



**CHATHAM URBAN TRANSPORTATION STUDY**

**TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
MEETING SUMMARY**

**MPC Jerry Surrency Conference Room  
110 East State Street**

**April 20, 2006**

**3:00 P.M.**

**Voting Members**

Russ Abolt  
Allan R. Black, P.E.  
Robert H. Bonner Jr.  
Michael Brown  
Al Bungard, P.E.  
Robbie Byrd  
Phillip Claxton  
Scott Conner  
Hank Dangerfield  
Patrick S. Graham  
Bill Hendricks  
Doug J. Marchand  
Helen McCracken  
Keith Melton  
William Oakley  
  
Carl Palmer  
Gary D. Priester  
Peter Shonka, P. E.  
Bob Thomson  
Thomas L. Thomson, P.E., AICP  
Hugh "Trip" Tollison  
Mike Weiner, P.E.  
Mark Wilkes, P.E., AICP

**Representing**

Chatham County  
Chatham County Engineering  
LDH Corporation  
City of Savannah  
Chatham County Engineering  
City of Pooler  
City of Port Wentworth  
CSX Transportation  
Fort Steward/Hunter Army Airfield  
Savannah Airport Commission  
Norfolk Southern Railroad Industry  
Georgia Ports Authority  
CUTS Citizens Advisory Committee  
GDOT – Atlanta  
CUTS Advisory Committee on  
Accessible Transportation  
Chatham Area Transit Authority  
GDOT – Jesup  
City of Savannah Engineering  
Thunderbolt  
Executive Director MPC, Chair  
Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce  
City of Savannah Engineering  
Metropolitan Planning Commission

**Present**

x  
  
  
  
x  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
x  
x  
  
x  
x

**Voting Member Alternates**

Teresa Scott  
Randy Weitman, P.E.  
John Broderick  
George Fidler, P. E.

**Representing**

GDOT – Jesup  
Georgia Ports Authority  
Chatham Area Transit  
Savannah Airport Commission

**Present**

x  
  
x  
x  
x

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**Others Present**

Wykoda Wang  
Jane Love  
Barbara Settzo  
Jen Price  
Tommy Crochet  
Chris Marsengill  
Kari McCallister  
Jo Hickson

**Representing**

MPO X  
MPO X  
MPO X  
Sycamore Consulting X  
McGee Partners X  
McGee Partners X  
Low Country Council of Gov'ts X  
Jo Hickson, ASLA X

**I. Call to Order**

Mr. Tom Thomson called the April 20, 2006 Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting to order. He introduced Barbara Settzo as the person designated to take minutes of the meeting, and requested all present to introduce themselves.

**II. Action Items**

**A. Approval of the February 16, 2006 CUTS TCC Meeting Minutes**

It was moved and seconded to approve the February 16, 2006 Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes.

**TCC Action: The motion to approve the February 16, 2006 TCC minutes carried with none opposed.**

**B. Endorsement of FY 2007 Unified Planning Work Program**

It was moved and seconded to endorse the FY 2007 Unified Planning Work Program.

**TCC Action: The motion to endorse the FY 2007 Unified Planning Work Program was carried with none opposed.**

**C. Endorsement of Amendment to FY 2006-2008 TIP to include Preliminary Engineering for Grange Road.**

A brief discussion of this issue confirmed that no "exchanges" of projects were made in order to push the Grange Road project ahead. Grange Road preliminary engineering is an addition to the 2006-2008 TIP.

Ms. Wang mentioned that legally the required 15 day public notice was not met by the publication in the newspaper, but it was on the MPC website in time to meet the public notification qualifications. Tom Thomson assured the group that if they got any comments on the 26<sup>th</sup> of the month, they would be addressed.

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Mr. Fidler moved that the amendment requested by GDOT to add Grange Road preliminary engineering to the FY 2006-2008 TIP be endorsed. Mr. Claxton seconded the motion.

**TCC Action: The motion to endorse the amendment requested by GDOT to add Grange Road preliminary engineering to the FY 2006-2008 TIP was carried with none opposed.**

**D. Endorsement of FY 2007-2010 Local Transportation Improvement Priorities**

It was noted that the fund code totals and the project list totals show a slight discrepancy. They should balance. It appears that there are some items on the fund code list that do not appear on the project list. This will be looked into, but for the purpose of this meeting attention will be paid to the project list.

Tom Thomson explained the new comprehensive spreadsheet that was distributed to all members. He wants to strive for a very objective and technical assessment of project priorities to present to the Policy Committee. It is important to convince the Policy Committee of the soundness of the methodology used to compile this list of priorities.

Mr. Thomson proceeded to explain how the spreadsheet was set up and arranged. The three questions he wants to address at this meeting with this spreadsheet are:

Is there anything we need to put on the priority list?

Do we agree with GDOT's decisions/conclusions?

Should any second priority items be moved to first priority?

**TCC Action: At this point in the meeting, it was moved, seconded and carried with no opposition to defer further discussion of the spreadsheet in favor of the two presentations that were to be made today.**

**E. Request to amend the Bikeway Plan to include US 17 Back River Bridge**

Ms. Jo Hickson and Ms. Kari McCallister presented information to the TCC with no request at this time for action. They will return at a future meeting to request TCC action on this issue. They would like the breakdown lane, which is planned for the bridge, to be marked and linked as a bikeway. This is a critical connection in the trail running from Maine to Florida. This would solve the problem of how to get the trail across the Savannah River. It would be a positive move to connect the Low Country and Savannah in this way. They left information packets which include letters of endorsements from other people and agencies.

**F. SR 204 Improvements Presentation**

Mr. Tommy Crochet, President of McGee Partners, gave a presentation on two projects – 1.) SR 204 King George Blvd to Rio Rd, and 2.) Rio Rd to Truman Pkwy Phase V. The

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purpose of both projects is to relieve traffic congestion. Extensive traffic studies are underway.

Mr. Wilkes noted that the Long Range Plan vision for SR 204 was more extensive than the eight-lane concept discussed by Mr. Crochet, however, the MPO did not have the financial capacity to include a full freeway concept in the Plan.

Following the presentation, Tom Thomson asked that TCC be involved in the concept stage of the projects. He described his vision of the projects as "financially constrained". He believes the Truman Pkwy will be extended to I-95 and beyond, possibly elevated, possibly a toll road. He suggested that McGee Partners look at concepts that include wider medians and more right-of-way. Mr. Thomson said he would put his vision of these projects in writing for McGee Partners.

Mr. Thomson was also concerned that some of this plan touched on Hunter Army Airfield property. If so, he would like to call and give them notice. It was agreed to wait for more definitive traffic studies before making the presentation to the people at Hunter.

Mr. Crochet stated that he will return at a later date with more projections and details.

The meeting recessed for a 5 minute break.

#### **D. Continuation of Endorsement of FY 2007-2010 Local Transportation Improvement Priorities**

The meeting reconvened at 4:15. At this time the TCC returned to Action item II-D on the agenda. A line by line analysis of the projects listed on the spreadsheet entitled "FY2007-2010 TIP Prioritization Data – Based on Current TIP and CWP" followed. Ms. Scott explained that the GDOT did not receive the anticipated federal funds so they are moving many projects out to 2012. At 5:00 many committee members left for other meetings and the remaining members continued the review of projects with Ms. Wang noting changes on her spreadsheet.

Ms. Settzo excused herself from the meeting at 5:10 to attend another meeting, leaving Ms. Wang to conclude the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

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