



CORE MPO Board

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

October 25, 2017 Meeting of the CORE MPO Board

<u>Voting Members</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Present</u>
James Aberson	Advisory Committee on Accessible Transportation	X
Phillip Claxton	City of Port Wentworth	
Wesley Corbitt	Effingham County Commission	
Eddie DeLoach	City of Savannah	
Ron Feldner	City of Garden City	X
George Fidler	Savannah Airport Commission	X
Harold Fowler	City of Richmond Hill	
Howard French	Chatham Area Transit Board of Directors	X
Shawn Gillen	City of Tybee Island	X
Caroline Hankins	Town of Thunderbolt	
James Hungerpiller	Town of Vernonberg	
Curtis Koleber	Chatham Area Transit Authority	X
Mike Lamb	City of Pooler	
Tom McQueen	Georgia Department of Transportation	X
James Overton	Metropolitan Planning Commission	X
Ben Rozier	City of Bloomingdale	
Al Scott	Chatham County Commission	X
Pete Shonka	City of Savannah	X
Lee Smith	Chatham County	X
Bob Tully	Citizens Advisory Committee	X
Vacant	Economic Development & Freight Advisory Committee	
Vacant	Chatham County	
Vacant	Savannah	
<u>Regional Coordination Guests</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Present</u>
Ginnie Kozak	LATS MPO	X
Jeff Ricketson	HAMPO	X
<u>Others</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Present</u>
Pam Bernard	Chatham County Engineering	X
Byron Cowart	GDOT - District Five	X
Jane Love	CORE MPO	X
Nathaniel Panther	Chatham County Engineering	X
Elizabeth Rankins	WTOC	X
Stephanie Rossi	CORE MPO	X
Grant Sparks	Chatham Area Transit Authority	X
Wykoda Wang	CORE MPO	X
Mark Wilkes	CORE MPO	X

I. Approval of Agenda

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as written.

II. Committee Reports (verbal)

2. Reports

ACAT -- Mr. James Aberson reported that the committee had not had a quorum, but they are taking steps to remove inactive members and seek interested parties to take those seats.

CAC -- Mr. Bob Tully stated that the CAC had endorsed the action items. There had been one dissenting vote on the TIP Amendment.

TCC -- Mr. Nathaniel Panther stated that the TCC had endorsed the TIP Amendment and the UPWP Amendment.

Executive Director's Report -- Mr. Mark Wilkes reported that, in September, he had attended the Georgia Association of MPOs review committee meeting for selection of the discretionary awards of highway planning funds. CORE MPO has two studies awarded: I-16 at Jimmy DeLoach Pkwy. Interchange Study and I-95 at Airways Ave./Pooler Pkwy. Interchange Study. He also noted that the Association of MPOs had held their national conference in Savannah last week, and staff had attended. The conference attracted about 350 participants from across the country, which was a very good turn-out.

III. Action Items

[3. Approval of the Aug. 23, 2017 CORE MPO Board Meeting Minutes](#)

The minutes of the Aug. 23, 2017 meeting of the CORE MPO Board were approved as written.

[4. Approval of the 2018 Meeting Schedule](#)

Ms. Jane Love directed the Board's attention to the draft schedule of meetings for 2018 calendar year. There were no comments. A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2018 Meeting Schedule. The motion passed with none opposed.

[5. Amendments to FY 2018 - 2021 Transportation Improvement Program](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang reported that the proposed TIP amendment would shift the construction and utility phases of the Hwy 144 widening in Richmond Hill into 2022 in GDOT's work program, which is a year outside of the current TIP. She said GDOT had informed staff that environmental analysis required shifting the project from FY 2018 into a later year, and that financial balancing would not allow the project to fit into the later year's of the TIP without negatively affecting projects already programmed in those years. This amendment also slightly increases the cost estimate. Staff recommended approval of the amendment to the FY 2018-2021 TIP.

PUBLIC HEARING: The Chairman opened the public hearing on the TIP amendment. There were no comments. He closed the public hearing.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the amendment to the FY 2018-2021 TIP. The motion passed with one dissenting vote from Mr. Tully.

[6. Amendments to FY 2018 Unified Planning Work Program](#)

Ms. Wang reported that the amendment to the FY 2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) would add the two studies that are receiving discretionary highway planning funds: I-16 at Jimmy DeLoach Pkwy. Interchange Study and I-95 at Airways Ave./Pooler Pkwy. Interchange Study. Each has \$400,000, with 20% of each being local match from the major stakeholders: Chatham County and Savannah Airport Commission, respectively. The studies will be performed by consultants and managed by MPO staff. Staff recommended approval of the amendment to the FY 2018 UPWP. A motion was made and seconded to amend the FY 2018 UPWP. The motion passed with none opposed.

IV. Other Business

[7. Other Business](#)

There was no other business for Board action.

V. Status Reports

[8. Awards of Discretionary Highway Planning Funds](#)

Mr. Mark Wilkes updated the Board on results for all proposals the Board had approved in August for submission to the Georgia Association of MPOs (GAMPO) Review Committee for Discretionary Highway Planning Funds. Besides the two interchange studies already reported as receiving awards, three CORE MPO submittals had been rejected by the veto authority. These proposals were: Metropolitan Transportation Plan Development Assistance; Transit Asset Management Plan; and Streetcar Study. This item was presented for information; no action was needed or taken.

9. Update on the Development of the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

Ms. Jane Love reviewed the items on the project schedule and activities to date on the development of the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). The process will take about two years. This is the MPO's long range plan, looking out at least 20 years. Development of the socioeconomic data is underway. Next staff will gather information on completed projects in order for GDOT to update the network in the travel demand model. There will be discussion and input on the plan's goals and objectives this winter as well as Board action on the MPO's target for the Safety performance measure, required by US DOT. The draft plan will be ready for public comment in the summer of 2019, and considered for adoption by August 27, 2019. This item was provided for information; no action was needed or taken.

10. Safety Targets

Ms. Stephanie Rossi explained the MPO's deadline and overall options for adoption of the Safety performance measure target, required by the federal legislation of MAP-21 and FAST Act. The deadline is February 27, 2018, because that is six months after the state's adoption of a target, which occurred in August. The MPO can consider whether to support the state's selected safety target or identify its own target. The latter would require more time on data collection, analysis and reporting. She will talk about this again at the next meeting. She introduced Dave Adams from GDOT who came to explain the state's safety target identification process. Mr. Adams gave a detailed presentation on the historical trends and projections, based on rolling five-year averages, on the five US DOT safety measures: number of fatalities, rate of fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled, number of serious injuries, rate of serious injuries per 100 million vehicle miles traveled, and number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries. GDOT's targets on these are to be under the projected trend line. The targets are reevaluated each year based on the most recent five-year period. If the MPO chooses its own Safety target, some considerations are: the variety of software, training, and reporting among the law enforcement agencies throughout the MPO planning area, the lack of MPO boundary information within the crash data, and some amount of GIS inaccuracy in the historical crash data. In response to a question from the Board, Mr. Adams stated that there is no funding associated with the target, but there are theoretical penalties for the state: using Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds only on projects in the state's HSIP, but GDOT already does this. This report was presented for information; action was not taken at this time.

VI. Information Reports (verbal)

11. Reports

GDOT -- Mr. Byron Cowart reviewed the status of projects on the handout sheet.

Chatham County -- Ms. Pam Barnard reviewed the status of project's on the County's project sheet.

Effingham County -- No report.

Savannah -- No report.

Richmond Hill -- No report.

Pooler -- No report.

Garden City -- Mr. Ron Feldner said that the Chatham Parkway upgrade would have all lanes open before Thanksgiving and final items wrapped up by early January.

Port Wentworth -- No report.

Tybee Island -- Mr. Shawn Gillen reported that Tybee had seen 577 homes flooded during Hurricane Irma. The hauling of debris was concluded this week. The City is applying for a grant to raze some homes.

Bloomingtondale -- No report.

Thunderbolt -- No report.

Vernonburg -- No report.

Chatham Area Transit -- Mr. Grant Sparks said that CAT had submitted applications for Discretionary Ferry Boat funding. These would be for a maintenance facility on Hutchinson Island and for a new west river ferry dock, which is estimated to cost \$1.5 million. CAT will learn in early 2018 if awarded and, if so, the projects would be proposed for inclusion in the MPO's Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. James Aberson noted that, at the ACAT meeting, CAT staff had reported that 20 of the 36 paratransit vehicles were down that particular day. He asked Mr. Sparks about the status of the new vans. CAT will be able to place the order next week and the vehicles should arrive in about two months.

Savannah Airport Commission -- Mr. George Fidler reported that the Airways Ave. resurfacing is finished. The airport will be adding four more gates and an express ramp.

Hinesville Area MPO -- no report.

Lowcountry Area MPO -- Ms. Ginnie Kozak said that the US 17 widening should begin in less than a year. Their MPO is also working on Safety targets. SC is #1 in fatalities.

VII. Other Public Comments (limit to 3 minutes)

VIII. Announcements

[12. Next CORE MPO Board meeting: Dec. 13, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. in the MPC Hearing Room](#)

IX. Other Non-Agenda Information for Reference

X. Adjournment

[13. Adjournment](#)

There being no further business, the October 25, 2017 meeting of the CORE MPO Board was adjourned.

The Chatham County - Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission provides meeting summary minutes which are adopted by the respective Board. Verbatim transcripts of minutes are the responsibility of the interested party.