Southern Georgia Regional Commission

Valdosta-Lowndes MPO

Minutes
Citizens Advisory Committee
June 5, 2018
3:00 PM

CAC Members Present	**Organization**
James Parker	City of Valdosta
Keith Sandlin	City of Lake Park
Bob Wilbers	Lowndes County
Vanessa Flucas	City of Valdosta
Alvin Payton	Wiregrass
Stan Crance	VLDA
Ronald Skrine	Lowndes County
Myrna Ballard	Valdosta-Lowndes Chamber
Alvin Payton	Wiregrass
Carroll Griffin	Remerton
Steve Barnes	Leadership Lowndes
Bill Branham	City of Valdosta
James Galloway	Airport Authority
Phil Hubbard	Lowndes County
Ray Sable	Valdosta State University
Michael Cooper	CVDA
Debbie Hobdy	MIDS Transport
Others Present	
Sandra Tooley	Valdosta City Council
Amy Martin	SGRC
Corey Hull	SGRC
Taylor Marzell	SGRC

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order
Mr. Branham called the meeting to order at 3:03 PM.

Agenda Item #2 – Introductions/Roll Call
Mr. Branham asked those present to introduce themselves and state their affiliation with the committee.

Agenda Item #3 – Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes
Mr. Branham asked the committee members to review the March 6th, 2018 meeting minutes for the CAC. Dr. Payton made a motion to approve the CAC minutes. Ms. Flucas seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous; the motion carried.

Agenda Item #4– New Business

A. Election of Officers
Action: Vote for Approval
Mr. Branham opened the floor for nominations. Mr. Branham made a motion to nominate Ms. Flucas for Chair of the CAC. Ms. Ballard seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous; the motion carried. Ms. Flucas made a motion to nominate Dr. Payton for Vice-Chair of the CAC. Dr. Payton stated that he may be unable to serve on the CAC as a representative of Wiregrass Technical College due to retiring soon. Ms. Flucas made a motion to nominate Chief Skrine as the Vice-Chair of the CAC. Dr. Payton seconded the motion. Ms. Flucas made a motion to nominate Mr. Crance for Secretary. Dr. Payton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous; the motion passed. Mr. Galloway made a motion to accept all nominees and their respective positions (Ms. Flucas to serve as Chairman, Chief Skrine to serve as Vice-Chair, and Mr. Crance to serve as Secretary). Mr. Galloway made a motion to accept all nominees and their respective roles. Dr. Payton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous; the motion carried.

B. Policy Committee By-Laws
Action: Discussion
Does not apply to CAC.

C. Transportation Demand Management Presentation
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. Dr. Payton asked does the report take into account people travelling into Lowndes County and Valdosta. Mr. Hull responded that yes and no. The study mainly focuses on using the built environment and other options already in place to help reduce congestion. Ms. Tooley asked if staff had any idea of where some the people using the park and ride lot where coming from. Mr. Hull replied no. Chief Skrine asked what method is staff using to gather information through surveys, etc. Mr. Hull responded that we have a couple of ways that we gather information, the U.S. Census Bureau, the National Household Travel Survey, and other data sources; at this point we have not done any

surveys. Ms.Flucas stated that the City of Valdosta had a survey performed a year ago in conjuction with housing that surveyed the top five employers concerning transportation needs. Ms. Ballard asked what did that survey find. Ms. Flucas stated that the study found that most people prefer their private vehicle. Ms. Flucas continued that the study that was completed by Mr. Dillard at the regional commission found that many people would prefer a transportation survey. However, the studies contrasted due to the demographics that were being surveyed. Ms. Ballard asked Ms. Marzell in her expert opinion what should be the next step knowing what we know now. Ms. Marzell responded that these are a few of the strategies for this area but more research should be done and discuss strategies at later meetings. A discussion ensued concerning possible strategies.

D. VLMPO Orientation Handbook

Mr. Hull explained the VLMPO handbook walks everyone through what the MPO is and gives a brief overview of the process and the MPO. Mr. Hull asked if anyone had any questions about the handbook.

Agenda Item #5– Staff Update

A. 2045 Socioeconomic Data Study

Prior to discussing the socioeconomic data study, Mr. Hull notified the committee that the Regional TSPLOST did pass in our region and that collections will begin on October 1, 2018 and governments will see a distribution check as early as November 30, 2018. Mr. Branham asked since the tax passed in the region, will the funds for Lowndes County and the City of Valdosta be affected because it was voted down in here. Mr. Hull responded that the revenue that the city and county is to receive will not be affected. Mr. Branham asked if the City of Valdosta and Lowndes County still vote on a public transit system. Mr. Hull replied that they can. Mr. Branham asked if the 25% revenue would be enough to help pay for a transit system. Mr. Hull responded that it would not be enough to cover it fully and if it started it would not last long and also that the federal government particularly wants to see a long-term tax in place to sustain transit. A discussion ensued concerning TSPLOST projects. Mr. Parker stated that when ok'ing subdivisions that the committees and elected officials consider the costs of upgrading roads after subdivisions are built and possibly putting that at the forefront when deciding to allow subdivisions. Mr. Hull stated that the 2045 Socioeconomic Data Study should be wrapped up by September 30, 2018. A discussion ensued.

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.

D. Complete Streets Policy Update
Mr. Hull explained that due to staff changes and pressing projects the complete streets policy update has been pushed back but will be completed at a later date.

Agenda Item #6 – Privilege of the Floor/Public Comment
Chief Skrine asked was there any update concerning Exit 22. Mr. Hull stated that he will get an update on the project and report back to the committee. Chief Skrine also asked about trains as a means of transportation for this area. Mr. Hull responded that GDOT has released that they will be doing a new State Passenger Rail Plan.

Agenda Item #7 - Next Meeting Date and Time
The next CAC meeting will be Tuesday, September 4, 2018 @ 3:00 PM at the SGRC office.

Agenda Item #8 – Adjournment
Mr. Parker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Payton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous; the meeting was adjourned.