
MINUTES
DARTS POLICY COMMITTEE
Central Square Government Complex, Room 380, 3rd floor
Albany, Georgia 31701
September 19, 2013

PRESENT: Dorothy Hubbard, Chairperson, Mayor, City of Albany
James Taylor, City Manager
Richard Crowdis, Dougherty County Administrator
Rick Muggridge, Lee County Commissioner
Joe Sheffield, GDOT District Engineer
Dave Cox, GDOT Planning (voting for Cynthia VanDyke,
State Transportation Planning Administrator)

ABSENT: Jeff Sinyard, Dougherty County Commission
Lynn Taylor, Lee County Administrator

OTHERS

PRESENT: Nicole Spivey, Georgia Department of Transportation
Olivia Lewis, U.S. Department of Transportation, FHWA
Steve O'Neil, SWGRC
Brent Thomas, Georgia Department of Transportation
Bruce Maples, Director Engineering, City of Albany
Paul Forgey, Director Planning & Development Services, City of Albany
Rachelle Beasley, Albany Convention and Visitors Bureau
Shane Pridgen, Georgia Department of Transportation
Ken Breedlove, City of Albany Engineering
Jennifer Newton, Transportation Planner
Tennasha Green-Gresham, Transit Planner, DARTS MPO
Gloria Thompson, Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Mayor Hubbard called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. A moment of silence was observed for lives lost recently in Washington, DC.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (April 18, 2013)

There being no corrections or change, a motion was made by Mr. Muggridge to approve the April 18, 2013 minutes. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved with the following votes:

Dorothy Hubbard	yes	Dave Cox (voting for Cynthia VanDyke)	yes
James Taylor	yes	Jeff Sinyard	absent
Richard Crowdis	yes	Lynn Taylor	absent
Rick Muggridge	Yes		
Joe Sheffield	Yes		

TOPIC I – FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program

Ms. Newton presented the TIP, stating both the Citizens' Transportation Committee and Technical Coordinating Committee have reviewed the document. She noted the following items:

- meeting schedule for the year
- page 3: Albany Project Cost Detail FY 2014-2017
- page 6: Bridge Replacement Chickasawhatchee Creek; construction 2017
- page 8: Road Widening SR 133 FM N of CR 459/County Line Rd to N of CR 540/Holly Dr
- page 10: Signal System Upgrade @ 16 Locations – Phase IV
- page 11: Preliminary Engineering – Summer Transportation Institute @ ASU; no construction – a summer program for historic black colleges

A discussion followed concerning the summer program at ASU, with it being noted this project has been ongoing for about 10 years. The purpose of the program is to educate and interest high school students in career fields in the transportation industry.

Ms. Newton stated the Technical Coordinating Committee recommended approval of the TIP.

A motion was made by Mr. Crowdis to approve the FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program. Ms. Aehle seconded the motion, and motion passed with the following votes:

Dorothy Hubbard	yes	Dave Cox (voting for Cynthia VanDyke)	yes
James Taylor	yes	Jeff Sinyard	absent
Richard Crowdis	yes	Lynn Taylor	absent
Rick Muggridge	yes		
Joe Sheffield	yes		

TOPIC II – Vice-Chair Election

Chairperson Mayor Hubbard opened the floor for nominations for vice-chair. Mr. Crowdis made a motion to nominate Mr. Muggridge. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion and the motion passed with the following votes:

Dorothy Hubbard	yes	Dave Cox (voting for Cynthia VanDyke)	yes
James Taylor	yes	Jeff Sinyard	absent
Richard Crowdis	yes	Lynn Taylor	absent
Rick Muggridge	yes		
Joe Sheffield	yes		

TOPIC III – Discussion

- Scenic Byway Designation - Mr. Forgey gave a brief overview of a DOT project, the proposed designation of the old Dixie Highway as a Scenic Byway. It was an created in the 1920s as an economic development tool to get people to travel from states up north (Illinois, Michigan) down to Florida for vacation. Two primary routes went through Georgia, including old 19 or State Highway 3. If the byway is designated, it will be included on state road maps and it is a great tool to get people to visit this region. The plan has to be endorsed by all local governments that the roadway touches, from the Bridge House in Albany to Thomasville. The Regional Commission is doing the technical work and the application, which has to be proposed by a government, is sponsored by the City of Pelham. Designation includes the endorsement of a Corridor Management Plan, which protects the qualities that make this scenic. One requirement of designation is that no new billboards are allowed.

A discussion followed with it being noted that the Corridor Management Plan will come before the Committee for discussion at a later date.

- CTC - Ms. Newton informed the Committee that the Citizens' Committee has asked for permission for a group to speak at the next meeting concerning the bike path down by the river. They would like to share ideas with the Commission. She noted the meeting would be December 5, 2013 in Lee County.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 10:22 a.m.