

Policy Committee Minutes
Thursday, September 17, 2020, at 10:00 AM
Virtual Meeting
Zoom -

CALL TO ORDER

Chris Cohilas called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM

PRESENT:

Bo Dorough	Mayor, City of Albany
Sharon Subadan	City Manager, City of Albany
Bob Alexander	Vice-Chair Leesburg City Manager
Christopher Cohilas	Chair, Dougherty County Commission
Michael McCoy	Dougherty County Administrator
Billy Mathis	Lee County Commission
Rozanne Braswell	Lee County Director of Planning & Engineering
Tanner Anderson	Planner I
Kerrie Davis	Transportation Planner III
Gwendolyn McDaniel	Transportation Planner
Chris Prokesh	Leesburg Chief of Police
Ann Marie Day	U. S. Department of Transportation FHWA
Jacqueline Williams	GDOT Office of Planning, Transportation Planner, Atlanta
Denise Clark	Administrative Assistant

ABSENT:

Russell McMurry	GDOT Commissioner
Richard Bush	Mayor, City of Leesburg
Van Mason	GDOT District Engineer, District 4

OTHERS:

Kevin Vamper

REVIEW OF MINUTES (June 18, 2020)

Bob Alexander offered a motion to accept the minutes of June 18, 2020, as distributed. Seconded by Gwendolyn Mc Daniel, the motion carried unanimously.

TOPIC I

Vice-Chair Election

Nominations were opened for the Vice-Chair.

Chris Cohilas nominated Billy Mathis as the upcoming vice-chair.

The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further discussion, nominations were closed.

TOPIC II

Transportation Update

Kerrie Davis

MPO 101 – Unified Planning Work Program 2022

Kerrie Davis gave an overview of the upcoming activities:

Annual allocations of planning dollars identify planning priorities, activities, assist with upcoming goals in meeting federal requirements.

FY 2022 begins on July 1, 2021

FY 2022

- Freight Profile Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan update
- Hire additional staff person – Done
- Implementing the new MTP
- Safety Campaign – Pedestrian accidents and Safety
- FY 2022 - Call for planning-related activities and priorities – Committee and Community

Citizens Technical Committee identified priorities:

- Standing agenda item on the Policy Committee agenda to discuss what happens in the CTC meetings
- Review of bylaws- pages 5, 6, and 7 regarding the Committee hierarchy and meeting structure.
- DARTS web page – Updates are in the process
- Corridor plan for Oglethorpe Blvd.

Participation Plan Update (*Recommendation Needed*)

Bob Alexander offered a motion to forward the Participation Plan update to GDOT for approval, Mayor Bo Dorough seconded by the motion carried unanimously.

Functional Classification Change

Request – Mr. Kevin Vamper (*Recommendation Needed*)

Kerrie gave a brief overview of the functional classification change for 102 Flint Ave., submitted by Kevin Vamper.

She informed the committee that 102 Flint Ave is currently listed as a local road and backs up to a residential area.

Traffic counts were submitted to justify classification changes; hence, did meet the travel volume for reclassification.

The request must be reviewed by the MPO committees before forwarding to GDOT.

Mr. Vamper was present to represent the reclassification request.

Followed by a discussion.

The chair opened the floor for a motion.

There being no motion, the committee moved on to the next item of business.

Lee County (*Recommendation Needed*)

Kerrie stated that Lee County has submitted sixteen functional classification changes for roadways and systems in Lee County. The request must be forwarded to GDOT for further discussion.

Followed by a discussion.

Billy Mathis offered a motion to forward the functional classification requests to GDOT and Federal Highway for approval. Seconded by Bob Alexander, the motion carried unanimously.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Kerrie stated that the committee will receive a copy of the TIP. This program must be updated every four years to discuss funding for upcoming short- and long-term projects.

Downtown Signal Upgrade Project – 16 Signals

Updating 16 traffic signals in downtown Albany - bids will go out in September- project slated to begin in January 2021.

Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP Grant)

Working with GDOT - Bids have been received and awarded.

The city of Leesburg is currently in the process of negotiating with Southeast Engineering on a project in the downtown area.

TOPIC II

Transit Update

**Albany Transportation Center update
Hamilton**

David

David stated that the existing center has been demolished.
Approval from FTA on the Archeological report by Nov. 30th.
Design and Development plans were completed in June of 2020.

Future Estimated Projections:

- Submit plans to Planning and Development Services for review. Comments are due Oct. 30th
- Issue a bid for construction on Nov. 9th - day opens on Dec. 4th.
- Award a construction contract on Jan. 8, 2021
- Issue a notice to proceed by Jan 11, 2021
- Project completion of Jan-2020

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Transit Development Plan (TDP)

Gwendolyn McDaniel

Report as follows:

- Extensive financial and operational data collection effort is complete
- Existing Conditions Report is 85% complete and incorporates socioeconomic population and employment data from the DARTS 2045 MTP
- Public and Stakeholder Engagement process is underway with the first digital public workshop slated for early October.
- Will include strategies for both technology-based input and options for those with limited or no access
- Will include a 360 virtual public workshop platform where participants can engage with consultants and staff, view materials such as maps and presentations, and provide feedback via ArcGIS Pro mapping tools and surveys.
- The public survey is in draft format and will launch before the virtual public workshop
- Bus Stop Improvements Program is underway with focused data collection and analysis, peer system review, and coordination activities ongoing.

- BRT Corridor Identification element of the TDP is underway with data collection completed and preliminary corridors undergoing screening for appropriate characteristics needed to support enhanced transit.
- The project is currently on schedule for recommendations in January 2021

TOPIC III

Kerrie Davis gave an overview of the upcoming traffic signal, street resurfacing, and alley paving projects within the City of Albany.

Bob Alexander gave an overview of the current parking and additional sidewalk projects.

Rosanne Braswell gave an overview of current and future road improvement projects within Lee County.

TOPIC IV

Airport Report

David Hamilton

David stated that two flights are departing daily. COVID-19 precautions are in place.

TOPIC V

Discussion

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.

Minutes submitted by,
Denise Clark
Administrative Assistant
Planning and Development Services