Southern Georgia Regional Commission

Valdosta-Lowndes MPO

Minutes
Technical Advisory Committee
June 6, 2018
9:00 AM

Members Present	**Organization**
Tim Warren	GDOT
Mike Fletcher	Lowndes County
Pat Collins	City of Valdosta
William Eastin	GDOT
Others Present	
Dennis Carter	GDOT
Cleopatra James	GDOT
Kenneth Franks	GDOT-TIA
Corey Hull	SGRC
Taylor Marzell	SGRC
Amy Martin	SGRC
Ann-Marie Day	FHWA
Clinton Ford	GDOT

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order
Mr. Fletcher called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

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

Agenda Item #3 – Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes
Mr. Fletcher asked the committee members to review the February 22, 2018 meeting minutes. Mr. Fletcher stated that the attendance sheet has Mr. Collins as being absent but he was in attendance at the February 22, 2018 meeting. Mr. Fletcher made a motion to approve the minutes as written and update the attendance sheet. Mr. Collins seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Agenda Item #4– New Business

A. Election of Officers
Action: Vote for Approval
Mr. Fletcher asked if anyone had any nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair of the committee. Hearing no response Mr. Fletcher stated that he did not mind remaining Chair of the PC and nominated Mr. Collins to continue his role as Vice-Chair. Mr. Collins made a motion to accept the nominees and their respective roles. Mr. Fletcher seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous; the motion carried.
TSPLOST overview
Mr. Fletcher opened the floor to Mr. Franks to discuss the next steps of the TSPLOST process. Mr. Fletcher stated suggested that Mr. Franks meet with himself, Mr. Collins, Mr. Hull and other city, county, GDOT and RC staff to discuss how the process moves forward as well as steps that need to be taken in order for the City of Valdosta and Lowndes County to deliver the projects locally. Mr. Franks replied that taxes will start on October 1, 2018 and that the 25% discretionary will be deposited into local accounts as early as November 30, 2018. He continued, we will need to review a few things prior to making local agreements to allow for local delivery of projects. Mr. Fletcher asked how soon should we sit down to discuss local delivery. Mr. Franklin stated that he will be down on June 28, 2018 to present TSPLOST information at the Regional Council meeting. Mr. Fletcher asked is Mr. Franklin would be available to meet after his meeting in Pearson. Mr. Franks stated that he should be available he will check his schedule. Mr. Fletcher asked if the TSPLOST projects will work like CDBG's. Mr. Franks responded that most invoices are reimbursable. Mr. Fletcher asked how long does the reimbursement take. Mr. Franks responded approximately 15 days. Mr. Collins stated that at the work session meeting, questions were raised about projects being in later tiers. Mr. Fletcher stated that we can go ahead and start working early on projects that are in later bands. Mr. Franks stated that he will bring draft agreements so that everyone can get a look at them and explain more about the process when he comes down on the 28th of June. Mr. Fletcher asked if there is no federal money in the projects, do we have to adhere to federal guidelines. Mr. Franks responded that federal money does not dictate federal action. He continued that as an example if you have to get a 404 permit the project will incur federal action. Mr. Fletcher asked if the road is local then there are no federal guidelines. Mr. Franks replied that if TIA is the funding then you would acquire the ROW how you normally would; however, I am no ROW expert but we can pull the manual and discuss. Mr. Hull stated that we will have a TIP amendment coming up for projects that have been affected by the TSPLOST, Exit 11 being one of those projects.

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.

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. 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, we will open our MOU separately 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. Hull asked the committee if they believe they have the correct make-up of committee members due to more talks about health related issues as they relate to the built environment. Mr. Hull stated that the CDC has recently reached out to us to do a few studies and reports for the next three years. Mr. Fletcher stated that Mr. Meeks that represents a bicyclist organization has not attended a meeting in months, we could replace him. Mr. Collins stated that health officials may be more appropriate on the CAC. Ms. Day agreed that the CAC would be more appropriate for health officials to be on; however, there is also room for sub-committees to address and advise certain issues.

Ms. James stated that she is the project manager for Exits 22 and 29, and they are in town due to a meeting concerning construction. The project is ahead of schedule by 12% and 48 months approximate construction time, so we anticipate completion by 2021. Ms. James asked the committee if they would like to be updated about projects that are in construction as well. Mr. Hull responded yes, it would be good to provide that information as well. Ms. James stated that Exits 2 and 11 are moving along but are a little behind on the base line schedule due to adding roundabouts in final design. Baseline for Exit 2 and is February 2019 and for Exit 11 November 2019.

Agenda Item #7 - Next Meeting Date and Time

The next meeting will be Wednesday, September 5, 2018, 9:00 AM at the SGRC office.

Agenda Item #8 – Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation.