

MPC Mendonsa Hearing Room –10:00 a.m.  
112 East State Street, Savannah  
Minutes

**April 27, 2016 Regular Meeting of the CORE MPO Board**

<b><u>Voting Members</u></b>	<b><u>Representing</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>
James Aberson	ACAT	X
Phillip Claxton	City of Port Wentworth	
Stephanie Cutter	City of Savannah	X
Eddie DeLoach	City of Savannah	X
Ron Feldner	City of Garden City	X
George Fidler	Savannah Airport Commission	X
Harold Fowler	City of Richmond Hill	X
Caroline Hankins	Town of Thunderbolt	
James Hungerpillar	Town of Vernonburg	
Wendall Kessler	Effingham County Board of Commissioners	
Curtis Koleber	Chatham Area Transit Authority	X
Mike Lamb	City of Pooler	
Pete Liakakis	CAT Board Chairman	X
Tom McQueen	GDOT - Office of Planning	X
Jannine Miller	EDFAC	
Tanya Milton	MPC	X
Ben Rozier	City of Bloomingdale	
Diane Schleicher	City of Tybee Island	X
Al Scott	Chatham County Commission	X
Lee Smith	Chatham County	X
Bob Tully	CAC>	X
Vacant	City of Savannah Alderman>	
Vacant	Chatham County Commissioner>	
<b><u>Regional Coordination Guest</u></b>	<b><u>Representing</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>
Ginnie Kozak	LATS MPO	X
Jeff Ricketson	Hinesville Area MPO	X
<b><u>Others Present</u></b>	<b><u>Representing</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>
Scott Allison	Richmond Hill	X
Jessica Hagan	MPO Staff	X

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Jane Love	MPO Staff	X
Nathaniel Panther	Chatham County	X
Stephanie Rossi	MPO Staff	X
Thomas Thomson	MPC Executive Director	X
Wykoda Wang	MPO Staff	X
Mike Weiner	City of Savannah	X
Mark Wilkes	MPO Staff	X
Maggie Yoder	GDOT	X

**I. Approval of Agenda**

1. [Approval of the April 27, 2016 Meeting Agenda](#)

The agenda was approved as written.

**Board Action:**

Approve the agenda as written. - PASS

**Vote Results**

Motion: James Aberson

Second: Stephanie Cutter

James Aberson	- Aye
Don Bethune	- Not Present
Jason Buelterman	- Not Present
Phillip Claxton	- Not Present
Stephanie Cutter	- Aye
Eddie Deloach	- Not Present
Mark Denmark	- Not Present
Wanda Doyle	- Not Present
Ron Feldner	- Aye
George Fidler	- Not Present
James Hungerpillar	- Not Present
Glenn Jones	- Not Present
Gregory Kelly	- Not Present
Wendall Kessler	- Not Present

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Curtis Koleber	- Aye
Mike Lamb	- Not Present
Pete Liakakis	- Aye
Tom McQueen	- Aye
Harold Fowler	- Aye
Beth Goette	- Not Present
Caroline Hankins	- Not Present
Nick Helmholdt	- Not Present
Jannine Miller	- Not Present
Tanya Milton	- Aye
Ben Rozier	- Not Present
Diane Schleicher	- Aye
Al Scott	- Aye
Pete Shonka	- Not Present
W. Lee Smith	- Aye
Bob Tully	- Aye
Kewyn Williams	- Not Present

## **II. Committee Reports (verbal)**

### **A. Advisory Committee on Accessible Transportation**

#### **2. Presentation**

Mr. James Aberson reported that the ACAT Board did not have a quorum at their April 25, 2016 meeting. No votes were taken, but those present heard the information about the agenda items.

### **B. Citizens Advisory Committee**

#### **3. Presentation**

Mr. Bob Tully stated that the CAC Board voted on the reinstatement of GPA as CORE MPO Board Voting Member and it passed 4 to 1.

The Freight Transportation Plan passed unanimously.

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**C. Economic Development and Freight Advisory Committee**

4. [Presentation](#)

No report at this time.

**D. Technical Coordinating Committee**

5. [Presentation](#)

Mr. Mark Wilkes, with the CORE MPO, stated that the Board passed all actions items and heard the status reports.

**E. Executive Director's Report**

6. [Presentation](#)

Mr. Tom Thomson noted various items in his executive report.

**III. Action Items**

7. [Approval of the March 9, 2016 Meeting Minutes](#)

Attachment: [MPO Board Meeting 03-9-16.pdf](#)

The minutes were approved as written.

**Board Action:**

Approve the minutes as written. - PASS

**Vote Results**

Motion: Bob Tully

Second: W. Lee Smith

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James Hungerpiller	- Not Present
Glenn Jones	- Not Present
Gregory Kelly	- Not Present
Wendall Kessler	- Not Present
James Aberson	- Aye
Don Bethune	- Not Present
Jason Buelterman	- Not Present
Phillip Claxton	- Not Present
Stephanie Cutter	- Aye
Eddie Deloach	- Not Present
Mark Denmark	- Not Present
Wanda Doyle	- Not Present
Ron Feldner	- Aye
George Fidler	- Aye
Harold Fowler	- Aye
Beth Goette	- Not Present
Caroline Hankins	- Not Present
Nick Helmholdt	- Not Present
Curtis Koleber	- Aye
Mike Lamb	- Not Present
Pete Liakakis	- Aye
Tom McQueen	- Aye
Jannine Miller	- Not Present
Tanya Milton	- Aye
Ben Rozier	- Not Present
Diane Schleicher	- Aye
Al Scott	- Aye
Pete Shonka	- Not Present
W. Lee Smith	- Aye
Bob Tully	- Aye
Kewyn Williams	- Not Present

8. [Reinstatement of GPA as CORE MPO Board Voting Member](#)

Attachment: [GPA reinstatement staff report.pdf](#)

Attachment: [MOU Amendments 042316.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Bylaws Amendments 042316.pdf](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang, with CORE MPO stated that the Federal Highway Administration

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(FHWA) insisted that GPA be reinstated as a voting member of the CORE MPO Board. The MPO Chairman and staff are coordinating with GPA to achieve this goal. The MOU and Bylaws need to be revised to not this change. It had been the Port's suggestion to be an advisory member, because they did not wish to participate in the dues structure.

Staff recommended approval of re-instating the Georgia Ports Authority as a voting member of the CORE MPO Board.

Mr. Bob Tully, Chairman of the CAC, told the Board that, at the April CAC meeting, there was a second motion made by Mr. John Chapman "to express our objection that the GPA is a voting member but doesn't pay it's dues and that shouldn't be something that continues" that was passed unanimously.

**Board Action:**

For approval of re-instating the Georgia Ports Authority as a voting member of the CORE MPO Board.

- PASS

**Vote Results**

Motion: Tom McQueen

Second: Harold Fowler

James Aberson	- Aye
Don Bethune	- Not Present
Jason Buelterman	- Not Present
Phillip Claxton	- Not Present
Stephanie Cutter	- Aye
Eddie Deloach	- Not Present
Mark Denmark	- Not Present
Wanda Doyle	- Not Present
Ron Feldner	- Aye
George Fidler	- Aye
Harold Fowler	- Aye
Beth Goette	- Not Present
Caroline Hankins	- Not Present

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Nick Helmholdt	- Not Present
James Hungerpiller	- Not Present
Glenn Jones	- Not Present
Gregory Kelly	- Not Present
Wendall Kessler	- Not Present
Curtis Koleber	- Aye
Mike Lamb	- Not Present
Pete Liakakis	- Aye
Tom McQueen	- Aye
Jannine Miller	- Not Present
Tanya Milton	- Aye
Ben Rozier	- Not Present
Diane Schleicher	- Aye
Al Scott	- Aye
Pete Shonka	- Not Present
W. Lee Smith	- Aye
Bob Tully	- Nay
Kewyn Williams	- Not Present

9. [CORE MPO's Freight Transportation Plan](#)

Attachment: [Freight Transportation Plan Staff Report April 2016.pdf](#)

Ms. Wang reviewed the technical memoranda.

Staff recommended adoption of the CORE MPO’s Freight Transportation Plan.

Regarding the plan's suggestion that truck traffic on Bay St. be limited to certain times of day, Mayor DeLoach asked why couldn't truck traffic on Bay St. be immediately prohibited and rerouted today?

Mr. Thomson said the City could decide to try that, but they'd need to think about where that truck traffic would go instead. That's been a concern all along. He noted that some studies exist on the question.

Mayor DeLoach suggested Truman Pkwy. to DeRenne Ave. to I-516.

To clarify the question of state DOT involvement in the decisions for Bay St., Mr. Mike Weiner with City Traffic Engineering stated that Bay Street from MLK to the east is a local street (not a state route).

Mr. Thomson stated the MPC is looking at the Land Use plan this year as part of the Comprehensive

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Plan update and part of that is to identify where the right places for freight are.

Mr. Ron Feldner stated that Garden City is working on their Comprehensive Plan update now and getting this study out to each municipality would benefit their planning exercises.

**Board Action:**

For adoption of the CORE MPO's Freight Transportation Plan. - PASS

**Vote Results**

Motion: Bob Tully

Second: James Aberson

James Aberson	- Aye
Don Bethune	- Not Present
Jason Buelterman	- Not Present
Phillip Claxton	- Not Present
Stephanie Cutter	- Aye
Eddie Deloach	- Aye
Mark Denmark	- Not Present
Wanda Doyle	- Not Present
Ron Feldner	- Aye
George Fidler	- Aye
Harold Fowler	- Aye
Beth Goette	- Not Present
Caroline Hankins	- Not Present
Nick Helmholdt	- Not Present
James Hungerpillar	- Not Present
Glenn Jones	- Not Present
Gregory Kelly	- Not Present
Wendall Kessler	- Not Present
Curtis Koleber	- Aye
Mike Lamb	- Not Present
Pete Liakakis	- Aye
Tom McQueen	- Aye
Jannine Miller	- Not Present



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Tanya Milton	- Aye
Ben Rozier	- Not Present
Diane Schleicher	- Aye
Al Scott	- Aye
Pete Shonka	- Not Present
W. Lee Smith	- Aye
Bob Tully	- Aye
Kewyn Williams	- Not Present

10. [Amendments to FY 2017 UPWP](#)

Attachment: [FY 2017 UPWP Illustratives funded.pdf](#)

Attachment: [2017 CORE MPO UPWP Complete.pdf](#)

Mr. Mark Wilkes, gave a review of the amendment that included the three newly funded projects. The three projects are: Task 3 3.1 Socio- Economic Data, Task 4 4.1 Congestion Management Process and Task 4 4.13A Transportation Demand Management Strategies.

Staff recommended that the MPO Board approve the amendment to the FY 2017 UPWP. Board members had no questions or comments.

**Board Action:**

Adoption of amendments to the CORE MPO FY 2017 UPWP to add three projects funded by the PL Funds Review Committee. - PASS

**Vote Results**

Motion: Bob Tully

Second: James Aberson

James Aberson	- Aye
Don Bethune	- Not Present
Jason Buelterman	- Not Present
Phillip Claxton	- Not Present
Stephanie Cutter	- Aye
Eddie Deloach	- Aye
Mark Denmark	- Not Present
Wanda Doyle	- Not Present
Ron Feldner	- Aye
George Fidler	- Aye

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Harold Fowler	- Aye
Beth Goette	- Not Present
Caroline Hankins	- Not Present
Nick Helmholdt	- Not Present
James Hungerpiller	- Not Present
Glenn Jones	- Not Present
Gregory Kelly	- Not Present
Wendall Kessler	- Not Present
Curtis Koleber	- Aye
Mike Lamb	- Not Present
Pete Liakakis	- Aye
Tom McQueen	- Aye
Jannine Miller	- Not Present
Tanya Milton	- Aye
Ben Rozier	- Not Present
Diane Schleicher	- Aye
Al Scott	- Aye
Pete Shonka	- Not Present
W. Lee Smith	- Aye
Bob Tully	- Aye
Kewyn Williams	- Not Present

**IV. Other Business**

**V. Status Reports**

11. [Road Diet Feasibility Study Scoping](#)

Attachment: [Documentation Study Need.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Road Diet Study Scope and Budget General Revised 03-30-2016.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Preliminary Study Location Suggestions.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Road Diet Candidate Locations.pdf](#)

Ms. Jane Love, with CORE MPO, reviewed in detail the Road Diet Feasibility Study scoping. City of Savannah staff had met after the scoping meeting in March and recently informed her, that as a group, they were recommending proceeding with previous ideas, such as doing something for Wheaton St./Liberty St. corridor, or something for bicycles and pedestrians at Forsyth Park.

Savannah City Manager Stephanie Cutter noted that the City wishes to make progress on

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Complete Streets, given the ordinance that had been passed by the City. Savannah Mayor Eddie DeLoach said he would like to see more projects like the Price Street conversion -- slowing traffic was a good thing. Richmond Hill Mayor Harold Fowler said that their neighborhoods need some bicycle and pedestrian connections to destinations. Mr. Tom McQueen, of GDOT Planning Department, said that regarding the idea for a road diet on the Bay Street viaduct, he had looked back and found that a rationale for the third westbound lane there was related to deployments using the Ocean Terminal.

Ms. Love noted that actual implementation of road diets are relatively inexpensive, and therefore may not be something the agencies would want to use federal money on, since the federally required process would be out of proportion to the amount of funds. The proposal here was to use a small portion of the MPO's federal funding on a study -- to look at the questions inherent in such ideas -- questions that engineers would need answered and that would obviously be raised by the citizens.

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

### **A. Georgia Department of Transportation**

#### 12. [Presentation](#)

Ms. Maggie Yoder reviewed status of projects on the GDOT handout.

### **B. Member Governments**

#### 13. [Presentation](#)

Chatham County: Mr. Nathaniel Panther, gave a brief update on the Jimmy DeLoach projects.

City of Savannah: Mr. Mike Weiner, reviewed the statuses of City projects from the City's handout.

City of Richmond Hill: Mr. Scott Allison, gave the status on a few projects in Richmond Hill. They are finishing some sidewalks.

City of Garden City: Mr. Ron Feldner, gave the status on a few projects in Garden City. Some work on Chatham Pkwy. has some state funding.

**C. Chatham Area Transit Authority**

14. [Presentation](#)

Mr. Nick Helmholdt stated that Chatham Area Transit was awarded Passenger Ferry discretionary grant and they will use that money to do some maintenance on three of the ferries. They are currently working on another grant for buses. He also stated that on May 25, 2016 Mr. Charles Sisk with Denver Regional Transportation District will be presenting on the successes they've had with certain transit ideas there.

**D. Georgia Ports Authority**

15. [Presentation](#)

No report at this time.

**E. Savannah-Hilton Head International Airport**

16. [Presentation](#)

Mr. George Fidler gave the status on some projects going on at the airport. They are planning for some improvements for baggage handling and for international processing.

**F. Hinesville Area MPO (neighboring MPO)**

17. [Presentation](#)

No report at this time.

**G. Low-country Area Transportation Study (neighboring MPO)**

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18. [Presentation](#)

Ms. Ginnie Kozak gave a few updates: On the US 17 widening, they expect that letting is about two years away; negotiations will be needed with GDOT about a parallel bridge. Regarding the Palmetto Breeze bus system, they will make efforts to coordinate with CAT, but right now they are waiting for FTA to officially designate Palmetto Breeze.

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

**VIII. Announcements**

19. [Public Meeting for CORE MPO Federal Certification Review: May 23, 2016, 5:30 p.m. at MPC, 112 E. State Street](#)

Attachment: [CORE MPC TMA Certification Questions - Answered 4-15-15.pdf](#)

Attachment: [FTA TMA Cert Questions - Answered 4-15-15.pdf](#)

20. [Next CORE MPO Board: June 22, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.](#)

**IX. Other Non-Agenda Information for Reference**

21. [TIP Administrative Modification: Addendum for Fort Pulaski Bridge Replacement](#)

Attachment: [March2016 Administrative Modification.pdf](#)

**X. Adjournment**