that reach the Limited English Proficiency threshold: Spanish, Chinese, and Vietnamese. Ms. Wang is translating the Chinese version, and GDOT staff is helping with the Spanish translation. We have contacted the Pan Asian community to help with the Vietnamese translation. There will be an interactive map survey available as well. We have established social media for the 2050 MTP Plan update. There is a draft brochure to be launched as well.

The stakeholder Freight Plan Update survey was launched on August 18<sup>th</sup>. We will launch the public survey after today's meeting.

Mr. Nick Palumbo said there are many people in our community that will be excited to take advantage of this new resource. He thinks there are very few people that know what a CORE MPO is. He noticed just from the navigation, there are about 3 or 4 hyperlinks that you must jump through just to get to the Mobility 2050 and it's next to Mobility 2045. Just a recommendation for the update, even if it's a simple webpage that redirects to the survey or the 2050 site, maybe something a little more direct for people to access. We could use this information to crowd source where we need to make these improvements. The more people we can get engaged, the better we will be able to serve the people that we serve.

Mayor Johnson said the city and the county both have television stations which we control programming. That might be another opportunity for content to be created. Whether we create it, or the county creates it and we just run it on both channels.

Ms. Wang said we will coordinate with CAT to distribute the brochures on the CAT buses. We will be coordinating with all the local agencies to post on their social media and websites as well as ours.

## [10. CORE MPO Region Freight Transportation Plan Update](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang said the Freight Plan Update has been kicked off with several stakeholder and project manager meetings. The consultant presented at the first EDFAC committee meeting in June. The consultant is working on the first set of deliverables which is the freight needs assessment and analysis. They are working on the data analysis and the regional freight profiles. There is a dedicated website. The consultant has launched the survey to

the stakeholders. There is a Freight stakeholder survey, Freight stakeholder map, public survey, and a public map will be sent to you today. The target completion date for the plan update is July of 2023.

#### [11. Non-Motorized Transportation Plan and Thoroughfare Plan Update Status](#)

Ms. Asia Hernton said CORE MPO staff is currently updating the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan and Thoroughfare Plan. Those plans address bike and pedestrian needs within the CORE MPO area. Currently staff is identifying the jurisdictions and organizations to work with. We are putting together important population data and information resources, and possible places to hold public outreach meetings. Some other data we would like to include in this plan is car ownership data, poverty, disability, populations that experience higher rates as a pedestrian or bike rider, population of people under 16 years of age and population of people over 65 years of age. Ms. Hernton is looking into a program called NuMetric, which has crash and accident data. There is a list attached of organizations we are currently working with. We are asking who else we should be working with, and do you see anything missing from the list. Some of the information resources we want to include are AARP and Livable communities, American Walks, Academic Resources on Impact of pedestrian and bike infrastructure on communities, as well as other Bike and Pedestrian Plans across the country. For the public outreach, currently we have reached out to collaborate with Bike/Walk Savannah, Healthy Savannah, CAT, and other organizations. We are trying to have another steering committee meeting soon and would welcome more participation.

#### [12. City of Pooler SR 26 from Chatham County line to SR 21 Status Report](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang said the City of Pooler held the kickoff meeting on July 29<sup>th</sup> for the SR 26 from Chatham County line to SR 21 study. The project is moving ahead of schedule.

- Identify and prioritize short-term and long-term improvement projects needed for the SR 26/US 80 corridor to operate at an acceptable level of service.
- Prioritize recommended improvements to facilitate planning and programming of projects through the CORE MPO's metropolitan transportation planning process.
- Justify the future programming of projects in the CORE MPO's Transportation Improvement Program and Mobility 2045 Plan.

#### [13. SS4A Amendment and Updates](#)

Ms. Asia Hernton said the US Department of Transportation (DOT) has made technical modifications to the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant. The changes include updates to the Safety impact Criterion Rating Methodology and additional language to clarify instructions and terminology. The US DOT also created a new version of the Underserved Communities Census Tracts tool, which includes population data to make it easier for applicants to calculate the percent of the population in underserved communities. DOT has also added additional information to its FAQ and application resources to further assist applicants. The deadline for the SS4A grant application remains September 15, 2022 at 5:00 pm. The links are attached to the agenda.

#### [14. Urban Flooding Model Study](#)

Ms. Jasmine Champion said she had been assigned as the Project Manager for this study. The CORE MPO staff and the UGA consultant team held a virtual Kick-Off meeting to discuss project development including project management and public involvement. Both the CORE MPO staff and UGA consultant team identified stakeholders and steering committee members to assist in the development of the Urban Flooding Model Study. UGA will provide the CORE MPO staff with a Project Management Plan and an updated project schedule by the end of the month.

### **VI. Information Reports (verbal)**

#### [15. GDOT Project Status Update Report](#)

Ms. Christy Lovett presented the GDOT project status update.



## Preconstruction Status

- Port Wentworth Bridge Replacements at Savannah River and Middle River – Final Plan design is ongoing and anticipated in October.
- SR 204 from SR 21 to RIO Rd. – ongoing, design is in progress, working toward PFPR, anticipated in November.
- I-16 @ Chatham Parkway – Safety Improvements, ready to LET, holding to allow for construction of the bridge jacking project, completion date of 12/23.
- SR 404 SPUR/US 17 Back River and NE Savannah Harbor – concept submitted and expected by the end of this month.
- SR 26/ US 80 @ Bull River- continues toward preliminary design, waiting on the environmental documentation.
- SR 26/US 80 @ Lazaretto Creek Bridge replacement - working on ROW plans and environmental documentation. Next milestone is ROW authorization.
- SR 26 from I-516 to Victory Drive – corrected FFPR plans, anticipated 8/26/22, on schedule for November LET. The ROW parcel is not settled yet.
- SR 30 @ Hodgeville Roundabout – Concept in progress.

## Active Construction

- Jimmy Deloach Pkwy – Expected 8/25/22 ribbon cutting, all traffic expected to be open at that time.
- All other projects are moving along.

## [16. Chatham County Project Status Report](#)

Mr. Alan Blake gave the Chatham County Project Status Update.

- I-16 @ Jimmy Deloach Pkwy Interchange – concept meeting held on 8/3/22.
- Garrard Avenue project – two stakeholder meetings recently, going well.
- Robert McCorkle Trail Upgrades – construction is substantially complete.
- All other projects on schedule.

Ms. Tanya Milton asked if there was an update on the SR 204 Traffic Study? Mr. Nathaniel Panther said there is a call with GDOT traffic ops scheduled for 2 pm today to get an update on that study. We will update everyone as soon as we get that information.

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

Mr. Stephen Henry presented the City of Savannah Project Status update report.

- DeLesseps Avenue widening – ROW clearing process ongoing. Utility relocations are expected to begin this quarter.
- Traffic Control Center – Procurement process is underway.
- City of Savannah/ I-516 @ DeRenne Avenue – Federal Highway Administration has added requirements as part of the EJ process. ROW funds have been pushed back one year.
- Truman Linear Park Trail Phase 2B - The property acquisition process is ongoing. All ROW agreements going to City Council.

## [18. Chatham Area Transit Status Update Report](#)

Ms. Ashley Goodrich gave the Chatham Area Transit status update report.

- Ferry Purchase Construction – finished with the Naval Architect design, bid for construction in October.
- Paratransit Vehicle contract – delayed with supply shortages, revising the state contract as shortage continues to delay the order.
- Diesel Bus Replacement – Buses on order.
- ITS Clever Devices – Ferry boat installation for the Apollo camera system complete. Phase 8 of 9 currently in conjunction.
- Ferry Boat Maintenance Facility and Ferry Dock – under review and progress with City of Savannah.
- Facility Rehab – undergoing the Wellness Center Art Mural. Artist was selected last month.

- Electric Bus Replacement – in process.
- Master Transit Plan & Implementation Strategies – awarded in July with kickoff expected later this fall.
- Transit Development Plan – working with consultant for analysis.
- Zero Emission Implementation Plan - working with consultant for analysis.

#### [19. LATS Project Status Update](#)

Written update attached to the agenda. There were no comments.

#### [20. TIP Project Tracking in August 2022](#)

Written update attached to the agenda. There were no comments.

### **Savannah International Airport**

Mr. Jim Aiello reported on the ongoing projects.

- Rental Car Facility – delayed due to long lead times for steel, roof paneling, paint, and cement.
- Air Cargo Aprons – in project close out, completed soon.
- Southeast Quadrant – complete.
- TSA Checkpoint expansion -bid completed and awarded

### **VII. Other Public Comments (limit to 3 minutes)**

No Public Comments

### **VIII. Notices**

#### [21. Call for Plans and Studies for FY 2024 UPWP Development](#)

Attached for information only.

#### [22. Next CORE MPO Board Meeting November 2, 2022 at 10:00am](#)

### **IX. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the August 24, 2022 CORE MPO Board meeting 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.