

**Minutes
Technical Advisory Committee
March 4, 2020
9:00 AM**

Members Present	Organization
Pat Collins	City of Valdosta
Mike Fletcher	Lowndes County
Rick Thomas	Valdosta City Schools
Tom McQueen	GDOT
Dennis Carter	GDOT
Alan Worley	Citizen
Others Present	
Amy Martin	SGRC
Corey Hull	SGRC
JD Dillard	SGRC

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order

Mr. Fletcher called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Agenda Item #2 – Introductions/Roll Call

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 4, 2019 meeting minutes. Mr. Collins made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Fletcher made a motion in the second. The vote was unanimous; the motion carried.

Agenda Item #4– New Business

A. FY2021 UPWP and Budget - Resolution FY2020-6

Action: Recommendation/Vote for Approval

Mr. Hull directed the committee to the FY2021 UPWP Budget sheet in the agenda packet. Mr. Hull explained that the budget UPWP total is based on Federal allocations, with a total of \$226, 440.40. Mr. Hull stated that the CAC did not have any comments concerning the document. Mr. Fletcher made a motion to pass the document on to the Policy Committee for adoption. Mr. Collins made a motion in the second. The vote was unanimous; the motion carried.

B. VLMPO Strategic Plan – Resolution FY2020-7

Action: Recommendation/Vote for Approval

Mr. Hull reminded the committee of the VLMPO joint committee meeting that was held last September. He continued that the workshop that was held after the meeting was to allow the committees to participate in a SWOT analysis for the MPO and discuss the strengths, weakness, etc. of how the MPO plans and the information that is within the planning documents. Mr. Hull stated that the CAC did have a few questions about autonomous vehicles. One recommendation was that over the next fiscal year that staff complete a connected and autonomous vehicle assessment of the community. A few of the comments that are in the Strategic Plan will be implemented into the goals of the Long-Range Transportation Plan.

C. Appoint Bicycle/ Pedestrian Representative to TAC

Action: Recommend/Adopt

Mr. Hull explained that there were two citizens that have written statements of interest for the Bicycle/Pedestrian representative position. Mr. Worley and Ms. Ireland. Mr. Worley was able to be here with us today but Ms. Ireland was not due to a previously scheduled meeting. According to the Bylaws the PC will appoint the representative but we need a recommendation from the TC. Mr. Collins asked that Mr. Worley tell the committee a little about himself. Mr. Worley responded that due to his position he travels all over the U.S. and really enjoys biking in various communities to see the bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure that other communities have put in place. Mr. Worley stated that he would like to be beneficial in helping to bring in some of the various multi-modal infrastructure that he has seen and rode as an avid bicyclist into this community. Mr. Collins stated that in other areas where he has practiced he help implement rails to trails and other multi-modal projects but one issue that he has seen in Valdosta is that Valdosta has some of the narrowest ROW that he has seen so it will take a lot of patience serving in this position. Mr. Fletcher asked if there were any other nominations. There were no other nominations. Mr. Fletcher made a motion to recommend Mr. Worley for the TAC bicycle/pedestrian representative. Mr. Collins made a motion in the second. The vote was unanimous the motion carried.

Agenda Item #5– Staff Update

A. SGRC Handout

Mr. Hull referred the committee to the Transportation and Environment Handout. He explained that this handout was to give a brief overview of the work that the staff of the Transportation and Environmental Department do on a monthly basis not just for the MPO area but for the 18 counties that the SGRC covers.

B. 2045 Transportation Plan Update

Ms. Martin explained to the committee that the update to the transportation plan was continuing with the recent completion of the financial plan document which was sent out to the committee for review and received comments back. We have updated the document to address concerns and staff has estimated about 1.9 billion dollars to be used for transportation improvements over the next 25 years. We will be sending out emails over the next few weeks to continue talks about potential projects. Mr. Fletcher asked if we would be meeting with Mr. Collins and myself over the next few weeks. Staff responded yes. Mr. McQueen stated that staff should have a workshop to allow for discussion around the project list. Mr. Hull stated that we could put something together with the committees and lots of conversations will be held.

C. Public Transit Updates

Mr. Dillard stated that staff is assisting Valdosta with filling out a 5307 application and looking at an October 1, 2020 implementation date. GDOT just released the memorandum stating that its feasible for a July 1 target date but the city is anticipating an October 1 target date. They have been meeting with transit providers and we are continuing to assist them with the grant application process. Mr. Branham asked if they have found out which technologies are best. Mr. Dillard responded that it will be up to the city to decide which one they want to implement.

D. TIP Amendment Sheet

Mr. Hull notified the committee that staff received a request to amend the 18-21 Transportation Improvement Program and the 2040 Transportation Vision Plan. The amendment will be an administrative modification and will not require a public comment period. The amendment is to move the construction date for Exit 11 to fiscal year 2021; however, it will be let this fall. There is a small increase in the cost of construction and a small decrease for utility costs. Also, the Old Quitman Road bridge at the CSX Railroad has also had a small decrease in the ROW acquisition costs. Mr. Fletcher stated that the county has already cut a \$70,000 check to GDOT for half of the amount ROW so if the amount has decreased will we get a refund. Mr. McQueen responded that he should ask and to reach out to the project manager.

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

Mr. Fletcher stated that on Monday they will begin tearing out two bridges on Hickory Grove Road. Hickory Grove Road to Echols County and Glen Road will be blocked off for six months and there is not an easy detour. Next meeting, we should have bids accepted for our second TIA project Clyattstone Road. Mr. Thomas thanked the City of Valdosta for the work that they are having done at the Forrest Street and Park Avenue intersection.

Agenda Item #7 - Next Meeting Date and Time

The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 4, 2020 at 9:00 AM at the SGRC office.

Agenda Item #8 – Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation.