

Minutes
Technical Advisory Committee
March 3, 2021
9:00 AM

Members Present	Organization
Pat Collins	City of Valdosta
Mike Fletcher	Lowndes County
Van Mason	GDOT
Kaniz Sathi	GDOT
Alan Worley	City of Valdosta
Others Present	
Sandra Tooley	City of Valdosta
Corey Hull	SGRC
Amy Martin	SGRC
Jason Willingham	GDOT
Bill Branham	City of Valdosta
Megan Fowler	SGRC

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order

Mr. Fletcher called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

Agenda Item #2 – Introductions/Roll Call

A. Review Committee Attendance (all committees)

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 December 2, 2020 meeting minutes. Mr. Collins made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. made a motion in the second. The vote was unanimous; the motion carried.

Agenda Item #4– New Business

A. (PC) Nominating Committee

Does Not Apply to the TAC.

B. FY2021 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment Resolution FY21-4

Action: Recommendation/Adopt

Mr. Hull notified the committee that the FY2021 UPWP was being amended due to additional funding received from GDOT in the amount of two dollars, the updated amounts can be seen in red on the summary sheet. He stated that those changes are at the request of the GDOT Transit Division. This amended was completed to be sure that everything matches from the UPWP to the contract. He continued in order to update the funding amounts an amendment must be completed with a motion and vote from the TAC to recommend it to the policy committee. Ms. Fletcher made a motion to recommend the UPWP for approval, Mr. Collins made a motion in the second. The vote was unanimous; the motion carried.

C. FY2022 Unified Planning Work Program Adoption Resolution FY21-5

Ms. Martin notified the committee that the FY2022 UPWP had been completed and that staff did not receive any major comments from our planning partners. Ms. Martin reviewed the UPWP Budget Summary for the committee and explained that in order for the UPWP to be adopted that there needs to be a motion and a vote for the document to be recommended to the PC. Mr. Fletcher asked was the City of Valdosta going forward with transit. Ms. Martin responded that they are and Corey can provide more information about that. Mr. Hull stated that yes the City is moving forward are and they have asked for \$96,000 in federal funds, \$12,000 in state funds and \$12,000 in funds from the City of Valdosta for future planning of the Transit System. Mr. Collins stated that he does not know all the details because he is not directly involved in it but they had expected an earlier start date but it took a while to get the approval of the title. Mr. Collins made a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Fletcher made a motion in the second. The vote was unanimous; the motion carried.

D. Participation Plan Update Adoption Resolution FY21-6

Mr. Hull notified the committee that the Public Participation Plan had been out for public comment for the last 45 days. He continued that the comments that were received were minor and did not change the

content of the document. He stated that one comment did not really impact the document but was a request from Mr. Branham, a member on the CAC, to request for the chair of the CAC to have a seat as a voting member on the Policy Committee (PC). Mr. Hull gave some background on how the CAC chair previously had a seat in the PC but it was years ago before being done away with. Mr. Hull stated that the CAC did approve this with discussion. Mr. Fletcher made a motion to approve the plan and forward to the PC. Mr. Collins made a motion in the second. The vote was unanimous; the motion carried.

E. (PC) Metropolitan Statistical Area Discussion

Mr. Hull explained to the committee that on Jan 2019, the Office of Management and Budget decided to change the definition of what qualifies as a Metropolitan Statistical Area. Currently an Urban Area that is a population of 50,000 or more is a MSA, now they are proposing to get rid of that definition. There are six MSA's in Ga including Valdosta. Their new definition will include a threshold of 100,000 persons. The Valdosta Urbanized Area will still not reach 100,000 persons after the 2020 census. Mr. Hull stated that at this time it does not impact transportation in any way. On February 9th the U.S. Census Bureau changed the definition of an Urban Area from 50,000 to 10,000; So this is changing what is defined as an urban area and further complicates this. Mr. Hull stated that Ms. Flucas stated that there are not supposed to be any impacts to the CBDG programs but she has yet to see that documented. Mr. Fletcher asked how would this affect the MPO status. Mr. Hull responded that there should be no change whatsoever, that the MPO does not use MSA status as its defining criteria.

F. Bicycle / Pedestrian Infrastructure Discussion

Mr. Hull asked the committee what should we be planning for in the areas of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. He continued do you think we need to be updating our bicycle planning documents. Mr. Fletcher stated that the County Commissioner has made it a priority to consider and install where appropriate bicycle lanes and sidewalks. Mr. Worley stated that the Tifton Bicycle Plan would be a good example for Valdosta to follow. He continued that incorporating bike/ped infrastructure from the beginning would be most beneficial and it would help to pass ordinances or policies that would help to accomplish this. Mr. Collins stated that the City of Valdosta has very narrow right of way, Jerry Jones for example, which we ended up going with easements. This really makes it expensive to put in bicycle lanes but I am a big fan of them. The Azalea Trail was supposed to be extended through Remerton and maybe you all can help us with that. Also perhaps along the county roadways we could put some trails along those roads. One of the things that I asked, and they were unable to answer it, was identifying GA Power corridors, railroad corridors, various different corridors that would be available to put a trail. Mr. Worley responded that maybe changing a sidewalk that is already in place, on Baytree for example, and making that a part of the trail.

Agenda Item #5– Staff Update

A. Strategic Plan Update

Mr. Hull stated that some of the items in the strategic plan have been accomplished and that staff is continuing to incorporate items from the plan.

B. Staffing Changes / Updates

Mr. Hull notified the committee that Ariel Godwin is no longer working with the SGRC and has taken a Planner Position for Moody AFB. He continued that the RC will also be hiring a consultant to complete at request various tasks for the Transportation Department.

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

Agenda Item #7 - Next Meeting Date and Time

The next meeting will be Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at 9:00 AM at the New SGRC office.

Agenda Item #8 – Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation.