

# FY2022

## Annual Report



Valdosta-Lowndes Metropolitan Planning  
Organization

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Cover Photo Credit:

Figure 1. Electric Vehicle Workshop

Source: SGRC Staff

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*This document is prepared in cooperation with the Georgia Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration.*

*The VLMPO public participation process for the development of the TIP meets the Federal Transit Administration’s (FTA) public participation requirements related to the development of the Section 5307 Program of Projects.*

*The Southern Georgia Regional Commission as the designated MPO for the Valdosta Urbanized Area ensures that all VLMPO products and programs fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. SGRC’s website ([www.sgrc.us](http://www.sgrc.us)) may be translated into multiple languages. Publications and other public documents can be made available in alternative languages or formats, if requested.*

## Chair's Introduction

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Dear Citizen of the Valdosta-Lowndes Metropolitan Area,

It is my honor to present to you the FY2022 Annual Report that is produced each year by the Southern Georgia Regional Commission (SGRC), the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Valdosta and Lowndes County area. The VLMPO provides professional staff to evaluate transportation projects and policies that are presented to citizens and elected officials for discussion and development into projects. The forum provided by the MPO provides opportunities for thoughtful decision-making and input to ensure the transportation needs of our community are addressed.

FY2022 has been an exciting year for transportation in Valdosta and Lowndes County. The City of Valdosta's award-winning micro-transit system celebrated its one-year anniversary. The On-Demand Public Transit System has broken records as a public-private partnership that provides accessible, affordable mobility options to residents of the city. The VLMPO has been a leader in working with local governments to plan for and implement public transit options in the community and region.

New roadway infrastructure projects are underway with more planned including the Five Points roundabouts. VLMPO staff completed an Electric Vehicle Strategy report and created a Low Impact Development policy, both adopted by the VLMPO Policy Committee. These reports will allow the VLMPO, Georgia Department of Transportation, and local governments to better select projects and develop policies that will positively impact transportation in the community for years to come. The creation of a special transportation study in the Hahira area was led by VLMPO staff. This study seeks to 1) evaluate access management alternatives for the North Lowndes Recreation Complex and 2) perform a needs assessment and make recommendations on design solutions for pickup and drop-off traffic and changes to school site circulation at Hahira Elementary School.

I want to personally thank all of the citizens, local and state government staff, elected officials, and the SGRC staff for the countless hours of dedicated work that go into planning for transportation improvements in the Valdosta-Lowndes MPO Area with the goal of continuing to make our community better.

I continue to be honored to work with every member of the Valdosta-Lowndes Metropolitan Planning Organization, and I look forward to developing new ideas for transportation and mobility efficiency in the Valdosta-Lowndes Metropolitan Area in the coming year.

Paige Dukes  
County Manager, Lowndes County  
MPO Policy Committee Chairwoman, FY2022

# MPO Committees and Staff

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## Policy Committee

**Paige Dukes, Chair**

*Lowndes County*

**Mayor Bruce Cain**

*City of Hahira*

**Chairman Jimmy Parker**

*Berrien County*

**Chairman Patrick Folsom**

*Brooks County*

**Jannine Miller**

*Georgia Department of Transportation*

**Moises Marrero**

*Federal Highway Administration*

**Mayor Scott Matheson, Vice Chair**

*City of Valdosta*

**Lisa Cribb**

*Southern Georgia Regional Commission*

**Mayor Cornelius Holsendolph**

*City of Remerton*

**Mark Barber**

*City of Valdosta*

**Chairman Bill Slaughter**

*Lowndes County*

**Yvette Taylor, PhD**

*Federal Transit Administration*

## Technical Advisory Committee

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*Lowndes County*

**Jalen Ford**

*Georgia Department of Transportation*

**Ann-Marie Day**

*Federal Highway Administration*

**Ricky Thomas**

*Valdosta City Schools, Trans. Director*

**Alan Worley**

*Bicycle/Pedestrian Advocate*

**Benjamin O'Dowd, Vice Chair**

*City of Valdosta*

**Scott Chambers**

*Georgia Department of Transportation*

**Jeff Hill**

*Lowndes County Board of Education*

**Danny Weeks**

*Lowndes County 911*

## Citizen's Advisory Committee

**Clayton Milligan, Chair**

*Lowndes County*

**Marshall Ingram**

*City of Hahira*

**Dr. William Cason**

*Valdosta Board of Education*

**Ronald Skrine**

*Lowndes County*

**Vacant**

*City of Dasher*

**Phil Hubbard**

*Lowndes County*

**Ray Sable**

*Valdosta State University*

**Jade Walton**

*Valdosta-Lowndes Conference Center  
& Tourism Authority*

**Vanessa Ross, Vice Chair**

*City of Valdosta*

**Steven Barnes**

*Leadership Lowndes*

**Brit McLane**

*Valdosta-Lowndes Chamber of Commerce*

**Jim Galloway**

*Valdosta Regional Airport*

**Debby Hobdy**

*Lowndes County*

**Shannon McConico**

*Wiregrass Georgia Technical College*

**Wes Taylor**

*Lowndes County Board of Education*

**Michael Cooper**

*Valdosta Downtown Development  
Authority*

**William Branham, Secretary**

*City of Valdosta*

**Vacant**

*City of Lake Park*

**Stan Crance**

*Valdosta-Lowndes Development Authority*

**Carroll Griffin**

*City of Remerton*

**Kathleen Hodges**

*City of Valdosta*

**Tanner Herrington**

*City of Valdosta*

**Gary Wisenbaker**

*Lowndes County*

## Transportation and Environment Department Staff (FY22)

**Corey A. Hull, AICP**

*Transportation and Environmental Director*

**Lu Danforth**

*Transportation Finance Analyst*

**Megan Fowler**

*Regional Transit Manager*

**Megan L. Parker**

*Environmental Projects Manager*

**Amy Martin**

*Senior Transportation Planner*

**James Horton**

*Senior Planner*

## FY2022 Financial Highlights

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Elements	FY2022 Actual	FY2022 Budget	FY2021 Actual
Administration	\$ 44,858.13	\$ 44,866.92	\$ 75,084.03
UPWP	\$ 4,715.07	\$ 4,807.16	\$ 4,806.52
Staff Education	\$ 15,080.40	\$ 16,023.90	\$ 18,767.34
Computer Systems	\$ 4,369.82	\$ 4,807.16	\$ 3,696.51
Public Participation	\$ 1,541.17	\$ 1,602.39	\$ 9,816.25
GIS/ TDM	\$ 7,815.48	\$ 10,023.72	\$ 4,294.46
Land Use Planning	\$ 19,098.42	\$ 19,228.68	\$ 16,079.68
Inter-/Multi Modal	\$ 7,221.14	\$ 10,223.90	\$ 2,086.96
System Analysis	\$ 34,824.27	\$ 37,983.64	\$ 49,270.26
TIP	\$ 2,245.04	\$ 4,261.95	\$ 20,849.41
Metropolitan Plan	\$ 6,406.70	\$ 6,409.56	\$ 11,264.62
Transit Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,975.12
Special Studies- Hahira Area Traffic	\$ 24,106.78	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -
	<b>\$ 172,282.42</b>	<b>\$ 360,238.98</b>	<b>\$ 225,991.16</b>

Figure 1. FY2022 Actual Expenditures compared to FY2022 Budget and FY2021 Actual Expenditures

# Project Updates

## Exit 2 (PI# 0007386)

Construction improvements to Exit 2 continued in summer of 2022 with an anticipated completion date of September 2022.



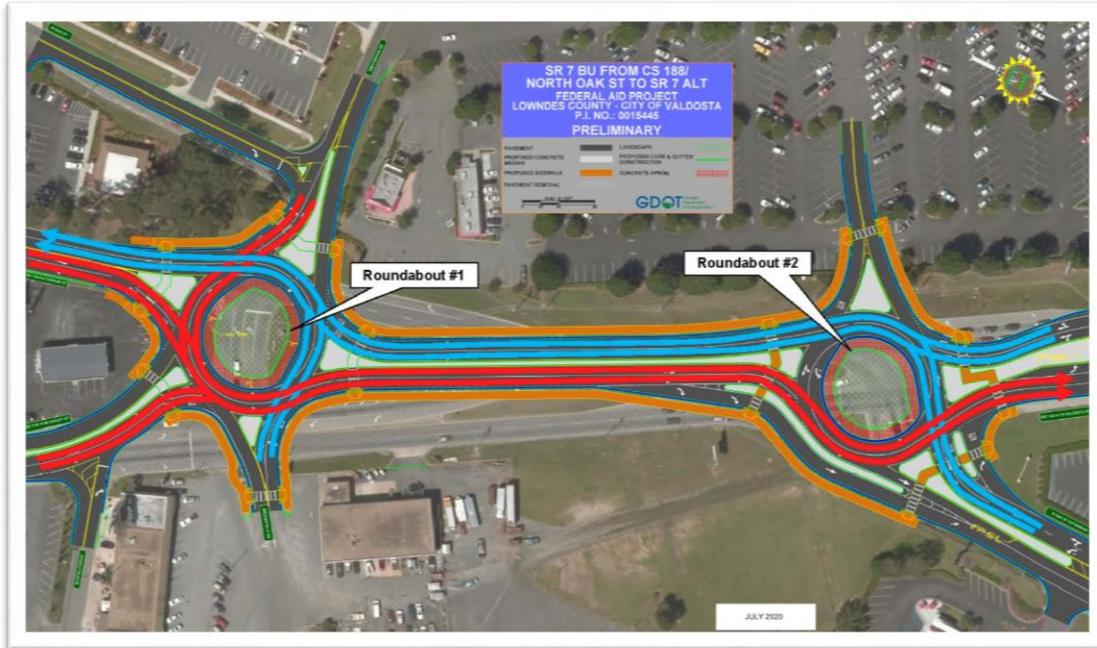
## Exit 11 (PI# 0010297)

This project was let in April 2022 and is currently under construction.



### Five Points Roundabouts (PI#0015445)

GDOT has continued to revise the design of this project based on comments received and based on the site characteristics. Authorization to begin purchasing right-of-way has been given. GDOT has released computer-generated simulation videos of what it will look like to drive on this roadway when it is complete. This project is currently on schedule to be let in April 2023.



### Old Quitman Road Bridge (PI# 0015614)

Authorization to begin purchasing right-of-way has been given. This project is anticipated to begin construction in 2023. The railroad package has been submitted to CSX and GDOT is awaiting comments.

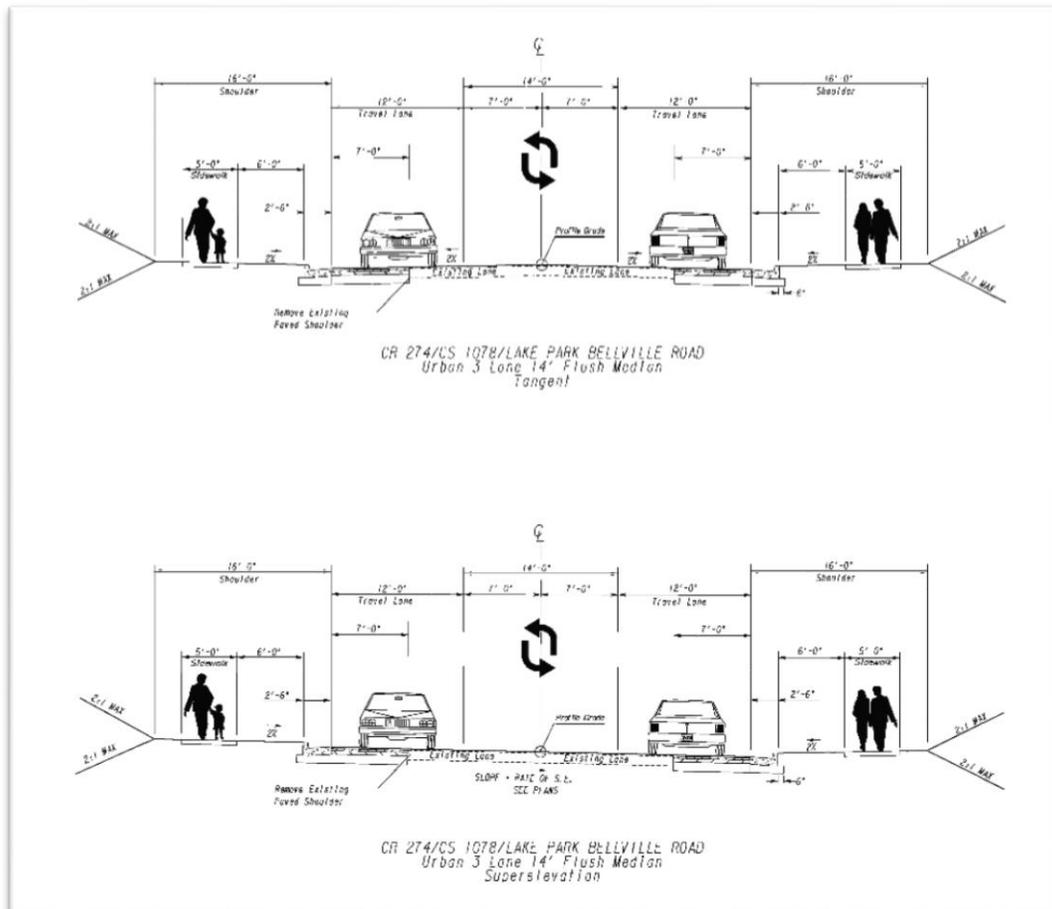


### Exit 18 (PI# 0010298)

This interchange improvement project is in the process of completing environmental resource identification, drafting the concept report, and preparing for the stakeholder meeting. Construction is anticipated to start sometime after 2024.

### Lake Park Bellville Road Widening (PI# 0013987)

Construction continued during 2022. The image shows what the typical 3-lane section may look like based on the approved concept report.



### Jerry Jones Road Widening (PI# 0014134)

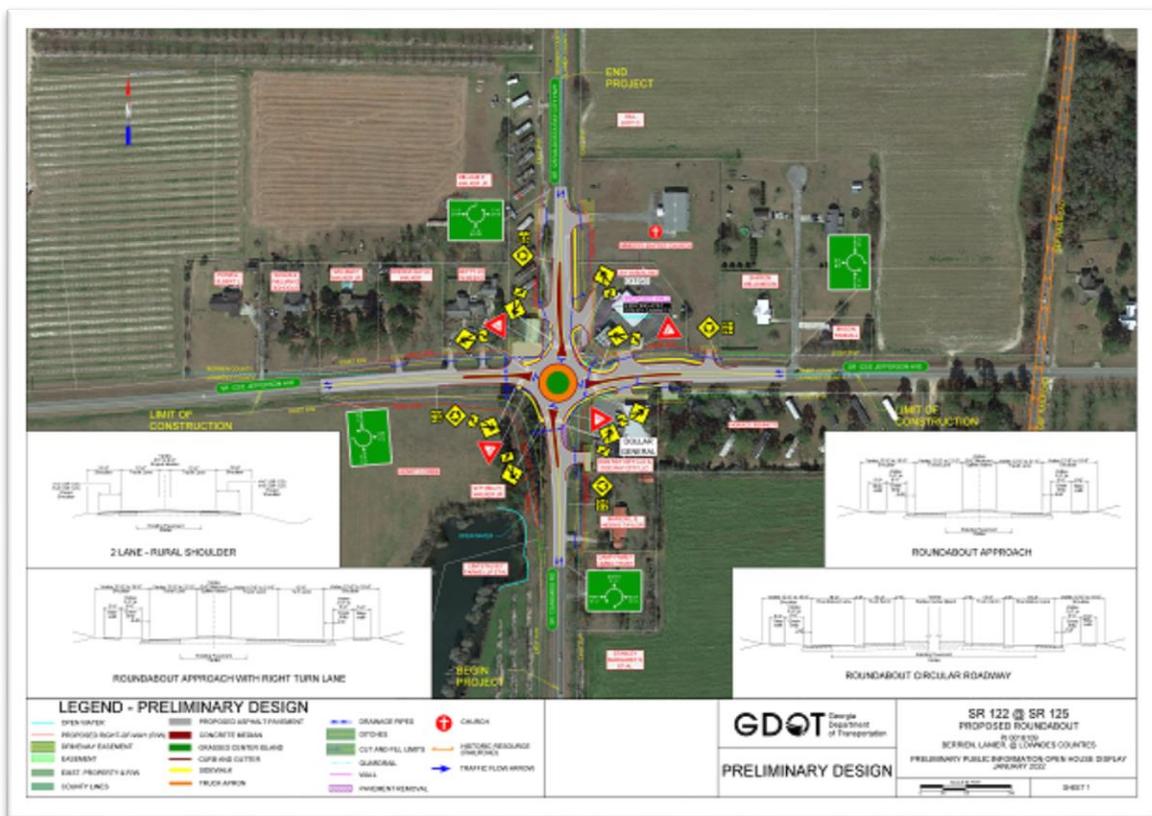
Authorization to begin purchasing right-of-way has been given and construction is authorized. GDOT is awaiting resolution of a utility relocation issue to set a new re-let date.

### South Valdosta Truck Bypass (PI# 0016898)

GDOT continues to work on the scoping phase for this project to aid in the selection of a preferred alternative. The schedule for this project has been revised to add concept activities.

### SR 122/SR 125, Walker's Crossing Intersection Improvement (PI# 0016109)

GDOT continues to design a roundabout as the proposed improvement for this intersection. It is anticipated that GDOT will begin to acquire right-of-way in 2023, and begin construction in 2024 or later.



### SR 31 Passing Lanes (PI# 0014485)

Authorization to begin purchasing right-of-way has been given and construction is anticipated in 2024 or later.

### Exit 5 (PI# 0010295)

Authorization to begin purchasing right-of-way and for construction has been given for this interchange reconstruction project (Phase II, @ SR 376). This project is anticipated to be advertised for design services during summer 2022.

### Exit 5 (PI# 0010296)

Authorization to begin purchasing right-of-way and for construction has been given for this interchange reconstruction project (Phase II, @ CR 383/Loch Laurel Rd.). This project is anticipated to be advertised for design services during summer 2022.



## SR 7/SR 122, Union Road Sidewalks in Hahira (PI# 0016636)

This sidewalk project is in the process of concept report approval. The survey database is in progress, pending GDOT approval.



## Programs and Activities

### Valdosta On-demand Public Transit

On April 27, 2021, the City of Valdosta launched the Valdosta On-demand public transit service to great anticipation, fanfare and success. Since 2007, the VLMPO had completed three feasibility and implementation studies for transit in the City and surrounding areas. The SGRC was also able to complete a pilot shuttle program that showed how successful and necessary a public transit system



Figure 2. Valdosta On-demand transit vehicle. Source: ValdostaToday

could be in the City. Within the first two months of operation, more than 10,000 rides had been given, averaging more than 300 rides per day, exceeding the amount estimated in the most recent implementation study by 45%.

On April 27, 2022, the City of Valdosta celebrated its first-year anniversary of the implementation of the Valdosta-on-Demand Transit System. Valdosta On-Demand closed out its first year with a total of 65,100 trips throughout the community. The City of Valdosta recently renewed its service contract with VIA Transportation; this renewal included three additional vehicles to help alleviate the pressing demand of the transit service. The VLMPO continues to provide advice and technical assistance to the City of Valdosta as the transit system grows. The success of the Valdosta On-demand transit service has been recognized and continues to be an international example by the City of Valdosta's transit operations partner Via and U.S. Senator Jon Ossoff for its rapid success and innovative approach to transit service delivery.

### Hahira Transportation and Land-use Study

The City of Hahira is experiencing accelerated population growth and with this rate of growth, existent traffic congestion and development issues are exacerbated. In order to gain more guidance and recommended direction, the City of Hahira chose to apply for GAMPO PL funding to complete a study of two problem areas. The PL application was for the North Lowndes Park Access Study and the Hahira Elementary School Traffic Study. The City of Hahira was awarded the funding to move forward with the studies. The studies are being completed concurrently by Transport Studio, the consultant firm conducting the study. The North Lowndes Park Access study will provide an analysis of access alternatives for North Lowndes Park and area land use recommendations based on anticipated increases in retail, lodging, dining, and residential uses from additional

visitors to this area. The Hahira Elementary study will provide an analysis of alternatives and recommendations to improve safety and reduce congestion based on current and anticipated residential growth. Both studies are expected to be completed by April 2023.



Figure 3. North Lowndes Soccer Complex under construction in Hahira. Source: Google Earth

Electric Vehicle

### Charging Infrastructure Implementation Strategy

As with coffee makers and cell phones, technology continues to drive changes in transportation. As auto manufacturers work to build these technologies into their vehicles, transportation planners are also thinking about how they will impact mobility in our communities. In FY2022, the VLMPO held an Electric Vehicle Workshop and completed an Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Implementation Strategy for the Valdosta and Lowndes County planning area as it relates to the increase in the use of electric vehicles (EVs) as well as the installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure.



Figure 4. EV Workshop, Source: SGRC Staff

This strategy was adopted by the VLMPO Policy Committee in June 2022 and will help guide transportation planning staff and local officials over the coming years to change local policies related to EV's, develop infrastructure that will allow for the use of EVs, both public and private, and plan for the equitable deployment of EV infrastructure throughout the community.

## Low Impact Development Policy

During FY2021, the VLMPO developed a Transportation Infrastructure Vulnerability Assessment. This assessment identifies transportation infrastructure within Lowndes County that may be susceptible to extreme weather events and recommends high-level strategies, policies, and measures for the VLMPO to address vulnerabilities. The VLMPO developed a Low Impact Development Policy to put forth policy recommendations for highly vulnerable transportation infrastructure.

This policy provides guidance on best practices to support the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system to reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation within the metropolitan planning area. Similar to the VLMPO's Complete Streets Policy, this Low Impact Development Policy will only apply to roadway improvements that are funded with federal funds, but it is encouraged to be used by local governments for all funding sources. This policy was adopted by the MPO Policy Committee in June 2022.



Figure 5. Low Impact Dev Strategies Source: commons.wikimedia.org

## Participation Plan Report

The MPO strives to be an organization that proactively engages the public for input about transportation and to inform the public about various transportation planning efforts throughout the community. To assist in this effort, the MPO utilizes its Participation Plan Policies, Strategies, and Techniques to engage and inform the public throughout the year. The SGRC updated its Participation Plan in FY2021 to address virtual public participation and other items.

### Title VI (Civil Rights) Annual Report

As required by the MPO Title VI Compliance Plan, included in this report is the Annual Report on Title VI activities undertaken during the past year by the MPO.

The MPO has not had any Title VI complaints, and the plan was updated to include the Title VI public notices and complaint procedures in additional languages as identified in the LEP analysis.

The MPO staff attended in-person trainings on topics including public participation, Title VI, and Environmental Justice in transportation planning.

### Limited-English Proficiency (LEP) Analysis

As a recipient of federal funds, the SGRC, as the MPO, is required to evaluate what services and products we provide for use by individuals who may speak English less proficiently. The SGRC reviews data annually to measure this population in Lowndes

County (the primary service area for the MPO). The Participation Plan includes data from the US Census Bureau 2015-2019 American Community Survey.

	2015-2019 ACS (S1601)
Estimate	6,189
Margin of Error	+/- 605
Lowndes County %	5.8%
United States %	21.6

Figure 6. Language Other than English Spoken at Home in Lowndes County.

Based on the increase of residents with Limited-English Proficiency and further examination of the specific languages, the MPO is required to publish our vital documents in new languages as noted previously. The SGRC will continue to use the MPO LEP Plan to address the needs of these populations in our region.

#### Participation Plan Performance Measures

When the MPO Participation Plan was originally adopted in 2011, it included performance measures that would be reviewed annually to evaluate how effective the MPO is at engaging the public. Included here are the performance measures, as well as an indication of whether this measure has increased, held steady, or decreased in the last year; a sign of the effectiveness of our public participation efforts. It should be noted that COVID-19 shelter-in-place restrictions did have an impact on the number of events held in FY2022.

#### **Strategy 1: Raise public awareness and understanding of the transportation planning process, including the functions, responsibilities, and programs of the MPO, and identify how interested citizens can become involved.**

*In order to raise awareness of the MPO and the transportation planning process the staff hosted open houses, sent newsletters to interested parties and represented the interests of the MPO at various community events throughout the year. Overall participation in these activities was **steady or increased** from previous years.*

#### **Strategy 2: Provide the public and others with early, ongoing, and meaningful opportunities for involvement in the transportation planning process.**

*The MPO staff makes sure that they are accessible to the public in a variety of formats. The MPO maintains and active social media presence with Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram accounts. Our website is updated in a regular basis. The staff ensures that all MPO-hosted events are open to the public and there is an opportunity for public comments at those events. The MPO has also started to include live, virtual participation options for our meetings. Staff is also available during regular business hours at the SGRC office in-person or by phone. Overall public access to staff and opportunities for involvement has **increased**.*

**Strategy 3: Maintain timely contact with key stakeholders and the public through the transportation planning process.**

*Staff continues to engage resource agencies and maintains a listing of interested parties to include in planning consultation. The MPO responds to all comments received during public comment periods and many of those on social media sites as well. Staff has worked with GDOT to present project updates at quarterly MPO meetings. Overall stakeholder outreach and engagement has remained **steady**.*

**Strategy 4: Identify, involve, and mitigate impacts on traditionally underserved communities (those communities with high concentrations of minority, low-income, elderly, or disabled populations) in the transportation planning process.**

*The MPO has worked to increase outreach to traditionally underserved communities in FY2022. Some accomplishments include the printing or vital portions of the Participation Plan and Title VI Complaint Procedures in multiple languages as identified by the LEP analysis. Overall outreach to traditionally underserved communities remained **steady** in FY2022.*

**Strategy 5: Employ visualization and outreach techniques to better describe and communicate metropolitan transportation plans and processes to the public.**

*The SGRC, as the MPO, as produced several documents this year including an Annual Crash Report, Annual Work Program, TIP Amendments, Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Implementation Strategy, and Low Impact Development Policy. In order to inform the public and stakeholders of these documents and to gain input from the MPO, staff continues to use media outreach, open houses, newsletters, social media, websites, and speaking engagement outreach techniques. Overall outreach and document production has remained **steady** for the MPO.*

**Strategy 6: Implement goals of the Greater Lowndes County Common Community Vision that promote open, transparent, and engaging public participation.**

*The MPO staff regularly participates in regional and cross-jurisdictional meetings representing the interests of transportation planning in the community; this activity has remained **steady** over the past year.*

## Outlook for FY2023 and Beyond

In FY2023, the VLMPO looks to continue the implementation of the Vision2045 Transportation Plan which includes highway, transit, and other multi-modal projects throughout the region. The City of Hahira will be working with the VLMPO on a study of transportation issues related to a new regional soccer and softball complex as well as growing traffic related to schools and residential growth in the community.

The MPO will be working with the City of Lake Park to understand available right-of-way limits for future infrastructure improvements. MPO

staff hope to use this case study as an example for developing similar analyses for other communities throughout the metropolitan planning area and larger region.



*Figure 7. North Lowndes Soccer Complex under construction in Hahira.  
Source: Google Earth*

The MPO will be working with the City of Valdosta to plan for improvements to the Valdosta On-demand public transit service including the development of public participation plans and service improvements.

Based on the past successes in developing neighborhood infrastructure reports in the Tom Town and Pinevale Neighborhoods, the VLMPO looks to work with the City of Valdosta to select another neighborhood for analysis.

As electric vehicles continue to grow in popularity, staff will continue to use the transportation planning process as an opportunity to identify and analyze the potential for a sustainable transportation network to include electric vehicle charging stations, identifying transportation system vulnerabilities as they relate to land use and environmental linkages.

The VLMPO will also seek to be a leader in South Georgia in identifying appropriate green infrastructure strategies to implement as they relate to stormwater runoff and mitigation of extreme weather events. The VLMPO Policy Committee has adopted a Low Impact Development Policy to put forth strategies for local governments that are cost effective and sufficiently address green infrastructure principles.

The VLMPO will continue work with Valdosta-Lowndes County to incorporate these two policies into upcoming studies, plans and projects in FY2023.

# FY2022 UPWP Work Element Summary Reports

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## FY2022 UPWP Work Element Summary Reports

### 2022-1.1 MPO Administration

#### Objective:

To implement the MPO's overall transportation planning vision by administering the activities identified in the UPWP and managing the organization.

#### Project Description:

Maintain proper records as required under Federal and State regulations for contracts administered by the MPO. Coordinate MPO Committee meetings and overall transportation planning efforts in the Region. Update the MPO MOU as necessary to include all parties and regulatory requirements. Update the MPO Committee orientation handbook as appropriate to introduce new committee members to the MPO transportation planning process.

Continue to work with Georgia Assoc. of MPOs (GAMPO) and other state and national organizations on the role of MPOs in statewide and metropolitan transportation planning. Support GAMPO activities through participation in meetings and events.

Continue to report on and implement the goals of the Common Community Vision, especially as they relate to transportation and accessibility/improvements to: economic and workforce development, education, housing, land use, and health. Implement the VLMPO Strategic Plan recommendations. This plan will be used to guide the development of the 2045 Transportation Vision Plan goals and future UPWP work elements. Implement any recommendations to improve the processes of the SGRC as the MPO identified during the FY20 GDOT Certification Review of the MPO transportation planning process.

Staff will continue to inform the MPO committees of legislative and regulatory actions impacting transportation planning and funding.

SGRC will continue membership in AMPO (organizations dues estimated to be \$500) and NADO (organization dues are paid by other non-MPO related funding sources), and will consider other organization memberships as appropriate. Please note the above are organizational memberships not personal. The SGRC will continue to provide staff to carry out VLMPO activities. Staff will be the local experts in transportation areas, capable of assisting planning partners in transportation project development, building consensus and

value in alternatives analysis, shared planning products, and providing a forum for regional decision making. Staff will continue to work with GDOT and surrounding jurisdictions/agencies to maintain a comprehensive, coordinated, continuous, regional, multi-modal transportation planning process. The VLMPO will continue to maintain a planning document schedule for local officials to understand the planning process better.

#### Quarter 1 Report:

Staff prepared agendas and minutes for the September 2021 VLMPO Committee Meetings. Staff participated in the September 27, 2021 GAMPO meeting. Staff met with new VLMPO Committee members for orientation. Staff had a called VLMPO meeting on July 15th to adopt Transit Safety Performance measures and Targets.

#### Quarter 2 Report:

Staff prepared agenda and minutes for the December 2021 VLMPO Committee Meetings. Staff held orientation for new VLMPO Committee Members. Staff had a called meeting on October 14, 2021 for the FY2023 5303 Grant Funding Application.

#### Quarter 3 Report:

Staff prepared agenda and minutes for the March 2022 VLMPO Committee Meetings. Staff informed VLMPO committees of legislative and regulatory impacts of the IJJA.

#### Quarter 4 Report:

Staff prepared agenda and minutes for the March 2022 VLMPO Committee Meetings. Staff informed VLMPO committees of legislative and regulatory impacts of the IJJA due to newly released information about funding programs. Staff continued to attend Technical Review Committee meetings to provide input concerning various development plans and how they relate to the overall vision of the MPO.

**Progress in meeting schedules:** All schedules met during this quarter.  
**Approved Budget:** \$44,866.92  
**Expenditures to Date:** \$44,858.13  
**Percent Expended:** 100%  
**Project Complete:** 100%

**Approved planning program revisions:** None at this time.

2022-1.2 Operations/UPWP

**Objective:**

To identify work tasks to be undertaken by the SGRC as the MPO and ensure compliance with applicable federal, state and local requirements.

**Project Description:**

Prepare and amend (as needed) an annual UPWP (draft due: November; final due: March), including the preparation of work tasks, cost estimates and financial reports.

Prepare quarterly reports, invoices and reimbursement requests to submit to GDOT and local partners.

Prepare annual report reviewing activities of the past fiscal year.

Prepare applications/resolutions for the GAMPO PL Funds Review Committee to apply for additional PL funds as requested by local governments (see Element 4.4).

Develop scopes of work and/or purpose and need statements for each item in the five-year business plan that may require future consultant work.

Prepare scopes of work and procurement items for projects listed in Element 4.4 of this UPWP as requested by local governments.

**Quarter 1 Report:**

Staff completed FY2021 quarterly reports and the FY21 Annual Report for the VLMPO. Staff divided FY22 tasks among themselves with target dates of completion throughout the year.

**Quarter 2 Report:**

Staff prepared a successful PL funding application for the City of Hahira and released an RFQ/P for bid proposals for this study. Staff completed FY22 UPWP Amendments. Staff prepared FY2022 1st quarter report. Staff prepared the FY2023 UPWP and budget and sent it out for committee review. Staff continued to develop scopes of work for potential special transportation studies/projects.

**Quarter 3 Report:**

Staff prepared the FY2022 2nd quarter report. Staff amended the UPWP to include PEAs. Staff prepared the final draft FY2023 UPWP and VLMPO committees approved it. Staff completed the bid proposal process and completed the contract process to allow the consultant to begin the Hahira Transportation Study.

**Quarter 4 Report:**

Staff prepared the FY2022 3rd quarter report. Staff completed a FY2022 administrative budget modification. Staff completed the draft Val Del Road Corridor Study scope and it is with the committees for review so that a PL funds application can be submitted in the fall.

**Comparisons of Actual to Date performance to stated goals:** Actual to Date performance matches stated goals.

**Progress in meeting schedules:** All schedules met during this quarter.

**Approved Budget:** \$4,807.16

**Expenditures to Date:** \$4,715.07

**Percent Expended:** 98%

**Project Complete:** 100%

**Approved planning program revisions:** None at this time.

2022-1.3 Training/Professional Development

**Objective:**

Develop staff professional and technical knowledge of transportation planning through relevant conferences, workshops, and webinars.

**Project Description:**

Provide continuing education and training for MPO staff and committees that will enable the MPO to effectively carry out the transportation planning process, including but not limited to: performance measures, Environmental Justice/ADA/Title VI, transportation planning, GIS and visualization techniques, and other innovations as they are available.

Some conferences the staff and committee members may attend include but are not limited to (parentheses indicate registration/travel/salary cost estimate): GA Planning Assoc. (\$2200 x2), GA Transit Assoc. (\$2200 x2), American Planning Assoc. (\$5000), Transportation Research Board (\$5000), GA Assoc. of MPOs, national Assoc. of MPOs (\$4000), GA Highway Safety Conference (\$2200), National Assoc. of Development Orgs. (\$4000), and other training provided by FHWA, FTA, GDOT, NTI or NHI. Travel will be subject to the SGRC Travel Policies, based on Federal per diem rates. Travel costs not associated with training and education events are included in other work elements of this UPWP.

Staff will maintain a training tracker to report training hours and content to the GA Department of Community Affairs and for other purposes.

**Quarter 1 Report:**

Staff attended several webinars related to the following topics: transportation reinvestment zones, environmental justice, FHWA ADA, GDOT Local Road Activity, data planning, MPO basics, virtual public involvement, complete streets, etc.

**Quarter 2 Report:**

Staff attended and presented in both the 2021 AMPO conference and the 2021 GPA conference. Staff continues to develop professional and technical knowledge through a variety of virtual webinars and in-person trainings

covering topics concerning: FTA outreach and listening session: DBE Issues and Concerns; USDOT Public Meeting on Justice40, NPRMDS data, CTPP data training, complete streets, etc.

**Quarter 3 Report:**

Staff attended Bipartisan Infrastructure webinars covering various sections of the IIJA. Staff attended several webinars on the following topics: FHWA Target Setting Coordination, electric vehicle mobility infrastructure, FHWA Freight webinars, FHWA LAP Symposium, planning environmental linkages, and understanding origin-destination data.

**Quarter 4 Report:**

Staff attended multiple Bipartisan Infrastructure webinars covering various topics: preparing benefit cost analyses, preparing for the SS4A program, equity in freight, RITIS, FTA’s pilot program for Transit – Oriented development. Staff attended the GPA spring conference and participated in the NHI Metropolitan Transportation Programming course.

**Comparisons of Actual to Date performance to stated goals:** Actual to Date performance matches stated goals.

**Progress in meeting schedules:** All schedules met during this quarter.

**Approved Budget: \$16,023.90**

**Expenditures to Date: \$15,080.40**

**Percent Expended: 94%**

**Project Complete: 100%**

**Approved planning program revisions:** None at this time.

2022-1.4 Equipment/Supplies/Technical Assistance

**Objective:**

To maintain computer systems and office supplies used for relevant transportation planning activities.

**Project Description:**

The SGRC as the MPO will purchase and maintain relevant computer supplies (hardware, software), mobile communications (including service fees) to meet the needs of the staff to effectively carry out the MPO transportation planning process pursuant to the SGRC Procurement Policy. Computer supplies (computer, monitors, keyboard, mouse, etc.) and software (MS Office Suite, Adobe Reader Pro, ArcGIS, etc.) costs estimated to be \$2,200 per user.

The SGRC IT Department will continue to provide technical assistance to staff to maintain computer supplies and software (regular updates, maintenance, troubleshooting).The SGRC as the MPO will also coordinate the purchase of supplies, computer systems, software and training with local governments for local traffic counting programs as requested.

**Quarter 1 Report:**

Staff maintained computer systems and software, including technical support from IT staff.

**Quarter 2 Report:**

Staff maintained computer systems and software, including technical support from IT staff.

**Quarter 3 Report:**

Staff maintained computer systems and software, including technical support from IT staff.

**Quarter 4 Report:**

Staff maintained computer systems and software, including technical support from IT staff.

**Comparisons of Actual to Date performance to stated goals:** Actual to Date performance matches stated goals.

**Progress in meeting schedules:** All schedules met during this quarter.

**Approved Budget:** \$4,807.16

**Expenditures to Date:** \$4,369.82

**Percent Expended:** 91%

**Project Complete:** 100%

**Approved planning program revisions:** None at this time.

## 2022-2.1 Participation Plan Implementation

### **Objective:**

To implement the strategies and policies of the VLMPO Participation Plan including: Title VI Compliance, Environmental Justice, and LEP.

### **Project Description:**

**Outreach and Education:** Staff will continue to communicate, educate, inform, make transparent, and visualize how the transportation planning process impacts all of the FHWA planning factors through regular inclusionary public involvement opportunities associated with the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Participation Plan (PP) and other documents for the public and elected officials.

Engage and inform non-traditional community planning partners through the Citizen's Advisory Committee about the transportation planning process and promote the Greater Lowndes County Common Community Vision as a strategic vision for the community. Staff will engage the community through techniques as identified in its Participation Plan.

Develop and maintain websites and social media, with the most recent and relevant data and information about the MPO transportation planning process for the public and local government decision makers. Develop graphical, marketing and visualization skills and products to better communicate transportation data and concepts. Conduct public involvement strategies as outlined in the PP as needed for development of various documents, including but not limited to outlining participation objectives for the development of the 2045 Transportation Vision Plan.

**Participation Plan (EJ/Title VI/LEP) Implementation/Maintenance:** Review, update and annually report on the status of the Participation Plan, Title VI compliance, EJ outreach, and LEP analysis. Staff will annually attend training events and continue to analyze EJ, LEP and Title VI populations to ensure that all populations have access to essential services. Continue to implement the PP and report on the performance measures in that document. Develop GIS-based data resources to analyze and evaluate social and environmental impacts of transportation improvements.

### **Quarter 1 Report:**

Staff continued to make website and social media updates on a regular basis notifying the public of transportation data, safety and upcoming transportation initiatives.

### **Quarter 2 Report:**

Staff continued to make website and social media updates on a regular basis notifying the public of various ways to participate in the transportation planning process. Staff shared transportation data, safety advice and initiatives and upcoming transportation initiatives.

### **Quarter 3 Report:**

Staff completed the draft version of the Valdosta On-Demand Public Participation Plan. Staff continued to make website and social media updates on a regular basis notifying the public of various ways to participate in the transportation planning process. Staff shared transportation data, bike and ped safety advice and upcoming transportation initiatives.

### **Quarter 4 Report:**

Staff held a public comment period from April 30 – May 29, 2022 for the amending of the TIP. Staff continues to stay up-to-date on various techniques for public participation. Staff continued to make website and social media updates on a regular basis notifying the public of various ways to participate in the transportation planning process. Staff shared transportation data, bike and ped safety advice and upcoming transportation initiatives.

**Comparisons of Actual to Date performance to stated goals:** Actual to Date performance matches stated goals.

**Progress in meeting schedules:** All schedules met during this quarter.

**Approved Budget:** \$1,602.39

**Expenditures to Date:** \$1,541.47

**Percent Expended:** 96%

**Project Complete:** 100%

**Approved planning program revisions:** None at this time.

## 2022-3.1 GIS/Travel Demand Model Development

### **Objective:**

To develop and maintain GIS layers needed for the transportation planning process and to ensure effective use of the Travel Demand Model.

### **Project Description:**

The staff will work with the Valdosta-Lowndes Regional GIS Department (VALOR) at the SGRC to develop and maintain GIS data, and a project specific website that displays the description, cost/phase information of transportation projects from the TIP and MTP. Develop a data update schedule for key layers used by the staff. Support the SGRC Regional Plan implementation of Goal ED-1 to develop GIS layers of infrastructure like stormwater and transportation infrastructure. Continue to educate local officials of the importance of the travel demand model and how it can be used for transportation planning decision making purposes. Develop GIS-based data resources to monitor performance measures and targets (where data is available) on roadways before and after improvement. Review GIS resources and the local Hazard Mitigation Plans to identify transportation infrastructure that might be susceptible to extreme weather events.

Use GIS to analyze data and illustrate transportation data in the region such as regional travel patterns that impact travel from surrounding communities on the VLMPO Planning Area.

The VLMPO will use GIS to analyze data collected for performance measures to inform local officials of trends in data to set target areas and to analyze projects for inclusion in the MTP and TIP. Staff will use GIS data analysis outputs and other visualization techniques to convey information about how transportation improvements can positively impact planning factors.

### **Quarter 1 Report:**

Staff continued to work with GIS to develop transportation related databases, such as pavement condition data collection and mapping for analysis.

### **Quarter 2 Report:**

Staff worked with the GIS department to map transportation related data for projects and reports, such as growth areas based on projected development within the MPO to help determine potential increase in traffic and change in traffic pattern behavior. Staff began to develop a GIS data layer update schedule to help maintain accurate and updated GIS data.

### **Quarter 3 Report:**

Staff worked with the GIS department to map transportation related data for projects and reports such as the completion of a pavement condition web-based application and a transit trips origin-destination data web-based application for use by the VLMPO and local governments to better analyze infrastructure needs and trip data.

### **Quarter 4 Report:**

Staff worked with GIS to complete the pavement condition data and other transportation infrastructure condition web-based application for the City of Valdosta. Staff worked with GIS to map all of the crashes in the VLMPO FY22 Crash Report.

**Comparisons of Actual to Date performance to stated goals:** Actual to Date performance matches stated goals.

**Progress in meeting schedules:** All schedules met during this quarter.

**Approved Budget:** \$10,023.72

**Expenditures to Date:** \$7,815.48

**Percent Expended:** 78%

**Project Complete:** 100%

**Approved planning program revisions:** None at this time.

2022-3.2 Land Use Planning

**Objective:**

To analyze the impacts of land use and transportation improvements to ensure consistency with the Vision2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan and transportation and land use planning best practices.

**Project Description:**

Coordinate with local land use planning staff to review local land use developments (zoning requests, subdivision plats, commercial developments, etc.) as to their effects on the local transportation infrastructure and consistency with the goals of the 2045 MTP. Provide technical assistance to local engineers and planners on topics relating to transportation and land use including: access management, transit-oriented development, complete streets, etc.

Coordinate with VLMPO jurisdictions to cooperatively develop updates and implement local comprehensive (and regional) plans and planning efforts as required by the GA Department of Community Affairs (transportation planning requirements and transportation-land use relationships). Continue to inform the public and stakeholders of the Greater Lowndes County Common Community Vision and promote its use as a strategic vision for the community.

Develop at least one (1) neighborhood plan for the City of Valdosta that provides guidance for the growth and redevelopment of a neighborhood based on the 2045 MTP, local Comprehensive Plan, Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan, transit plans, and other local/regional plans/studies focusing on how public transportation infrastructure investment will benefit the redevelopment of neighborhoods and enhance equity outcomes.

The VLMPO will continue to encourage the development of gateways into the community that improve visual appearance and mitigate natural/human environmental impacts of transportation.

Staff will review, share and update as needed the 2045 Socioeconomic Data Study for use by other organizations.

**Quarter 1 Report:**

Staff developed the Hahira Traffic Study scope of work to include analysis of existing land uses and developments to consider best alternatives for access management to the North Lowndes Recreation Complex and around Hahira Elementary School.

**Quarter 2 Report:**

Staff held a presentation that covered the correlation between transportation and land use planning for MPO Policy Committee members. Staff began working on a Transit Oriented Development Report for the MPO area. Staff provided transportation planning input for the Brooks County Comprehensive Plan for the portion that lies within the MPO area.

**Quarter 3 Report:**

Staff created a web application, corresponding pdfs, and held a presentation for a local government within the VLMPO to review the impacts that land use and growth have on transportation infrastructure investments. Staff begin writing an Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy.

**Quarter 4 Report:**

Staff completed the VLMPO Electric Vehicle Strategy report. Staff wrote an Electric Vehicle Implementation Strategy, which was adopted by the VLMPO Policy Committee. Staff also developed a Low Impact Development Policy, which was also adopted by the VLMPO Policy Committee. Staff continued to coordinate with local planning staff to review local land use developments and plans.

**Comparisons of Actual to Date performance to stated goals:** Actual to Date performance matches stated goals.

**Progress in meeting schedules:** All schedules met during this quarter.

**Approved Budget:** \$19,228.68

**Expenditures to Date:** \$19,098.42

**Percent Expended:** 99%

**Project Complete:** 100%

**Approved planning program revisions:** None at this time.

2022-3.3 Inter-/Multi-Modal Transportation Planning

**Objective:**

To improve the movement of goods and people through planning for freight, and bicycle and pedestrian modes.

**Project Description:**

Continue to work with local and state jurisdictions to implement the Bike/Ped Master Plan. Report on the status of this implementation. Consider the development of Complete Streets Policies for the City of Valdosta, and Lowndes County when they might be requested by local governments. Explore options for: improved data on bicycle and pedestrian usage in the region (traffic video analysis, fitness apps, etc.); funding bicycle and pedestrian projects (social impact bonds, etc.); improving transportation planning so that it can be used to improve health of the local population.

In conjunction with other SGRC transportation planning programs, VLMPO staff will coordinate efforts on Safe Routes to School participation, regional bicycle and pedestrian planning activities (like: complete streets workshops, health and transportation, etc.) within the VLMPO Planning Area (SGRC receives other funding for these programs outside the VLMPO, but the products may be coordinated where appropriate). Gather and consider feedback from bicycle and pedestrian advocates about safety and infrastructure in the community.

Implement ideas from the Transportation Demand Management Report in the VLMPO Planning Area.

Freight and Intermodal Activities: Continue to integrate freight and goods movement planning and analysis into long- and short-range planning efforts.

Continue to update data and perform analysis of how freight and goods movement impacts economic development in the region through the use of

NPRMDS data and other data resources. Coordinate VLMPO planning efforts with other local transportation modes: railroads, airports, seaports, etc. to inform and influence the planning and implementation of transportation improvements.

**Quarter 1 Report:**

Staff attended multiple webinars for bicycle and pedestrian planning. Staff provided input for bicycle and pedestrian planning and infrastructure according to the VLMPO Complete Streets Policy for the Lowndes County Comprehensive Plan. Staff attended various webinars concerning freight impact and planning.

**Quarter 2 Report:**

Staff attended various webinars that covered multi-modal transportation planning including trails. Staff attended the GDOT Freight webinar. Staff incorporated multimodal recommendations in all planning studies and processes.

**Quarter 3 Report:**

Staff attended both the FHWA Workshop on Methods to Improve Freight Performance, Reliability, and Bottlenecks and the FHWA Talking Freight webinar. Staff attended the Pedestrian Task Team meeting. Staff made social media posts sharing bike/ped safety tips.

**Quarter 4 Report:**

Staff attended the USDOT training: Freight for All: Defining Major Equity Considerations in Goods Movement. Staff attended the Pedestrian Task Team meeting. Staff completed a Pedestrian Crash Analysis. Staff coordinated with Safe Routes to School, staff also continued social media posts about bike/ped safety.

**Comparisons of Actual to Date performance to stated goals:** Actual to Date performance matches stated goals.

**Progress in meeting schedules:** All schedules met during this quarter.

**Approved Budget:** \$10,223.90

**Expenditures to Date: \$7,221.14**

**Percent Expended: 71%**

**Project Complete: 100%**

**Approved planning program revisions: None at this time.**

## 2022-3.4 Systems Data Analysis and Research

### **Objective:**

To develop and maintain on-going data collection programs to monitor current and historic operational characteristics of the transportation network.

### **Project Description:**

Continue to develop an Annual Crash Report that analyzes crash data for local governments to identify safety improvements that can be implemented through new projects or educational programs. Conduct Road Safety Audits (RSAs) with local jurisdictions as requested to identify solutions to safety and operational concerns.

Encourage and advise local governments to develop transportation asset management plans.

Continue to work with GDOT and local jurisdictions, as requested on the implementation of Intelligent Transportation Systems and architectures in the Metropolitan Planning Area.

Coordinate data development and analysis with GIS resources to better visualize data for local decision makers for various VLMPO plans and projects. Develop GIS-based data resources to monitor performance measures and targets (where data is available) on roadways before and after improvement. Staff will use GIS data analysis outputs and other visualization techniques to convey information about how transportation improvements can positively impact planning factors.

Identify data needs to implement MAP-21 and FAST Act Performance Measures and the Vision2045 MTP as required and in consultation with GDOT and local partners. Procure as needed and appropriate data needed for performance measurement and analysis of the transportation system and its impacts on regional economic development. Collect and analyze data as it is identified to develop data trends and targets for project selection and prioritization. Continue to report on various data trends that impact transportation planning in the region. Educate local officials on the importance and need for additional data and analysis to complete performance measure trend analysis and target setting.

### **Quarter 1 Report:**

Staff completed Pedestrian Crash Screenings for the VLMPO area. Staff attended a City of Valdosta webinar about the continued installation and

implementation of Intelligent Transportation Systems and the recent rollout of an app that communicates with these Traffic Signals.

### **Quarter 2 Report:**

Staff completed a Connected Autonomous Vehicle Implementation Matrix to provide guidelines and strategies for preparation of such vehicles based on the Intelligent Transportation System that is already in place. Staff provided the City of Lake Park with mapped ROW data to help inform various transportation related initiatives.

### **Quarter 3 Report:**

Staff worked with the GIS department to map transportation related data for projects and reports such as the completion of a pavement condition web-based application and a transit trips origin-destination data web-based application for use by the VLMPO and local governments to better analyze infrastructure needs and trip data.

### **Quarter 4 Report:**

Staff completed the FY22 Crash Report. Staff completed the GIS web-based application to track pavement condition and other transportation infrastructure data.

**Comparisons of Actual to Date performance to stated goals:** Actual to Date performance matches stated goals.

**Progress in meeting schedules:** All schedules met during this quarter.

**Approved Budget:** \$37,983.64

**Expenditures to Date:** \$34,824.27

**Percent Expended:** 92%

**Project Complete:** 100%

**Approved planning program revisions:** None at this time.

2022-4.1 Transportation Improvement Program

**Objective:**

To develop, maintain and implement a fiscally constrained Transportation Improvement Program in cooperation with local and state planning partners.

**Project Description:**

The SGRC as the MPO will continue to work with GDOT and local planning partners in prioritizing, developing and implementing projects in the TIP, including attending meetings and conducting analysis where needed to select and prioritize projects. Implement national goals and performance measures in the TIP in coordination with local and state partners. Continue to process TIP amendments and administrative modifications according to adopted policies (including those in the PP) in coordination with GDOT and local jurisdictions. Continue to provide technical support for projects in the TIP.

Continue to coordinate with GDOT and local transit providers to update and report on performance targets/measures in the TIP and System Performance Report.

Continue to maintain a project tracking tool and GIS database to provide the public and planning partner’s information about project development and timelines.

Continue to work with the City of Valdosta in the prioritization and implementation of projects, plans and policies identified in the City of Valdosta Transportation Master Plan.

Continue to explore new and innovative funding opportunities (unique grants, social impact bonds, etc.) for transportation improvements.

**Quarter 1 Report:**

Staff sought out potential funding opportunities for transportation initiatives. This included the completion of a GDOT grant funding application to gain additional funding to complete a Transit Development Plan that will include the Valdosta-On Demand Transit System.

**Quarter 2 Report:**

Staff administratively modified the TIP to include the FY 2022 Safety Performance Measures and updated System Performance Report. Staff continued to support the City of Valdosta with recommendations for the prioritization and implementation of various ongoing transportation related projects.

**Quarter 3 Report:**

Staff presented the FY2023 UPWP to the VLMPO committees and the MPO committees adopted the UPWP. Staff administratively modified the FY2021-24 TIP to include a new funding source to address carbon reduction. Staff continued to support the City of Valdosta with recommendations for the prioritization and implementation of various ongoing transportation related projects through data analyses and web-based applications.

**Quarter 4 Report:**

Staff completed the FY21-24 TIP to include Carbon Reduction Program funding. The amended TIP was adopted by the MPO Policy Committee. Staff continued to notify local governments of innovative grant opportunities to secure funding.

**Comparisons of Actual to Date performance to stated goals:** Actual to Date performance matches stated goals.

**Progress in meeting schedules:** All schedules met during this quarter.

**Approved Budget: \$4,261.95**

**Expenditures to Date: \$2,245.04**

**Percent Expended: 53%**

**Project Complete: 100%**

**Approved planning program revisions:** None at this time.

2022-4.2 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

**Objective:**

To develop, maintain and implement a 20-year fiscally responsible metropolitan transportation plan.

**Project Description:**

Finalize the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan as a performance-based planning document in partnership with GDOT and local partners in accordance with federal laws and regulations (in support of Lowndes Comp Plan Item 7). Continue to maintain (amend), update, and implement the 2045 MTP as needed in accordance with amendment procedures and public involvement procedures as outlined in the PP). Coordinate with GDOT and local transit operators to report and implement performance targets/measures in the MTP and System Performance Report. Monitor the implementation of the 2045 MTP through the MPO annual report and other reporting methods.

Continue to work with GDOT and local partners in prioritizing and implementing projects in the MTP and TIP, this includes attending meetings and conducting analysis where needed for a comprehensive, coordinated and continuous MTP. Continue to inform the public and stakeholders of the Greater Lowndes County Common Community Vision and promote its use as a strategic vision for the community.

**Quarter 1 Report:**

Staff continued to monitor the 2045 MTP and amend as necessary due to ongoing performance measures and project information updates.

**Quarter 2 Report:**

Staff continued to monitor the 2045 MTP and amend as necessary due to ongoing performance measures and project information updates. Staff continued to provide recommendations and potential solutions for various transportation related topics that promoted the Common Community Vision.

**Quarter 3 Report:**

Staff continued coordinate with GDOT and local governments to review and find ways to implement performance measures and the 2045 MTP. Staff continued to monitor the 2045 MTP and amend as necessary due to ongoing performance measures and project information updates. Staff continued to promote the Common Community Vision through various transportation related social media posts.

**Quarter 4 Report:**

Staff presented the 2050 MTP scope of work to the MPO committees for review. Staff also continued to monitor the 2045 MTP and amend as necessary due to ongoing performance measures and project updates.

**Comparisons of Actual to Date performance to stated goals:** Actual to Date performance matches stated goals.

**Progress in meeting schedules:** All schedules met during this quarter.

**Approved Budget:** \$6,409.56

**Expenditures to Date:** \$6,406.70

**Percent Expended:** 100%

**Project Complete:** 100%

**Approved planning program revisions:** None at this time.

**Objective:**

To plan for effective, affordable and accessible public transportation options and alternatives in the Metropolitan Planning Area.

**Project Description:**

The SGRC as the MPO will provide ongoing transit planning administration and assistance to Lowndes, Brooks, Berrien Counties' Transit Systems (all 5311 rural systems) and the City of Valdosta for the urban public transit system as well as any future rural regional transit initiatives in the Metropolitan Planning Area.

Provide guidance on implementing recommendations (where appropriate) from the FY2016 Transit Implementation Study and other past studies to help guide the City of Valdosta's Urban Public Transit System. Coordinate with the City of Valdosta Public Transit System department to develop a Public Transportation Plan. FTA 5307 funds may be used to hire a consultant to assist in the implementation and future planning of an urban public transit system in the City of Valdosta, based on the data collected and analyzed from initial implementation steps. The local funds for this project will be provided by the City of Valdosta.

Consider writing a Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan that will help encourage partnerships, use GIS mapping to locate underserved populations (Title VI/EJ), improve trip generation, address goals short-term goals, access to mobility, accessibility and mobility of regional activity centers long term core goals, and the changing need and demand in relation to the City of Valdosta's urban public transit system based on the direction of the local governments.

Coordinate with GDOT and operators of local transit to update and amend the TIP, MTP, and System Performance Report to include but not limited to National and FTA performance targets/measures and projects. Continue to coordinate transit planning with rural and human service providers. Includes coordination with GDOT, SGRC Coordinated Transportation Program,

Department of Human Services, SGRC Area Agency on Aging, and other stakeholders.

Participate and present transit related information and activities before municipalities and/or appropriate committees. Provide data analysis and reports as requested by local or state officials regarding current or future transit operations.

Continue to evaluate the accessibility and mobility of EJ populations to access regional activity centers throughout the VLMPO region and the opportunities or burdens that various transportation modes might have on accessibility and mobility of these populations.

**Quarter 1 Report:**

See 5303 Quarterly Milestone Report. Staff confirmed with City officials on the start of writing two plans, a Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan and a Report on Environmental Justice areas around the use of the Valdosta On-Demand Transit System.

**Quarter 2 Report:**

See 5303 Quarterly Milestone Report. Staff presented the FY2023 5305 grant contract that was approved by the Policy Committee. Staff continued to gather data for the Valdosta On-demand transit system and to develop a Participation Plan for the transit system.

**Quarter 3 Report:**

See 5303 Quarterly Milestone Report. Staff continues to coordinate with the City of Valdosta to analyze data and web-applications that will help with determining best projects to implement for the future of the transit system.

**Quarter 4 Report:**

See 5303 Quarterly Milestone Report. Staff continued to coordinate with the City of Valdosta to analyze data and web-applications that will help with determining best projects to implement for the future of the transit system, this included mapped transit data and analysis, discussions to secure funding to expand the system, etc.

**Comparisons of Actual to Date performance to stated goals:** Actual to Date performance matches stated goals.

**Progress in meeting schedules:** All schedules met during this quarter.

**Approved Budget:** \$NA – See 5303 Quarterly Report

**Expenditures to Date:** \$ NA – See 5303 Quarterly Report

**Percent Expended:** % NA – See 5303 Quarterly Report

**Project Complete:** % NA – See 5303 Quarterly Report

**Approved planning program revisions:** None at this time.

## 2022-4.4 Special Transportation Studies

### **Objective:**

To conduct planning level analysis of alternatives for transportation projects identified in the LRTP or by the transportation planning process.

### **Project Description:**

The projects contained in this section are for discretionary funds that have been applied for by the VLMPO. Projects included below have been prioritized by VLMPO staff, but have not yet been awarded funding and are subject to additional approval by the VLMPO committees, GDOT and FHWA.

City of Hahira/North Lowndes Soccer Complex Access Study/Report. The City of Hahira is looking to connect a new road to the Hahira/North Lowndes Soccer Complex. Currently there is a single entry and exit point through the Industrial Park. The purpose of the study is to help assess the current conditions of the industrial park/soccer complex and provide possible recommendations and/or conceptual design. This will help create safe, additional access routes as well as adjacent land use recommendations that improve overall transportation through this area. A project to address this issue was recommended during the 2045 MTP planning process; however, the project did not make the final constrained list. Having additional support via a study/ report will allow for clarification and recommendations to implement the project.

The Park Avenue Corridor Study will analyze the entire Park Avenue corridor and provide best transportation planning solutions for operational, physical, and resilient transportation infrastructure improvements. There are five schools located in very close proximity to one another along this corridor and general operation vs. capacity improvements should be considered along this corridor. A large portion of this corridor is located within a flood zone as well as the flood way. This study will also analyze hazards, such as flooding, and provide resiliency and mitigation strategies as well as best transportation, land use/zoning practices to be implemented along this corridor.

### **Quarter 1 Report:**

Staff developed the Hahira Traffic Study scope of work to include analysis of existing land uses and developments to consider best alternatives for access management to the North Lowndes Soccer / Recreation Complex. Staff researched access/safety at Hahira Elementary School and completed a PL funds application for the project.

### **Quarter 2 Report:**

Staff prepared the RFP for the Hahira Traffic Study. Staff continued to identify and consider potential transportation studies for projects identified in the 2045 MTP as well as those that are recommended from necessity by the local governments.

### **Quarter 3 Report:**

Staff and the City of Hahira officials completed the consultant selection process. Staff drafted a contract for the consultant to begin work on the Hahira Traffic Access Study/Report. Staff spoke with other local government officials concerning other special studies to be completed.

### **Quarter 4 Report:**

Staff worked with consultants to make sure that all local government requests and concerns were answered in a timely manner and that the project is continuing as scheduled. Staff continued to communicate with the local governments concerning local projects that have the possibility of being completed using discretionary funds if their project is approved during the application process.

**Comparisons of Actual to Date performance to stated goals:** Actual to Date performance matches stated goals.

**Progress in meeting schedules:** All schedules met during this quarter.  
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**Approved Budget:** \$200,000.00

**Expenditures to Date:** \$24,106.78

**Percent Expended:** 12.05%

**Project Complete:** 16.67%

**Approved planning program revisions:** None at this time.