

Minutes
Joint Policy and Technical Committee
12-2-14
2:00 PM

Members Present	Organization
Brent Thomas	GDOT
Aries Little	GDOT
Tom McQueen	GDOT
Jason Davenport	Lowndes County
Bruce Cain	Hahira
Mike Fletcher	Lowndes County
John Leonard	SGRC
Larry Hanson	Valdosta
John Gayle	Valdosta
Pat Collins	Valdosta
Others Present	
Joe Sheffield	GDOT
Corey Hull	SGRC
Krystal Harris	GDOT
Jonathon Sumner	Hahira
Allan Rickets	VLDA
Amanda Peacock	GDEcD
Sheldon Harrison	Cambridge Systematics
John Lewis	Cambridge Systematics
William Sims	Valdosta
Todd Miller	SGRC
Bill Branham	Valdosta
Sandra Tooley	Valdosta
Howard Dasher	CVDA
Ellen Hill	CVDA
Deidra White	CVDA

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order

Mr. Davenport called the meeting to order at 2:00pm.

Agenda Item #2 – Introductions/Roll Call

Mr. Davenport asked those present to introduce themselves and state their affiliation with the committees. Mr. Hull noted that the attendance records were provided for review and information.

Agenda Item #3 – Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Davenport asked the members to review the most recent PC minutes, he noted one correction on page 2, it should read 18-county, not 180county. Mr. Gayle made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected, it was seconded by Mr. Fletcher, motion carried.

Agenda Item #4– Old Business

None.

Agenda Item #5– New Business

A. Presentation by GDOT of the VLMPO 2040 Travel Demand Model

Ms. Little introduced the consulting team from Cambridge Systematics: Mr. Lewis and Mr. Harrison. Both Mr. Lewis and Mr. Harrison presented information on the 2010 base year scenario and the 2040 do nothing scenario. The committee's discussed several concerns and issues with the consulting team. A consensus developed that too many outstanding questions were outstanding. A motion was put forward to table the acceptance of the Travel Demand Model Scenarios until VLMPO staff, local staff, GDOT and GDOT's consultants had time to discuss some of the questions.

B. FY2016 UPWP Work Elements Truck Bypass Study

Mr. Hull introduced the topic as a continuation of the discussion of FY2016 UPWP Budget from the last PC meeting. He presented several maps of truck traffic data in downtown Valdosta. Mr. Hanson and Mr. Gayle from Valdosta discussed issues and concerns they have about truck traffic in the city and region. Mr. Gayle made a motion to include funding in the FY2016 budget for a truck bypass study. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hanson. A discussion ensued where representatives from Lowndes County stressed concerns about the County not being able to pay for a study at this time, however they understood the concerns they City had about trucks in the community. After a discussion the question was called by Mr. Leonard. Mr. Davenport restated the motion as to include the truck traffic bypass study in the FY2016 UPWP and Budget which comes for an official vote in March. The motion passed 4-2-1; Mr. Gayle, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Cain, Mr. Leonard voted to include a study in the FY2016 budget. Mr. McQueen and Mr. Davenport abstained and Mr. Fletcher voted no. Mr. Hull will develop a scope of work for this study to include in the FY2016 UPWP that will be presented in March for adoption.

Agenda Item #5– Staff Update

Mr. Hull informed the committee that a new staff person had been hired at the Regional Commission that would lead the Coordinated Transportation efforts and assist from time to time on MPO activities.

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

Ms. White asked questions of the committee about truck traffic in downtown Valdosta. A brief discussion took place where Mr. Dasher and Ms. White each asked additional questions.

Mr. Hull noted that he had forgotten something under staff comments, they was that the tourism authority is awaiting a response from GDOT to put 'Valdosta Next 5 Exits' signs on I-75.

Agenda Item #7 - Next Meeting Date and Time

Mr. Davenport noted the next meeting on March 4, 2014 for both the Technical and Policy Committees.

Agenda Item #8 – Adjournment

Mr. Davenport made a motion and it was seconded by Mr. Hanson to adjourn the meeting at 3:27p.



Jason Davenport, Lowndes County
Chair, Valdosta-Lowndes Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee