



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

**TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
MEETING SUMMARY**

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

October 15, 2009

3:00 P.M.

Voting Members

Representing

Present

Russ Abolt	Chatham County	
Robert H. Bonner Jr.	LDH Corporation	
Daniel Bostek	Norfolk Southern Railroad Industry	
Teresa Brenner	CUTS Advisory Committee on Accessible Transportation	
Michael Brown	City of Savannah	
Al Bungard, P.E.	Chatham County Engineering	
Robbie Byrd	City of Pooler	
Phillip Claxton	City of Port Wentworth	
Scott Conner	CSX Transportation	
Jason Crane	GDOT – Atlanta	x
Leon Davenport	Chatham County Engineering	
Glenn Durrence	GDOT – District 5	
Patrick S. Graham	Savannah Airport Commission	
Will Ingram	Fort Steward/Hunter Army Airfield	x
Jonathan Lynn	City of Tybee	x
Nathan Mai-Lombardo	City of Garden City	
Doug Marchand	Georgia Ports Authority	
Frank McIntosh	Savannah Bicycle Campaign	
Charles Odimgbe	Chatham Area Transit	
Representative	CUTS Citizens Advisory Committee	
Ronald Sadowski	Coastal Regional Commission	x
Peter Shonka, P. E.	City of Savannah Engineering	
Bob Thomson	Town of Thunderbolt	
Thomas L. Thomson, P.E., AICP	Executive Director MPC, Chair	
Hugh "Trip" Tollison	Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce	
Mike Weiner, P.E.	City of Savannah Traffic Engineering	x
Mark Wilkes, P.E., AICP	MPO	x

Voting Member Alternates

Sean Brandon
Enoch Dumas
Adam Kirk
Teresa Scott
Randy Weitman

Representing

City of Savannah X
CAT X
Savannah Bicycle Campaign X
GDOT – Jesup X
Georgia Ports Authority X

Others Present

Michael Adams
Kimberly Davis
Jane Love
Barbara Settzo
Wykoda Wang
Louis Wilson

Representing

MPO X
West Savannah neighborhood X
MPO X
for MPO X
MPO X
West Savannah neighborhood X

Call to Order

Mr. Mark Wilkes called the October 15, 2009 meeting of the Technical Coordinating Committee to order followed by self-introductions by those present.

I. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

II. Action Items

A. Approval of the August 20, 2009 Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2009 Technical Coordinating Committee.

TCC Action: the motion to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2009 Technical Coordinating Committee carried with none opposed.

B. Endorsement of the FY 2010-2013 Transportation Improvement Program

Ms. Wykoda Wang presented the staff report for the FY 2010-2013 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). This is the short-range planning document for the MPO listing all the multi-modal projects to be addressed in FY 2010-2013. Ms. Wang reviewed a number of project lists included in this proposed TIP. The first list was of projects in the current TIP that are being carried forward into the proposed TIP. She reviewed the status of these projects and noted that some projects have newly added phases.

Ms. Wang also reviewed the list of projects funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) in the current TIP that are being carried over to the proposed TIP. There are also some projects on this list that are in applications for Transportation

Investments Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) funds. Mr. Wilkes commented that staff will be asking project sponsors for updates on the projects that have ARRA funding. MPO staff will be tracking these projects more closely because of the deadlines.

Other lists of highway projects reviewed were:

- A list of projects that do not appear in the proposed TIP because they have had funding authorized.
- A list of projects that are in the current TIP but do not appear in the proposed TIP because they have been moved to a year beyond FY 2013 or moved to the vision plan of the long range plan.
- A list of new projects added to the proposed TIP which was not in the current TIP.

Ms. Wang proceeded to review transit projects which included regular formula funded projects, ARRA funded projects, and TIGER grant projects. There are also two rail projects that are being carried forward to the new TIP. She concluded with a list of local projects in the proposed TIP.

She then outlined the public participation process for the draft FY 2010-2013 TIP. Comments already received are part of the draft report. The public comment period ends today.

The following points were raised in discussion of the staff presentation:

- Mr. Mike Weiner asked that the word “regional” be added to the description of the traffic control center so it is not confused with the existing city traffic control center.
- Mr. Sean Brandon commented that the city is reviewing their projects to ensure that they meet the new MPO guiding principles as stated in the new Long Range Transportation Plan. Mr. Mark Wilkes offered to meet with the city staff.
- Ms. Teresa Scott raised questions about the DeRenne Ave. Short-term Congestion Mitigation Strategies project and Bay St. Signal and Intersection Improvements project. Project descriptions, and whether these are complete or not, need to be clarified. Ms. Scott recommended that the \$50,000 (\$25,000 for each project) for GDOT oversight on these projects be re-directed to other projects. Mr. Jason Crane said that 80% would be able to stay with the MPO. He agreed to follow-up on this question and report to the MPO staff. For now, it was agreed to leave these projects in the proposed TIP as listed, but they may be removed pending an update report from Mr. Crane. Ms. Scott recommended changing the maps shown for the Gulfstream Rd. and Robert B. Miller Rd. projects so that they match the current project descriptions – i.e. show them as intersection improvements and not widening.
- Mr. Ronald Sadowski questioned the \$12.00 obligation amount shown for project #0001894. Mr. Crane will check on the amount since everyone agreed that it was an unusually small amount for obligation.
- Mr. Sadowski asked for funding estimates to be included in the Lump Sum Projects in Chatham County. Ms. Scott will look into this. However, she explained that the lump sum total for a given area is a mathematical split of the state-wide lump sum “pot” of money, not actually a sum of the cost estimates for the lump sum projects in the given area.

It was moved and seconded to endorse the FY 2010-2013 Transportation Improvement Program subject to the inclusion of the corrected information as noted above.

TCC Action: the motion to endorse the FY 2010-2013 Transportation Improvement Program subject to the inclusion of the corrected information as noted above carried with none opposed.

III. Agency Reports

A. CUTS Advisory Committee on Accessible Transportation

No report at this time.

B. CUTS Citizens Advisory Committee

No report at this time.

C. Federal Highway Administration

No report at this time.

D. Federal Transit Administration

No report at this time.

E. Georgia Department of Transportation

Ms. Teresa Scott distributed her report and asked for questions.

- #1 – Diamond Causeway bridge at Skidaway Narrows – letting this month, expected tomorrow. Anyone can check on the website for final word.
- #31 – Jimmy DeLoach Ext. – concept meeting schedule for 11/19/09 at 1:30 PM in the District office, video-conferencing with the Atlanta office.
- #14 – SR 26/Ogeechee Rd. – GDOT is reviewing information now since it is old. The environmental document has gone to FHWA. It is not yet approved but it is moving.
- #55 – Bay St. Signal and Intersection Improvements – this project has nothing to do with widening of Bay St.; #24 is the project that deals with the W. Bay St. widening
- #24 – W. Bay St. Widening – once ROW plans are approved, GDOT will secure the funding and then purchase of ROW can begin. Ms. Scott believes the funding will be secured by December. A W. Bay St. business owner present asked a question about which side of Bay St. would be widened. Ms. Love said she would show her the drawings after the meeting.

F. Coastal Regional Commission

Mr. Sadowski said they are doing updates in preparation for the Regional Rural Coordinated Transportation Program implementation. It will probably get started in FY 2011.

GDOT has approved a bicycle/pedestrian study on SR 119, from Guyton to Springfield, in Effingham County.

G. Chatham Area Transit Authority

Mr. Enoch Dumas reported that the new scheduling for the #14 Abercorn route, with differences in headways of peak periods and off-peak periods, will be delayed until new buses arrive after January 1.

H. Chatham County

No report at this time.

I. City of Savannah

Mr. Weiner reported the city had to eliminate a couple of the stimulus projects because the environmental documents will not be ready in time. They are intending to re-direct these funds to other city stimulus projects. Discussion followed concerning the process for re-directing funds, particularly the certification of projects by the Governor. Mr. Weiner noted that the state traffic engineer indicated there would be no problem. Ms. Wang will remove these from the ARRA portion of the proposed TIP.

Installation of a traffic signal at Chatham Parkway is in progress, but it should be completed in the next week. They are proceeding with installation of the traffic signal at Jimmy DeLoach Parkway and Benton Blvd.

J. City of Garden City

No report at this time.

K. City of Tybee Island

No report at this time.

L. Georgia Ports Authority

No report at this time.

M. Savannah-Hilton Head International Airport

No report at this time.

IV. Other Business

Mr. Sadowski asked when the Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan was last updated. Ms. Jane Love reported that it was amended for the Back River Bridge bikeway inclusion in 2007. It was originally adopted in 2000. Staff will be working on a new plan, thus far referred to as "The Non-Motorized Plan," which will be part of the Total Mobility Plan. Mr. Wilkes noted that

much of this Non-Motorized Plan will be done in-house even though there will be a consultant coordinating the entire Total Mobility Plan.

V. Other Public Comments

No other public comments at this time.

VI. Adjournment

There being no other business, the October 15, 2009 meeting of the Technical Coordinating Committee adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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