
MINUTES
DARTS POLICY COMMITTEE

Central Square Complex, 240 Pine Avenue, Room 380
Albany, Georgia 31702

September 20, 2012

PRESENT: Jeff Sinyard, Chairman, Dougherty County Commission
Dave Cox, GDOT Planning (voting for Cynthia VanDyke)
Richard Crowdis, Dougherty County Administrator
Ed Duffy, Lee County Commissioner
Dorothy Hubbard, Mayor, City of Albany
Tony Massey, Lee County Administrator
James Taylor, City Manager

ABSENT: Joe Sheffield, GDOT District Engineer
Cynthia VanDyke, State Transportation Planning Administrator

OTHERS

PRESENT: Bob Alexander, Lee County Director of Planning & Engineering
Randy Casagrande, Albany Traffic Engineering Manager
Gerald Goosby, Southwest Georgia Regional Commission
Olivia Lewis, U. S. Department of Transportation, FHWA
Bruce Maples, Engineering Director
Ginette Mills, Administrative Secretary, Sr.
Jennifer Newton, Transportation Planner
Brent Thomas, Georgia Department of Transportation
Kirby Browning, Citizen

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sinyard called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (June 21, 2012)

There being no corrections or changes, a motion was made by Mayor Hubbard to approve the June 21, 2012 minutes. Mr. Duffy seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved with the following votes:

Dave Cox	yes (in the absence of Cynthia VanDyke)
Richard Crowdis	yes
Ed Duffy	yes
Mayor Dorothy Hubbard	yes
Tony Massey	yes
Joe Sheffield	absent
Jeff Sinyard	yes
James Taylor	yes
Cynthia VanDyke	absent

TSPLOST UPDATE

Mr. Goosby reported that the TSPLOST referendum did not pass in the Southwest Georgia region, and he thanked everyone for all the hard work they put into the project over the past two years. He stated that although their efforts fell short, hopefully GDOT and the federal government will be able to come up with creative funding sources to complete a lot of the transportation projects in the Southwest Georgia region. Chairman Sinyard commended Mr. Goosby for doing a great job, and he also thanked everyone involved in the project. He stated that the project provided an opportunity for everyone to better understand the process as a region.

CHAIR/VICE-CHAIR ELECTIONS

Mr. Massey made a motion to nominate Mr. Sinyard as the Chairperson of the DARTS Policy Committee. Mayor Hubbard seconded the motion, and the nomination was unanimously approved with the following votes:

Dave Cox	yes (in the absence of Cynthia VanDyke)	Joe Sheffield	absent
Richard Crowdis	yes	Jeff Sinyard	abstained
Ed Duffy	yes	James Taylor	yes
Mayor Dorothy Hubbard	yes	Cynthia VanDyke	absent
Tony Massey	yes		

Mr. Duffy made a motion to nominate Mr. Massey as the Vice Chairperson of the DARTS Policy Committee. Mr. Massey declined the nomination, and withdrew his name.

Mr. Massey made a motion to nominate Mayor Hubbard as the Vice Chairperson of the DARTS Policy Committee. Mr. Crowdis seconded the motion, and the nomination was unanimously approved with the following votes:

Dave Cox	yes (in the absence of Cynthia VanDyke)	Joe Sheffield	absent
Richard Crowdis	yes	Jeff Sinyard	yes
Ed Duffy	yes	James Taylor	yes
Mayor Dorothy Hubbard	abstained	Cynthia VanDyke	absent
Tony Massey	yes		

EAST DOUBLEGATE STUDY UPDATE

Vamshi Mudumba and Dustin O'Quinn, LAI Engineering, were present to review the results of the East Doublegate/Weymouth Drive Traffic Study. Mr. Mudumba used a PowerPoint presentation (on file) to discuss the reason for the investigation, the engineering study process, conclusions, and recommendations. Speed studies, traffic counts, crash data analysis, and findings were also discussed during the presentation. Excessive speeding and significant deer related crashes were identified in the study, but the study did not identify any significant commercial cut through traffic. Based on the traffic patterns and circulation, LAI Engineering concluded that East Doublegate Drive and Weymouth Drive should remain as an urban collector street. LAI Engineering made the following recommendations: increase enforcement, install temporary speed trailers, add deer crossing signs, and provide LED radar speed sign displays.

Dr. Gillespie commented on behalf of citizens that live in the area, and noted that the residents are concerned about getting in and out of their driveways, their children, and speeding. They feel that it is the responsibility of the city and county to control traffic; it should not be their responsibility. Members discussed the effectiveness of each recommendation, and agreed to increase law enforcement in the area. The other recommendations will be considered as well.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Cox introduced Bryan Walker as the new staff member in GDOT's Planning Department. Mr. Walker will replace Krystal Harris, and attend meetings moving forward.

Dr. Gillespie presented pictures of a safety hazard that he reported several weeks ago, and he noted that the issue has not been addressed yet. He requested that more emphasis be placed on the needs of the handicap when projects are being considered. Mr. Crowdis replied that the 6" step off (located at the back exit of the Central Square Building near the Tax Department) meets all of the ADA and construction requirements. Dr. Gillespie commented that some components of ADA may need to be upgraded.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m.