Southern Georgia Regional Commission

Valdosta-Lowndes MPO

Minutes
Policy Committee
June 6, 2018
10:30 AM

Members Present	**Organization**
Bill Slaughter	Lowndes County
Justin DeVane	Brooks County
Lisa Cribb	SGRC
Tom McQueen	GDOT
Bruce Cain	Hahira
Joe Prichard	Lowndes County
Others Present	
Corey Hull	SGRC
Amy Martin	SGRC
Taylor Marzell	SGRC
Kenneth Franks	GDOT-TIA
Ann-Marie Day	FHWA

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order
Mr. Slaughter called the meeting to order at 10:34 a.m.

Agenda Item #2 – Introductions/Roll Call
Mr. Slaughter asked those present to introduce themselves.

Agenda Item #3 – Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes/ TIA Briefing
The committee did not have a quorum so the minutes could not be approved. Mr. Slaughter stated that the committee membership roster should be updated to reflect Mark Barber as the new Vice-Chair.

Mr. Slaughter asked that Mr. Franks go ahead and give the committee some information on TIA. Mr. Franks explained that they will be doing some updated agreements with the Department of Revenue, which will collect the money, and GSFIC (Georgia State Financing and Investment Commission) will be holding the money and disbursing the 25% discretionary funds to each municipality. The tax revenue will start collection on October 1, 2018 and local municipalities will see the first deposit of the discretionary funds on the last business day of November. We are currently working with GSFIC and the regional commission to get out a letter requesting the banking information for each municipality. The projects will be programmed in the next few months and we will be updating our TIA agreement and our website. TIA staff will be able to answer any questions as well as the website which will be updated a little later. Mr. Slaughter asked if there is flexibility where some of the third band projects can be moved into the first or second band. Mr. Franks stated that it has been done before in other regions, usually we work with the Citizens Review Panel to make these changes. Currently, the Southern Georgia Region does not have one. The department is going to reach out to the Lt. Governor and the Speaker of the House to make their appointees. We will need a recommendation from the CRP. Mr. Hull stated that there was a discussion this morning concerning the bands. The ROW, PE and other planning will begin in band one or two. The projects in the third band represent the construction phase. Mr. Slaughter asked if local government officials have input as to who serves on the CRP or is it strictly lt. governor and speaker appointed. Mr. Franks responded that the Lt. Governor appoints two persons and the Speaker appoints three. Ms. Cribb asked if being a citizen of the region was the only criteria to serve on the CRP. Mr. Hull responded that is correct. Mr. Hull stated that Mr. Franks will be down on June 28th to discuss next steps in the TIA process at the Regional Council meeting and that he will have a separate meeting at the SGRC.

Agenda Item #4– New Business

A. Election of Officers
Action: Vote for Approval
Mr. Slaughter stated that the committee would not be able to elect officers due to lack of a quorum.

B. Policy Committee By-laws
Action: Discussion
Mr. Hull directed the committee to a map on the screen and gave a brief update concerning the MPO boundary and notified the committee that Ray City annexed land that is within the MPO area and have now become formal partner of the metropolitan planning process and will have a rotating seat on the

Policy Committee. Mr. Hull stated that there has to be a 2/3 majority vote of members at the September meeting to add Ray City to the By-laws and the MOU.

C. Transportation Demand Management

Mr. Hull introduced Ms. Marzell and notified the committee that she will be presenting information on Transportation Demand Management. He also notified the committee that Ms. Marzell, who has been working with the Regional Commission for almost a year, will be leaving the Regional Commission and going to work with the City of Valdosta. Ms. Marzell presented a concise, brief overview of transportation demand management. The presentation covered flextime, telecommuting and other means that would allow for declined congestion and better flow of traffic, especially during peak hours. Ms. Marzell notified the committee that the complete Transportation Demand Management Report will be available at the end of June. Mr. Davenport asked Ms. Marzell's opinion of what she thought would be the best strategies for the Valdosta/Lowndes County area. Ms. Marzell responded that the next steps would be for the stakeholders to do more research and discuss options that will fit the community. Ms. Day asked if financial impacts were considered in the report. Ms. Marzell stated that it does not have direct figures for our area. Ms. Day recommended that financial costs be included so that people will be more open to considering the strategies. Mr. Collins stated that the Traffic Signalization Optimization Study does have some examples and provide dollar values in the report and that may be helpful in that area.

D. VLMPO Orientation Handbook (CAC)

Mr. Hull briefly explained that this handbook was created more so for the CAC so that they could better understand the MPO process.

Agenda Item #5– Staff Update

A. Socioeconomic Study

Mr. Hull stated that the 2045 Socioeconomic Data Study should be wrapped up by September 30, 2018.

B. Regional Connectivity Study

Mr. Hull notified the committee that the RFP for Regional Connectivity Study will be sent out on July 1st, 2018, with hopes that it will be under contract by October 1, 2018

C. GAMPO Performance Measures Agreement

Mr. Hull directed the committee to turn to page 19 in the agenda packet. Mr. Hull explained that the Georgia Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (GAMPO) as an organization was able to sign a Safety Performance Measures agreement to cover all of the MPO's in Georgia and avoid amending the MOU; however, this committee will need to open our MOU separately from this to add Ray City.

D. Complete Streets Policy Update

Mr. Hull stated due to staff changes the Complete Streets Policy has been pushed back.

Agenda Item #6 – Privilege of the Floor/Public Comment

Mr. DeVane thanked Mayor Gayle and the Chairman Slaughter for their help with the Regional TSPLOST. Mr. DeVane also thanked staff at the Regional Commission for their role in administering

the TSPLOST process. Chairman Slaughter thanked Mr. DeVane for his accolades and stated that it was a lot of work but it will be great for the communities in the region.
Corey notified the committee that Cleopatra James, GDOT project manager for Exits 22 and 29, was at the TAC meeting to give an update on those projects; however, she was not able to attend this meeting so I will provide the update to you all. Mr. Hull notified the committee that Exits 22 and 29 are ahead of schedule by 12% and there will be 48 months of construction time approximately, so we anticipate completion by 2021. Mr. Hull continued, Exits 2 and 11 are moving along but are a little behind on the base line schedule due to adding roundabouts in final design.

Agenda Item #7 - Next Meeting Date and Time
The next meeting will be Wednesday, September 5, 2018, 10:30 AM at the SGRC office.

Agenda Item #8 – Adjournment
Mr. Davenport made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned.