
MINUTES
DARTS POLICY COMMITTEE

Lee County Library Conference Center, 445 West Oakland Parkway
Leesburg, Georgia 31763

December 6, 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
Joe Sheffield, GDOT District Engineer
James Taylor, City Manager

ABSENT: Cynthia VanDyke, State Transportation Planning Administrator

OTHERS

PRESENT: Bob Alexander, Lee County Director of Planning & Engineering
Ken Breedlove, City Engineering
Randy Casagrande, Albany Traffic Engineering Manager
Paul Forgey, Planning & Development Services Director
Dinorah Hall, Citizens Transportation Committee Chairman
Matthew Inman, EMC Engineering
Ginette Mills, Administrative Secretary, Sr.
Casey Moore, Leesburg City Clerk
Jennifer Newton, Transportation Planner
Surendra Pandey, Citizens Committee Member
Shane Pridgen, GDOT
Ken Ricket, Ellis, Ricket and Associates
Mary Teter, Planning Manager
Brent Thomas, Georgia Department of Transportation
Ryan Walker, GDOT

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (September 20, 2012)

There being no corrections or changes, a motion was made by Mr. Massey to approve the September 20, 2012 minutes. Mayor Hubbard seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved with the following votes:

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

REVISION OF ALBANY URBANIZED AREA ADJUSTMENT

Ms. Newton reported that she has been instructed by GDOT to smooth and adjust the Albany urbanized area boundaries so that they will be easily defined. She reviewed maps of the proposed boundaries, and noted that the revisions will not change funding or the MPO boundaries. Mayor Hubbard asked how often the process has to be completed, and Ms. Newton replied that the last process was completed in 2010.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Crowdis to approve the revised Albany urbanized area boundaries. Mr. Cox seconded the motion, and the revised Albany urbanized area boundaries were approved with the following votes:

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

BY-LAWS AMENDMENT

Ms. Newton reported that the Citizens Transportation Committee held a special called meeting on October 2nd to discuss meeting dates and future elections. Members agreed to make only one change to the CTC section, which is located on Page 3 of the bylaws. The CTC voted to recommend that the DARTS Bylaws be amended as follows: Following an initial election, the Vice Chairperson will become the Chairperson the following year, and a new Vice Chairperson will be elected each year. If the Vice Chairperson is unable to serve as the Chairperson the following year, the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson will be elected. If the Chairperson is unable to serve before his/her term expires, the Vice Chairperson will assume the position of the Chairperson.

Ms. Hall commented that there are two County vacancies on the Citizens Transportation Committee, which resulted from the unfortunate resignations of Chairman Dr. Gillespie and Commissioner Gaines. She also thanked the City for supporting the committee's efforts to disseminate all transportation issues to the city at large. Ms. Hall stated that this will ensure that citizens are given an opportunity to make comments, suggestions and recommendations during every stage of a project's lifespan. She encouraged members to contact her with any thoughts and/or suggestions that they may have in terms of reaching the community.

There being no further discussion, Mr. Massey made a motion to amend the CTC section of the DARTS Bylaws as follows: Following an initial election, the Vice Chairperson will become the Chairperson the following year, and a new Vice Chairperson will be elected each year. If the Vice Chairperson is unable to serve as the Chairperson the following year, the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson will be elected. If the Chairperson is unable to serve before his/her term expires, the Vice Chairperson will assume the position of the Chairperson. Mayor Hubbard seconded the motion, and the motion to amend the CTC section of the DARTS Bylaws was approved with the following votes:

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

STARKSVILLE STUDY

Ken Ricket, Ellis, Ricket and Associates, used a PowerPoint presentation (on file) to review the Starksville study, and to discuss several concepts that came out of the project. He gave a brief overview of the areas that were studied, ways to improve parking and traffic flow around the courthouse, various proposals, and several recommendations for future development. He also discussed ways to improve the downtown view in front of the courthouse, and the possibility of establishing a community wide nursery project. Mr. Ricket addressed questions regarding anticipated traffic flow issues, and Mr. Alexander responded to inquiries about funding.

FORRESTER PARKWAY STUDY

Matthew Inman, EMC Engineering, used a PowerPoint presentation (on file) to provide an overview of the Forrester Parkway Extension study. He discussed the project's summary, objectives and background. He also presented maps of the proposed roadway area, seven proposed alignments, and the recommended alignment. Mr. Inman addressed questions regarding the traffic count, the impact to landowners and wetlands, potential roundabouts, and allowances for future development.

Mr. Alexander commented on the issue of excessive speeding in the Hickory Grove/Highway 82 area. He noted that plans are being made to conduct another study as the area develops. The study will document the traffic impact in that area, and help determine whether there is a need for a traffic light at that location.

DISCUSSION

No discussion was held.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.