

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

June 22, 2016 Regular Meeting of the CORE MPO Board

| <u>Voting Members</u> | <u>Representing</u> | <u>Present</u> |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| James Aberson | ACAT | |
| 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 | |
| Krystal Harris | GDOT - Office of Planning | X |
| James Hungerpiller | Town of Vernonburg | |
| Wendall Kessler | Effingham County Commission | X |
| Curtis Koleber | Chatham Area Transit Authority | |
| Mike Lamb | City of Pooler | |
| Pete Liakakis | CAT Board | |
| Jannine Miller | EDFAC | |
| Tanya Milton | MPC | |
| 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 | |

| <u>Regional Coordination Guests</u> | <u>Representing</u> | <u>Present</u> |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Ginnie Kozak | LATS MPO | X |
| Nils Gustavson | Hinesville Area MPO | X |

| <u>Others Present</u> | <u>Representing</u> | <u>Present</u> |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 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 |
| Mark Wilkes | MPO Staff | X |
| Maggie Yoder | GDOT | X |

I. Approval of Agenda

1. [Approval of the June 22, 2016 Meeting Agenda](#)

The agenda was approved as written.

Board Action:

Approve the agenda as written. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Bob Tully
 Second: W. Lee Smith

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| Phillip Claxton | - Not Present |
| Stephanie Cutter | - Aye |
| Mark Denmark | - Aye |
| Ron Feldner | - Aye |
| Eddie Deloach | - Aye |
| Harold Fowler | - Aye |
| Krystal Harris | - Aye |
| Wendall Kessler | - Aye |
| Curtis Koleber | - Not Present |
| Pete Liakakis | - Not Present |
| Jannine Miller | - Not Present |
| Tanya Milton | - Not Present |
| Diane Schleicher | - Not Present |
| Al Scott | - Aye |
| W. Lee Smith | - Aye |

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Bob Tully

- Aye

II. Committee Reports (verbal)

A. Advisory Committee on Accessible Transportation

2. [Presentation](#)

Ms. Jane Love reported that Advisory Committee on Accessible Transportation did not have a quorum at their June 20, 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 they had endorsed the TIP updates.

C. Economic Development and Freight Advisory Committee

4. [Presentation](#)

No report at this time.

D. Technical Coordinating Committee

5. [Presentation](#)

Mr. Nathaniel Panther, TCC Chairman, stated that the TCC passed all actions items and heard the status reports. He had been elected Chairman at that meeting and Scott Allison had been elected Vice Chairman.

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E. Executive Director's Report

6. [Presentation](#)

Mr. Tom Thomson noted various items in his executive report. In further response to the question the Savannah Mayor Eddie DeLoach had asked during the TCC report, he clarified that the TCC was mostly made of local staff and has an advisory role to this Board. Mr. Thomson noted the new federal rule on planning had been released and would be shared. He also pointed out that the Board members had before them the MPO staff notes on what they had heard verbally from the Federal Highway Administration Georgia Division staff at the wrap-up meeting during the federal certification review. He concluded his report by giving some statewide statistics.

III. Action Items

7. [Approval of the April 27, 2016 Meeting Minutes](#)

Attachment: [MPO Board Minutes 4-27-16.pdf](#)

The minutes were approved as written.

Board Action:

Approve the minutes as written. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Bob Tully
Second: Eddie DeLoach
Diane Schleicher - Not Present
Al Scott - Aye
W. Lee Smith - Aye
Bob Tully - Aye
Phillip Claxton - Not Present
Stephanie Cutter - Aye
Eddie DeLoach - Aye
Mark Denmark - Aye
Ron Feldner - Aye
Harold Fowler - Aye

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|-----------------|---------------|
| Krystal Harris | - Aye |
| Wendall Kessler | - Aye |
| Curtis Koleber | - Not Present |
| Pete Liakakis | - Not Present |
| Jannine Miller | - Not Present |
| Tanya Milton | - Not Present |

8. [FY 2015 – 2018 Transportation Improvement Program Updates](#)

Attachment: [FY 2015-2018 TIP Amendment Staff Report June 2016 Updated.pdf](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang, with CORE MPO, explained that because of the funding changes resulting from the FAST Act (the new federal transportation legislation) and HB 170 (the State of Georgia transportation bill), the state DOT would be unable to provide the MPO with the revenue projections for the development and adoption of a new FY 2017 – 2020 TIP by June 30, 2016. Thus the current FY 2015 – 2018 TIP remains the CORE MPO’s guiding programming document.

However, she noted that there are some changes proposed, largely shifting certain projects' phases from FY 2016 to future years if they won't be authorized by June 30, because the state's fiscal year is about to roll over into FY 2017 on July 1. There are also some changes for cost estimates and for adding project phases: Truman Linear Park Trail is proposed to be split into two geographic segments, now that the revised concept is approved, with a cost increase for the southern portion; funding would be removed from the Sector 13 Studies; on the culvert replacements at SR 25 and Pipemaker's Canal a PE phase would be added; a construction phase would be added in FY 2017 for Islands Expressway Bridge Replacement; a PE phase would be added for the I-95 at I-16 interchange reconstruction; utility and construction phases would be added for the SR 144 widening; the Section 5307 Passenger Ferry program would be updated to reflect CAT's recent grant award; the Congestion Management Process update would be removed from the TIP because it now has discretionary Highway Planning funds which are reflected in the Unified Planning Work Program instead of the TIP.

The Chairman opened the public meeting.

There were no comments from the public.

There was some discussion between Board and staff about reasons Truman Linear Park Trail has taken many years to get going, and suggestions that the restraining cables in median of I-16 should be extended farther to the west, given that five people were killed that morning when a vehicle crossed the median.

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Staff Recommended: approval of proposed updates to the FY 2015 - 2018 Transportation Improvement Program.

Board Action:

For CORE MPO Board approval of proposed updates to the FY 2015 - 2018 Transportation Improvement Program. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Diane Schleicher

Second: W. Lee Smith

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| Phillip Claxton | - Not Present |
| Stephanie Cutter | - Aye |
| Eddie Deloach | - Aye |
| Mark Denmark | - Aye |
| Ron Feldner | - Aye |
| Harold Fowler | - Aye |
| Krystal Harris | - Aye |
| Wendall Kessler | - Aye |
| Curtis Koleber | - Not Present |
| Pete Liakakis | - Not Present |
| Jannine Miller | - Not Present |
| Tanya Milton | - Not Present |
| Diane Schleicher | - Aye |
| Al Scott | - Aye |
| W. Lee Smith | - Aye |
| Bob Tully | - Aye |

IV. Other Business

V. Status Reports

9. [Congestion Management Process Report Card](#)

Attachment: [2016 CMP Report Card.pdf](#)

Mr. Mark Wilkes, with CORE MPO, stated the CMP report card is responsive to the Federal Highway Administration's recommendation for reviewing current and projected

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congestion in comparison to the baseline of the 2003/2004 CMP. It evaluates the effectiveness of completed congestion mitigation measures since the initial CMP. It forecasts future congestion, which informs the MTP and TIP.

He noted that the prior data showed that congestion in many cases was on segments where improvements were already planned. He concluded that 90% of the congested segments have been addressed.

10. [Montgomery Street Two-Way Traffic Study Final Report](#)

Attachment: [Montgomery St One to Two Way Report 4.26.16 Reduced.pdf](#)

Mr. Wilkes stated the study focused on the feasibility of returning two-way traffic to Montgomery Street between Oglethorpe and Broughton Street to improve the circulation for the planned Cultural Arts Center. Two alternatives have been identified. Alternative 1, with two northbound lanes, one southbound lane, and less parking retained has about the same level of service for the streets in the area as the current configuration -- except for the intersection of Montgomery St. and Oglethorpe Ave. in the year 2037. Alternative 2, with one travel lane each direction, but more parking preserved, has slightly lower level of service on the area streets for most analysis periods.

The analysis takes the I-16 ramp as is because the Cultural Arts Center is expected to happen quite soon, before any potential ramp removal could occur.

This study provides assistance to the decision-makers, but no recommendation for which alternative.

11. [FY 2017 UPWP Revised for Additional GDOT Comments](#)

Attachment: [2017 CORE MPO UPWP Amend 1 Reduced GDOT Third Round Comments.pdf](#)

Mr. Wilkes said that in May, staff received another six minor comments from GDOT on the amended Unified Planning Work Program, which had been approved at the April CORE MPO Board meeting. Staff addressed those comments administratively. He referred to an appendix. This item was provided for information.

VI. Information Reports (verbal)

A. Georgia Department of Transportation

12. [Presentation](#)

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Ms. Maggie Yoder introduced Byron Cowart, who will be attending from District Five henceforth, and then she reviewed status of projects on the GDOT handout.

B. Member Governments

13. [Presentation](#)

Chatham County: Mr. Nathaniel Panther, stated the Final Field Plan Review for Islands Expressway Bridge project will be held in July 2016 and the Final Field Plan Review for Jimmy DeLoach Pkwy Extension will be in August 2016.

City of Richmond Hill: Mr. Scott Allison, he stated that a new Richmond Hill representative was appointed to the CORE MPO CAC . The Crossroads project (SR 144 and US 17) is progressing.

City of Garden City: Mr. Ron Feldner, stated that they have a contract with their mixed use developer for Town Center and we will be doing some transportation improvements within Town Center.

City of Tybee Island: Ms. Diane Schleicher, stated they are working with DOT to get encroachment permits to do the first phase of the Marsh Hen Trail. They hope to start construction probably mid December.

C. Chatham Area Transit Authority

14. [Presentation](#)

Mr. Grant Sparks, senior planner at CAT, said that the Interim Director Curtis Koleber is in Atlanta for a grant award announcement, so they hope to have some good news next time.

D. Georgia Ports Authority

15. [Presentation](#)

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No report at this time.

E. Savannah-Hilton Head International Airport

16. [Presentation](#)

No report at this time.

F. Hinesville Area MPO (neighboring MPO)

17. [Presentation](#)

Mr. Nils Gustavson stated they had a big ground breaking on one of their economic development projects. It is about 25 acres that will have many stores and restaurants. Also, the transit system will be using some transit funds for sidewalk improvements in vicinity of stops.

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

18. [Presentation](#)

Ms. Ginnie Kozak gave a few updates: On the US 17 widening, they expect that letting is about two years away. It will include a bike lane that will be apart of the East Coast Greenway. 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. [Next CORE MPO Board Meeting: August 24, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.](#)

20. [Comprehensive Plan Update](#)

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It was announced that an online survey is available for public input into the update of the Comprehensive Plan.

IX. Other Non-Agenda Information for Reference

X. Adjournment