

DARTS Policy Committee Minutes
Thursday, January 19, 2022, at 10:00 A.M.
Virtual Meeting - Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

Policy Chair Billy Breeden called the meeting to order at 10:04 AM.

PRESENT

Billy Breeden	(Chair) Mayor, City of Leesburg
Bob Alexander	City Manager, City of Leesburg
Scott Chambers	District 4 Engineer, GDOT
Jackie Williams	Representative, GDOT (Proxy For Radney Simpson)
Michael McCoy	Dougherty County Administrator
Billy Mathis	Chairperson, Lee County Commission
Lorenzo Heard	(Vice-Chair) Chairperson, Dougherty County Commission
Bo Dorrough	Mayor, City of Albany

ABSENT

Steven Carter	City Manager, City of Albany
Paul Forgey	Director, City of Albany Planning & Development
Shaun Cookson	Superintendent of Operations, S.W. Georgia Regional Airport
Ken Breedlove	Traffic Engineering, City of Albany
Jeremy Brown	Director, Dougherty County Engineering
Robert Griffin	Interim, Director of Engineering, City of Albany

OTHERS PRESENT

Tanner Anderson	Planner II, City of Albany
Jason Tolbert	Transit Planner, City of Albany
Shawnasi Barron	Transit Superintendent of Operations, City of Albany

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (September 22, 2022)

Motion to approve minutes by Bob Alexander. Seconded and approved unanimously.

TOPIC I Transportation Update Tanner Anderson

FY24 UPWP

T. Anderson stated that Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 will begin July 1, 2023 and run through June 30, 2024. The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) identifies and describes the MPO's budget, planning activities, studies and technical support expected in a one-year period. T. Anderson gave examples of the Freight Profile, Bike & Pedestrian Plan, 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

T. Anderson informed the committee that the funding allocation had been released with the total PL funding amount being \$223,368.71. That would be Federal Share (80%) of \$178,694.95 and Local Share of \$44,673.74. T. Anderson stated this would be the second-year

funding is received for Y410 (Increasing Safe & Accessible Transportation Options) with that amount being \$4,940.01.

T. Anderson gave a brief overview of activities planned for FY24.

- 2050 MTP Update
- Transportation Planner I
- Intersection Studies (SR 133 @ Haley/Cedric, Hickory Grove & US 82 Intersection
- Bicycle & Ped Pathway Alternatives
- Monthly Newsletters

Motion to send out the document for public review was made by B. Alexander. Seconded by B. Dorough and passed unanimously.

2023 Safety Performance Targets

T. Anderson briefed members that every year the Georgia Department of Transportation's (GDOT) set safety performance targets that MPOs adopt. The MPO can follow the State targets or identify its own targets. T. Anderson stated that in the past the MPO had decided to fall in line with State targets. T. Anderson advised that the numbers were based off a 5-year rolling average but 2020 was not considered due to COVID-19 causing an anomaly.

T. Anderson presented the 2023 PM 1 Safety Targets to members of the committee.

- Number of Fatalities -To maintain the 5-year rolling average for traffic fatalities under the projected 1,680 (2019-2023) 5-year average by December 2023.
- Fatality Rate -To maintain the 5-year moving average traffic fatalities per 100MVMT under the projected 1.36 (2019-2023) 5-year average by December 2023
- Number of Serious Injuries -To main the 5-year moving average serious traffic injuries under the project 8,966 (2019-2023) 5-year average by December 2023.
- Serious Injury Rate - To maintain the 5-year moving average serious injury per 100MVMT under the projected 7.69 (2019-2023) 5-year average by December 2023.
- Number of Non-motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries - maintain the number of non-motorist serious injuries and fatalities under the projected 802 (2019-2023 rolling average) by 2023.

B. Dorough made a motion to adopt the state targets. Seconded by B. Alexander and passed unanimously.

Freight Profile Update

T. Anderson informed members that the draft went out before the September 2022 quarterly meeting. Metro Analytics has addressed comments from GDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). There is no formal resolution or adoption, just that the MPO addresses all comments before acceptance.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update:

T. Anderson stated that the draft went out the first week of January 2023. The document is out for public comment and being review by GDOT and FHWA. The plan will formally be accepted at our April Quarterly meeting.

2050 MTP

T. Anderson informed members that the contract had been received and the signature process was underway. Request for Proposals (RFP) went out at the beginning of January 2023 and would close in February 2023. T. Anderson reminded everyone that this long-range plan was lasted updated in 2019 and of its importance. This document must be adopted by November 2024. I expect a consultant on board by the end of February 2023.

B. Alexander asked about the possibility of extending SR 32 to US 19. T. Anderson stated that it would need to be an amendment voted on by the Technical and Policy Committee. This project would also not only need to be in the TIP but in the MTP as well.

T. Anderson stated he would get with GDOT on the seeing on how we go about adding a project for funding.

FY24-27 TIP

T. Anderson stated that the MPO is currently working on the FY24-27 TIP. GDOT is also working on its FY24-27 Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP). T. Anderson sent out a timeline in late 2022 but it would need to be adjusted. The MPO's FY24-27 TIP cannot be adopted until the GDOT had adopted its STIP. The last update to the TIP was in 2021.

TOPIC II

Transit Update

Jason Tolbert

Albany Transportation Center Update:

Transportation Center is on schedule. A few changes have come up. Greyhound will service the Albany area but not have staff on site. The occupancy date is set for January 2023, and a ribbon cutting ceremony will be scheduled at later date.

TOPIC III

Engineering Update

City of Albany – Ken Breedlove:

K. Breedlove is not present for update. T. Anderson brief members on report from Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC).

Magnolia sidewalk north of Gillionville is complete. Old Dawson Rd. sidewalk between Westover and Dawson Rd. is complete.

Reeves has 2 of 36 roads left to resurface. Oxford has completed resurface of 33 roads and working on a punch list.

SPLOST VII's 13 alleys have been completed.

Nottingham Way has been restriped changed from 2-lane to 2-lane with center left turn between Stuart and Whispering Pines.

We have restriped Westover Blvd from Meredyth Dr. to the City limits and Westtown Rd from Oakridge Rod to Gordon Ave. The striping is complete waiting contractor to complete sign work.

We have another striping project for Downtown Albany and one-way streets. These include Radium Springs from City limits to Broad Ave., Front St., Washington, Jackson, Monroe, Madison, W. Broad to Davis.

Notification received from GDOT for PI# 0017843, this is for traffic signal upgrades at Dougherty County and the City of Albany.

We also have the Streetscape Project and 16-Traffic Signal Projects ongoing in Downtown Albany.

Resurfacing Project under on SR234 from Byron Ridge Drive to SR520, and working to collect info regarding valve covers and sewer covers.

Activating new school flashers and working with Lighting Department schedule to connect power.

Dougherty County - Jeremy Brown:

J. Brown is not present for update. T. Anderson brief members on report from Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC).

Phase II & III of the Radium sections of the Flint River Trail has been completed. This completes over 4 miles of concrete multipurpose trails. Grand opening festival was held this past November.

Construction layout has begun on the Albany State University (ASU) to Downtown Trail Segment. This segment will begin on the north side of Broad Ave bridge and terminate south of ASU's

athletic fields.

2021 LMIG resurfacing and Safety Action Plan is under contract. Resurfacing is complete and signage improvements are still in the process.

We anticipate the bigging out of 2022 and 2023 LMIG resurfacing projects in the first quarter of this year. Hopefully we will see a decrease in asphalt prices by then.

Phase II of County alley paving is complete. Design of Phase III, the final phase, is complete and anticipate bidding this out the first quarter of the year as well.

Lee County – Christi Dockery:

Lee County's Christi Dockery was not present. Report will be reflected in the minutes.

On October 11, 2022, the Lee County Board of Commissioners met for a regularly scheduled voting session to discuss the LMIG application and its accompanying projects. The Board unanimously voted to allocate the 2023 LMIG funds of \$627,424.76 with a 30% local match for a total of \$188,227.23 to complete the paving of Fairethome Drive, Heathridge Court, Hearthstone Drive, Sterling Drive, Pewter Court, Willow Lake Drive, Fair Oaks Court, Hickory Ridge Court, Ravenwood Court, Maplewood Court, Cannon Drive, Quail Street, Stanley Street, Northwood Drive, Balmoral Drive, Brittany Lakes Drive, Elgin Drive, Montrose Drive, Sportmans Club Road, Graves Spring Road, Cedric Street, and Lumpkin Road West.

On December 13, 2022, the Lee County Board of Commissioners met for a regularly scheduled voting session and unanimously voted to award the bid for the 2023 LMIG Resurfacing Project to Reeves Construction Company for \$1,977,781.35. As of March 21, 2023, Reeves Construction Company has completed every road with the exception of Cedric Street and Lumpkin Road West, as they are currently awaiting railroad permits.

Also, Georgia Department of Transportation has reached out regarding a possible roundabout located at SR 133@ CR 109/Cedric Street. This project is still being discussed and nothing has been finalized.

Leesburg – Bob Alexander

City of Leesburg is currently working the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) on Transportation Alternative Project (TAP) for Downtown Leesburg, that will include sidewalks and downtown beautification.

We also have a sidewalk project apart of the school connectivity study on Firetower Rd and SR 32/US19.

In addition, we have several studies involved with the school connectivity study.

TOPIC IV

Airport Update

Shaun Cookson

Corporate Hanger:

S. Cookson is not present for update. T. Anderson brief members on report from Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC).

stated that project is dealing with the same issues as the Transit Center with some items not available. S. Cookson says the transition between the hangers and terminal building should begin soon. Date for a grand opening ceremony will be provided later.

General Aviation Terminal:

The asbestos abatement of the terminal is currently being done and will be demolished once completed.

TOPIC V

Citizens' Transportation Update Tanner Anderson

T. Anderson briefed members on topics brought up during the Citizens' Transportation Committee Meeting. A question was raised on where the idea of the Lee County transit route came from. Concerns on the transit staff shortage was also brought and wished to be a continued agenda item moving forward.

TOPIC VI

Discussion

No Further Discussion

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 10:28 AM.

Submitted by: Tanner Anderson

Approved by: