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**MINUTES**  
**DARTS POLICY COMMITTEE**  
102 Starksville Avenue (Kinchafoonee Room)  
Leesburg, Georgia 31763  
**December 1, 2011**

**PRESENT:** Jeff Sinyard, Chairman, Dougherty County Commission  
Richard Crowdis, Dougherty County Administrator  
James Taylor, City Manager  
Ed Duffy, Lee County Administrator  
Joe Sheffield, GDOT District Engineer  
Radney Simpson, GDOT Planning (voting for Cynthia VanDyke)  
Tony Massey, Lee County Administrator

**ABSENT:** Dr. Willie Adams, Mayor, City of Albany  
Cynthia VanDyke, State Transportation Planning Administrator

**OTHERS**

**PRESENT:** David Hamilton, Deputy Transit Director  
Jennifer Newton, Transportation Planner  
Bob Alexander, Lee County Director of Planning & Engineering  
Dr. Charles Gillespie, Citizen's Transportation Chairman  
Gerald Goosby, Southwest Georgia Regional Commission  
Randy Casagrande, Albany Traffic Engineering Manager  
Brent Thomas, Georgia Department of Transportation  
Ken Breedlove, City Engineering  
Shane Pridgen, Georgia Department of Transportation, Dist. 4  
Bruce Maples, Engineering Director  
Matthew Inman, EMC Engineering  
Mary Teter, Interim Planning & Development Services Director  
Krystal Fowler, Georgia Department of Transportation  
Jim Quinn, Mayor of Leesburg  
Casey Moore, Leesburg City Clerk  
Gloria Gaines, County Commissioner  
Johnny Floyd, Georgia Department of Transportation  
Dinorah Hall, Citizen's Transportation Committee Member  
Ed Rynders, Georgia House of Representative  
Bob Langstaff, Albany City Commissioner, Ward 5  
Dave Cox, Georgia Department of Transportation  
Ginette Mills, Administrative Secretary, Sr.  
Todd Long, Georgia Department of Transportation

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Sinyard called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES (June 16, 2011)**

There being no corrections or changes, a motion was made by Mr. Crowdis to approve the June 16, 2011 minutes. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved with the following votes:

James Taylor	yes
Richard Crowdis	yes
Tony Massey	yes
Ed Duffy	yes
Radney Simpson	yes (in the absence of Cynthia VanDyke)
Joe Sheffield	yes
Jeff Sinyard	yes
Dr. Willie Adams	absent
Cynthia VanDyke	absent

**TOPIC I (CTC Attendance)**

Mr. Hamilton regrettably noted that the Citizens Transportation Committee continues to have problems with attendance. Over the past few years, there has been little to no participation at the scheduled meetings. It was noted that members have not attended the meetings on a consistent basis, and there have not been enough members present to form a quorum. Mr. Hamilton plans to reach out to citizens again to encourage them to participate. He also sent attendance records to the respective bodies in Dougherty and Lee Counties, and to the City of Albany representatives for assistance. Mr. Hamilton asked members to please be mindful of the attendance issue when making their selections.

Ms. Hall commented that she, along with many other citizens, were not aware of this very important process. She feels that once the community is made aware of the committee, citizens will be delighted to participate in the process. Dr. Gillespie commented that attendance would probably improve if the agenda included topics that members are actually concerned about and want to discuss during the meetings.

Mr. Hamilton informed members that the Citizens Committee Bylaws are located on the City's website. Ms. Gaines suggested that staff members conduct a brief orientation for new committee members and provide a list of responsibilities outlining what is required of them as a committee member.

**TOPIC II (East Doublegate Road Classification)**

Dr. Gillespie stated that there is a serious issue with speeding on East Doublegate Drive. He noted that the topic had been discussed during the Technical Committee meeting, and members were going to investigate the situation further and continue to look for solutions. Dr. Gillespie also commented that there are eight to ten houses for sale on the street, and the owners assured him that they were moving because of the speeding traffic. Commissioner Langstaff commented that after discussing the issue with the Technical Committee, it was determined that the classification may not need to be changed. The Citizens Committee will review the findings issued by the Technical Committee before moving forward.

**TOPIC III (Roundabouts on Old Dawson Road)**

This topic was not discussed. Mr. Marietta was unable to attend the meeting, and no one was present to speak on his behalf.

#### **TOPIC IV (Intersection of Gillionville & Westover)**

Mr. Sinyard noted that there is an issue with speeding and congestion at the intersection of Gillionville Road and Westover Road. He commented that a major part of the problem is the accessibility of the lane. He added that drivers are able to enter the lane several hundred yards before approaching the light which enables them to travel 50 to 60 miles per hour in the turning lane; particularly between 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Mr. Sinyard further commented that there have been numerous accidents on that street, and something needs to be done before a fatal wreck occurs at that intersection. He requested that they continue to work on improving the intersection.

#### **TOPIC V (Transportation Investment Act Update)**

Mr. Long provided an update on the Transportation Investment Act. He explained that the Roundtable developed three main criteria for selecting the projects. He discussed the selection process, and noted that the Roundtable adopted a schedule for each project, which is published on the GDOT website. He reported that cities and counties were also asked to provide suggestions for projects, and over 4600 suggestions were submitted statewide. Mr. Long also discussed the Georgia Transportation Alliance and the next step in the process, which is the campaign. He discussed various projects on the list, and addressed numerous questions from committee members.

Ms. Gaines commented that we hear a lot about 75% of the funds, but not as much about the 25% discretionary funds. She inquired about the accountability aspect of the 25%, and asked who would be responsible for reporting on those particular funds. Mr. Long agreed that accountability was a big aspect of the campaign, and a discussion was held on the topic. Mr. Rynders discussed the importance of marketing the 25% discretionary funding within the community. Mr. Long thanked various committees in the region for their hard work, and stated that things went extremely well in this region.

Ms. Hall expressed her appreciation to Mr. Sinyard for being instrumental in modifying the language in the proposed expansion of Old Dawson Road (traffic flow enhancement/limited expansion). She noted that there were 221 signatures on the “Save Old Dawson Road Petition” aiming to minimize the aesthetic and ecological impact of the project; ultimately maintaining the integrity of the neighborhood. The “Save Old Dawson Road Petition” is a petition stating that property owners in Old Dawson Road were not aware of the proposed expansion and do not support widening. Ms. Hall stated that she is looking forward to working with the various committees and boards involved in the process. She hopes that they will be able to come up with a mutually satisfactory and effective solution for the community residents.

#### **TOPIC VI (Discussion)**

Mr. Sinyard recognized Gerald Goosby, and thanked him for a job well done. He commended Mr. Goosby and his team in Camilla for doing such an awesome job. Mr. Sinyard also expressed his appreciation to members that served on the Roundtable.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:08 a.m.