



CORE MPO Technical Coordinating Committee

Virtual Meeting - 2:00 p.m.
Minutes

June 18, 2020 Meeting of the CORE MPO Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)

Voting Members	Representing	Present
Charles Ackridge	City of Bloomingdale	
Scott Allison	City of Richmond Hill	
Pamela Bernard	Chatham County Engineering	X
Caila Brown	Bike Walk Savannah	X
Matt Saxon	City of Pooler	
Ned Green	GDOT - Planning	X
Mark Denmark	Savannah Airport Commission	
Byron Cowart	GDOT - District Five	X
Ron Feldner	City of Garden City	X
Trent Long	City of Port Wentworth	
Don Masisack	Coastal Regional Commission	
Peter Gulbranson	City of Tybee Island	
Ashley Goodrich	Chatham Area Transit	X
Melanie Wilson	MPC Executive Director	
Randy Weitman	Georgia Ports Authority	
Mark Wilkes	CORE MPO/MPC	X
Stephen Henry	City of Savannah	
Teresa Concannon	Effingham County	X
Vacant	Town of Thunderbolt	
Vacant	Town of Vernonburg	
Voting Alternate	Representing	
Wykoda Wang	CORE MPO/MPC	X
Michelle Strickland	City of Savannah	X
George Fidler	Savannah Airport Commission	X
Others	Representing	
Stephanie Rossi	CORE MPO/MPC	X
Sally Helm	MPC	X
Ann-Marie Day	FHWA	X
Leon Davenport	Thunderbolt Consultants LLC	X

Mary Mitchell	MPC	X
Bren Daiss	CAT	X
Charles Walker	GDOT - Intermodal	X
Nathaniel Panther	Chatham County Engineering	X
Terri Harrison	CAT	X
Vivian D Canizares	GDOT - Planning	X
Tom McQueen	GDOT - Planning	X
Kait Morano	MPC	X
Nic Fazio	MPC	X
Jennifer Schildecker	Public	X
Pamela Everett	MPC	X
Julie Yawn	MPC	X
Jackie Jackson	MPC	X

I. Approval of Agenda

II. Action Items

[1. Approval of February 6, 2020 TCC meeting minutes](#)

- ☉ [TCC Feb 6 Minutes.pdf](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang motioned to approve the February 6, 2020 TCC meeting minutes with the correction to the spelling of Caila Brown's name; seconded by George Fidler. The motion passed with none opposed

[2. Formation of Study Committee - SR 21 Access Management Study](#)

- ☉ [March 2020 PL Funds Correspondence Letter 5-27-20.pdf](#)
- ☉ [CORE MPO SR 21 Access Mgt Study March 2020 Revised.pdf](#)

Mr. Mark Wilkes stated that the Georgia DOT has set up a PI# and verified the award of the discretionary planning funds for the SR 21 Access Management Study. He asked for names of volunteers to work as an advisory committee with the MPO and project sponsor to review materials and provide feedback. Ron Feldner of Garden City, George Fidler of the Savannah Airport Commission, Caila Brown of Bike Walk Savannah, and Pamela Bernard from the Chatham County Engineering all volunteered. Vivian Canizares of GDOT Planning said GDOT Traffic Operations would volunteer, with specific staff member to be determined. Ms. Wykoda Wang suggested that somebody from the School Board should be involved. Mr. Feldner indicated that he would coordinate with the School Board.

[3. Amendments to FY 2021 UPWP](#)

- ☉ [FY 2021 UPWP Amendment Staff Report.pdf](#)

Ms. Wang stated that in March 2020 CORE MPO applied for the discretionary federal highway planning (PL) funds for SR 21 Access Management Study on behalf of Garden City. The study information is currently included in the unfunded Illustrative Studies Section. Now that the MPO has been awarded the discretionary PL funds, the study needs to be included in the funded section of Task 4.13, Strategic Transportation Studies. Both the funding table under Task 4.13 and the summary financial table are updated. GDOT will use the updated financial information to prepare the FY 2021 PL funding contract.

In addition, Chatham County has submitted a new proposal for a State Route 307 Corridor Study which needs to be added to the Illustrative Section. Two rounds of discussions are needed before we apply for discretionary PL funds for this study.

Mr. Nathaniel Panther stated that the SR 307 Corridor Study will look at all short/long term improvements on this corridor from Ogeechee Road to SR 25 in Garden City to justify to GDOT projects in the future. GPA will provide local match; and if discretionary planning funds are approved, that will cover the federal cost of the study. The funding needed is \$200,000 (federal) with local match of \$50,000. MPO will be the contracting entity with GDOT.

Mr. Mark Wilkes asked for volunteers for a study committee for the SR 307 Corridor Study. Pamela Bernard, Leon Davenport, Ron Feldner, Michele Strickland, and Vivian Canizares volunteered.

Mr. Mark Wilkes called for a motion to endorse the amendments to FY 2021 UPWP. Mr. George Fidler motioned and Ms. Wang seconded. The motion passed with none opposed.

[4. Amendments to FY 2018 - 2021 TIP](#)

☛ [FY 2018-2021 TIP Amendments Staff Report June 2020.pdf](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang gave a presentation on the proposed amendments/updates to the FY 2018 – 2021 TIP. The updates to the highway projects included the following.

1. PI# 0015306, TRUMAN LINEAR PARK TRAIL – PHASE II-B - TIP administrative modification to adjust CST cost estimate in FY 2021. Currently the construction phase is in FY 2021. The local portion of the cost will be increased by about \$28,000. It currently has about \$1,000,000 in federal funds with a local match. The total cost for the construction phase is more than \$4 million. The City of Savannah will have to come up with additional funds to pay for this \$3,168,000. This project was awarded Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program funding, but it was pulled. The city has re-applied for this funding and is also exploring other options.
2. PI# 0008358, I-516 @ CS 1503/DERENNE AVE – TIP amendment to adjust significant ROW cost increase in FY 2021. Currently there is a little over \$8,000,000 in FY 2021 for the ROW phase. The newer cost estimate increased by an additional \$8,000,000 to be paid by the local sponsor. Ms. Wang asked whether the City of Savannah has the funds to pay for the additional ROW cost and whether the ROW phase is on schedule for FY 2021. Mr. Leon Davenport stated that the City does have this money programmed, making the full ROW estimate of \$17,000,000. This project is still under environmental evaluation, but the ROW phase is still on track for FY 2021.
3. PI# 0010028, CS 1097/DELESSEPS/LA ROCHE AVE FM WATERS AVE TO SKIDAWAY RD – TIP amendments to move UTL and CST phases to FY 2021 with funding and cost adjustments. The MPO has processed an administrative modification for the utility phase – this phase has a cost increase and it will be totally paid by the City of Savannah. It went from \$1,600,000 to between \$2,800,000 and \$2,900,000. The amendment for the utility phase is to move it from FY 2020 to FY 2021. The construction phase needs to be moved from FY 2020 to FY 2021 as well, but there are some unresolved issues regarding its funding source (currently Z230 and Z301 funds are programmed for the phase in FY 2020). There was a lot of back and forth discussion regarding the construction funding between GDOT, MPO and the City of Savannah. The decisions regarding this project from TCC are 1) move the utility phase to FY 2021, and 2) there needs to be a meeting set up to discuss moving the construction phase with federal funding.
4. PI# 0006328, BRAMPTON ROAD CONNECTOR FM FOUNDATION DR TO SR 21/SR25/US80 – TIP amendments to adjust significant cost increases for the UTL and CST phases in FY 2021. There is more than \$5,000,000 increase for the construction phase. The utility phase has more than \$8,000,000 increase.
5. PI# 0006700, EFFINGHAM PKWY FROM SR 119/EFFINGHAM TO SR 30/CHATHAM – TIP amendments to remove UTL and CST phases from the TIP. There have been cost increases for both the utility and construction phases. The utility phase went from \$600,000 to \$650,000. For the construction phase, the local portion jumped from \$3,600,000 to almost \$12,000,000. Both phases will have to be moved to longer range like FY 2022 - 2023.
6. PI# 521855, SR 26 FROM I-516 TO CS 188/VICTORY DRIVE – TIP amendments to remove UTL and CST phases from the TIP. The Ogeechee RD widening project's construction phase has the cost estimate increased from \$16,000,000 to \$25,000,000. The utility phase has a cost estimate increase of more than

\$2,000,000. These two phases will be moved to longer range like FY 2022 - 2023, out of the current FY 2018 - 2021 TIP.

7. PI# 0010560, SR 26 FM JOHNNY MERCER TO OLD US 80; INC BULL RVR&LAZARETTO – TIP amendments to program additional PE funds in FY 2021 and remove ROW phase from the TIP. The project is still going through environmental process. GDOT is proposing to add additional preliminary engineering funds of about \$1,000,000 in FY 2021. The ROW phase is currently programmed in FY 2020, but it won't make it, so it will need to be moved out to longer range. GDOT is working on dividing the project into three different sections with each one addressing a small portion of the roadway.
8. PI# TBA, 1-16 at Jimmy Deloach Interchange Improvements – TIP amendment to add PE phase in FY 2021 with HIP funds.
9. PI# TBA, Priscilla D Thomas Way (formerly Wheathill Road) / State Route 21 (SR 21) Signalization Project – TIP amendment to add PE phase in FY 2021 with HIP funds.

The Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) funds need to be authorized soon, so through 3 applications submitted for the HIP Call for Projects, Tybee Island's US 80 Bridge Replacement and Chatham County's I-16 Interchange at Jimmy Deloach both ranked #1. The Garden City's signal project ranked #3. Since the US 80 Bridge Replacement project won't need the funds in FY 2021 and the other two projects will, the HIP funds will be allocated to the I-16 Interchange at Jimmy Deloach and the Garden City's signal project in FY 2021.

- The cost estimate for the PE phase of I-16 Interchange will be about \$2,400,000. The HIP funds are \$1,920,000. Chatham County will provide the local match of \$480,000.
- The cost estimate for the PE phase of Priscilla D Thomas Way/SR 21 Signalization is about \$250,000. The HIP portion is \$200,000. Garden City will provide the local match of \$50,000.

Ms. Wang stated that she was working on including the #10 project - I-95 ITS from the FL state line to the SC state line. This project was approved by the State Transportation Board today. The segment to be included in the TIP is within the limits of Bryan County and Chatham County. The PE phase will be included in FY 2021 with Z001 funds of \$165,000. Once we receive more information from GDOT regarding this project, the TIP amendment report will be updated.

Ms. Wang stated that the transit TIP amendments included the following.

1. All grants from FY 2020 need to roll over to FY 2021 except for the FY 2020 Section 5307 funds which were obligated and utilized in FY 2020.
2. Additional available funds need to be amended into FY 2021 - T007426, FY 2021-CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT-FERRY BOAT + TERMINAL FACILITY and newly awarded Low Emission funds.
3. Current year FTA Program Fund amounts are known as of February 2020 and the funding estimates need to be replaced with these actual allocation amounts.

Ms. Terri Harrison said CAT is close to getting the programmed transit funds obligated through the FTA TRANS system and they need 30 - 60 more days. The funding applications are all in process and ready to go. They just need a little more time and must keep the projects in the TIP.

- Regarding the 5307 (h) (the Ferry Boat discretionary program) – CAT is rolling FY 2020 award funds for a ferry boat to FY 2021 and are adding another ferry boat award. Ms. Wang asked if the \$1,600,000 is newly awarded funds and the \$3,218,663 has been moved from FY 2020 to FY 2021. Ms. Harrison stated that the \$3 million is for the Westin Ferry Dock and maintenance building construction on Hutchinson Island. It is rolling over to FY 2021, and the \$1,600,000 is new funds that are being added. Over the past fiscal year CAT has been working with FTA on the NEPA and the SHIPO. As soon as CAT gets a determination from them as to if there are any mitigation measures that need to be done, they can move forward with this.
- Ms. Wang stated that Section 5337 program will roll over FY 2020 funds to FY 2021 and make some corrections based on actual allocation. Ms. Harrison stated that all of these are in the process of being combined into one grant.
- The Section 5339 program funds are for bus and bus facilities. There is a grant in process for this as well that covers prior and current year apportionment. The funds will be used for facility enhancement and ITS replacement.

- Ms. Harrison explained the 5339 C program. It's the 2018 Low or No Emission Program (Low-No Program) grant and they were also awarded an additional \$1,800,000 of Low-No Program funds for FY 2020. They rolled the FY 2018 funds and added FY 2020 funds into FY 2021 and are combining them with the last award funds from the State Road and Tollway Authority (SRTA) to complete the first purchase of the electric buses and add another electric bus, chargers and mobile generators.
- Ms. Wang stated that GDOT requested to add the Ferry Boat formula program funds to FY 2021. Ms. Harrison confirmed that some ferry boat funding has been lost in the past. Now there is \$667,016 available.
- There seemed to be some calculation errors in the Z230 Flex Funds. Ms. Harrison will take a closer look to clarify the funds after the meeting and will send the updated information to Ms. Wang.

Ms. Wang further stated that the MPO had received some comments from the general public during the TIP amendment comment period. Some of them are in support of bicycle and pedestrian accommodations in various roadway projects. Others are concerning the design of the US 80 Bridges Replacement project. Mr. George Fidler asked what happened to the comments that were received. Ms. Wang said that they were forwarded to the project managers to answer or address. Mr. Fidler wanted to discuss with someone about the HWY 80 project. Ms. Pam Bernard asked if he looked at the approved concept report. She stated that there is a 10-ft bike lane, a 12-ft travel lane and a 2-ft buffer on each side making the width of the bridge 48-ft wide. This basically makes these 4 lanes. Mr. Fidler said that he was OK with this concept. Mr. Mark Wilkes stated he thought they showed 10-ft shoulders which are even better.

Ms. Wang asked the TCC to endorse the proposed TIP amendments with corrections to be made to the transit tables. For the Delesseps project, keep the utility phase in FY 2021 and move the construction phase to longer range until a decision is made at the scheduled meeting for this project.

Ms. Vivian Canizares commented on the HIP funds. Tybee applied for HIP funds for ROW and they will still get them, not in FY 2021 but in the next fiscal years (FY 2022 - 2023). She wanted to make sure they are not forgotten. Ms. Wang stated that was what was put in the report for the Tybee project.

Mr. Tom McQueen asked in the motion to go back to the HIP table and highlight clearly where the funding is going so they can see prior to the motion. He was asking about the ROW US 80 funding for the splits that are coming in about a month. Ms. Wang clarified that this information was included.

Ms. Pam Bernard made the motion to endorse the proposed TIP amendments with the conditions listed. Mr. George Fidler seconded the motion. The motion passed with none opposed.

III. Other Business

IV. Status Reports

[5. Congestion Management Process Update](#)

 [June2020 CMP Staff Report.pdf](#)

 [CMP 2020.pdf](#)

Ms. Stephanie Rossi spoke about kicking off the study for the Congestion Management Process. She asked for volunteers to start a working group/committee. Pamela Bernard, Mark Wilkes, Ann-Marie Day with FHWA, Bren Daiss with CAT and Vivian/ Ned with GDOT volunteered.

[6. FY 2020 UPWP Budget Adjustments](#)

 [FY 2020 UPWP administrative modifications staff report.pdf](#)

Ms. Wang stated that to facilitate the FY 2020 PL and TR contract close out we must make sure all the financial information for various tasks is correct. We processed budget adjustment requests for both PL and TR funds and got concurrences from GDOT. The UPWP administrative modifications reflected these adjustments.

[7. Chatham County - Savannah Comprehensive Plan Update Process](#)

[CORE MPO-Intro Comp Plan Update Process 060320..pdf](#)

[Comprehensive Plan Update Timeline 042220.pdf](#)

Ms. Jackie Jackson presented the update to the Comprehensive Plan process. The last update was 2016 and they are starting the update for 2021.

V. Information Reports (verbal)

GDOT

Mr. Byron Cowart, Planning and Programming Engineer for District 5, presented project status report for Chatham County Projects. Mr. Tom McQueen asked if the I-16/SR 307 DDI bid was accepted and Mr. Cowart said yes. A question was asked about the Z230 funds being authorized for the DDI. Mr. Cowart said they had been authorized.

Chatham County

Ms. Pamela Bernard presented the Chatham County Projects Status Report.

Savannah Airport Commission

Mr. George Fiddler, Director of Engineering, gave an update on the projects underway at the Savannah Airport.

Garden City

Mr. Ron Feldner presented the projects that are underway in Garden City.

Effingham County

Ms. Teresa Concannon gave an update on projects in Effingham County.

Bike Walk Savannah

Ms. Caila Brown presented updates for bike/ped projects.

VI. Other Public Comments (limit to 3 minutes)

VII. Announcements

[8. Next TCC Meeting: Thursday, August 20, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. \(Virtual Meeting\)](#)

VIII. Other Non-Agenda Information for Reference

[9. Memorandum of Understanding between Chatham Area Transit and MPC for FY 2020 5303 FTA Funds](#)

[June 2020 MOU Staff Report MPO.pdf](#)

[10. TIP Administrative Modifications](#)

[TIP Administrative Modification 6-4-2020.pdf](#)

[TIP Funding Move Request for Z301 6-4-2020.pdf](#)

[TIP Funding Move Request for Z230 6-4-2020.pdf](#)

[11. GDOT Project Status Report](#)

[Project Status Updates MPO 4-3-2020-Bryan-Chatham-Effingham.pdf](#)

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, the June 18, 2020 meeting of the CORE MPO TCC was adjourned.