



SOUTHERN GEORGIA
REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes
Technical Advisory Committee
September 1, 2020
3:00 PM

Members Present	Organization
Mark Barber	City of Valdosta
Lisa Cribb	SGRC
Tom McQueen	GDOT
Scott Matheson	City of Valdosta
Bill Slaughter	Lowndes County
Bruce Cain	City of Hahira
Paige Dukes	Lowndes County
Others Present	
Jonathan Sumner	City of Hahira
JD Dillard	Lowndes County
Tyler Graham	GDOT
Ariel Godwin	SGRC
Corey Hull	SGRC
Amy Martin	SGRC
Rachel Strom	SGRC



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Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order

Mr. Barber called the virtual meeting to order at 10:36 AM.

Agenda Item #2 – Introductions/Roll Call

A. Review Committee Attendance (all committees)

Mr. Barber asked those present to introduce themselves and state their affiliation with the committee.

Agenda Item #3 – Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Barber asked the committee members to review the June 3, 2020 meeting minutes. Mr. Slaughter made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Matheson made a motion in the second. The vote was unanimous; the motion carried.

Agenda Item #4– New Business

A. PC Elections (Vice-Chair Vacancy)

Action: Elect Vice Chair

Mr. Slaughter nominated Ms. Dukes to fill the remainder of Mr. Pritchard's term as Vice-Chair. Ms. Dukes was appointed Vice-Chair by acclamation.

B. Vision2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan – Resolution FY2021-1

Action: Recommendation/Adopt

Ms. Martin notified the committee that the final public comment period for the Vision2045 MTP had been completed and that staff had received a few comments from the public and a few comments from GDOT. Ms. Martin notified the committee that there was an addition of a section covering freight traffic and generators and that the FHWA/State and Local/TIA funding sources were completely separate in the final document. She stated that all comments have been addressed through email correspondence as well as updates to the plan. Mr. Martin explained to the committee that in order for the plan to be adopted that there needs to be a motion and a vote. Ms. Martin notified the committee that the CAC recommended the MTP for approval yesterday with no discussion and the TAC approved the document as well without discussion. Mr. Matheson made a motion to adopt the document. Mr. Slaughter made a motion in the second. The vote was unanimous; the motion carried.

C. Discussion of Community Groups for Staff Participation

Mr. Hull presented the committee with a list of potential organizations that the MPO could partner with to increase community outreach. Mr. Hull noted that there were maybe a dozen additional groups that were added by the CAC and TAC. He continued that the overall goal is for MPO staff to develop long term relationships with to perform outreach initiatives.

D. TAC – Discussion- Planning Studies Scopes of Work

Mr. Hull gave a brief update on the discussions that the CAC and TAC had about the various projects in the planning studies list.



E. COVID-19 Traffic Impacts in Valdosta and Lowndes County

Mr. Godwin explained to the committee that the traffic data was pulled from RITIS and NPMRDS. Mr. Godwin showed the committee the road segments from Lowndes County. He explained that a person can go back in time to look at the data for a specific day and time. Mr. Godwin explained that there was a very huge difference in travel during March, with much lower traffic due to the COVID-19 lockdown. Mr. Godwin also showed the committee the travel data for hurricanes Hermine, Irma, and Michael noting that hurricane Irma caused the most congestion on the highways in the VLMPO area. Mr. Barber stated that this is great data to use and he has potential ideas for the data.

Agenda Item #5– Staff Update

A. New Staff Introductions

Mr. Hull explained that Megan Fowler is the new Transit/Mobility Coordinator and that she could not be on the call today due to GDOT Transit Meetings that she needed to attend.

B. 21-24 TIP Update

Ms. Martin explained the Transportation Improvement Program plan update has started. She continued that the TIP is a short-range plan that helps to manage and ensure implementation of the MTP. Ms. Martin notified the committee that an informal kickoff meeting was held with GDOT to go over the project costs, schedules, and any changes. She informed the committee that the partner review period will begin September 15, 2020 and end October 15, 2020.

C. Transportation Vulnerability and Resiliency Report

Mr. Godwin notified the committee of the Vulnerability and Resiliency Report is being developed simultaneously with the Lowndes County Hazard Mitigation Plan. The report will give more specific information about the potential of natural hazards on the transportation infrastructure using a tool developed by FHWA. Mr. Godwin stated that there will be some good coordination between the report and the hazard mitigation plan. Mr. Godwin also notified the committee that the next hazard mitigation meeting will be held on September 16, 2020 at 10 am at the Lowndes County EMA center.

D. Public Transit Updates

Mr. Hull gave brief update on public transit. He stated that the City of Valdosta sent out an RFQ for an Urban Transit System and have received proposals and have assigned a committee to review these proposals. Mr. Barber stated that they are really working well with the GDOT on this project. He continued that the original date of implementation October 1, 2020 will not happen but the implementation date will not be too far behind that.

E. Connected and Autonomous Vehicle Assessment

Mr. Hull explained that staff will be working on a Connected and Autonomous Vehicle Assessment that follows the National Association of MPO's framework. This will assess the communities preparedness for smart infrastructure and CAV communications. Mr. Hull stated that the assessment will be ready later this fiscal year for the committees review. Mr. Hull stated that the assessment will highlight things that local governments can do to prepare for these technological changes.



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

No comments.

Agenda Item #7 - Next Meeting Date and Time

The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at 10:30 AM at the New SGRC office.

Agenda Item #8 – Adjournment

Ms. Cribb made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Matheson made a motion in the second. The vote was unanimous; the meeting was adjourned.