

DARTS Technical Coordinating Committee Minutes

Thursday, January 19, 2023, at 9:00 A.M.

Virtual Meeting - Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

Paul Forgey called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM.

PRESENT

Paul Forgey	(Technical Chair) Director, City of Albany Planning & Development
Tanner Anderson	Planner II, City of Albany Planning & Development
Ken Breedlove	(Vice-Chair) Traffic Engineering Manager, City of Albany
Jeremy Brown	Director, Dougherty County Engineering
Shaun Cookson	Superintendent of Operations, S.W. Georgia Regional Airport
Robert Griffin	Managing Director, Interim, City of Albany Engineering
Jackie Williams	GDOT Office of Planning Representative
Dennis Carter	District 4 Planning & Programming Coordinator, GDOT <i>(Non-voting)</i>
Jason Tolbert	Transit Planner, Albany Transit
Jason Willingham	District 4 Preconstruction Engineer, GDOT
Joseph Longo	FHWA Representative <i>(Non-voting)</i>
Angel Gray	Planning Manager, Albany-Dougherty Planning <i>(Non-voting)</i>

ABSENT

Bob Alexander	Director, City of Leesburg Public Works
Don Gray	Director, Dougherty County Engineering
David Hamilton	Transportation Director, City of Albany
Kenneth Johnson	Chief of Police, Dougherty County
Bruce Maples	Assistant City Manager, City of Albany
Chuck Mathis	Director, Dougherty County Public Works
Michael Persley	Chief of Police, City of Albany
Stacey Rowe	Director, City of Albany Public Works
Beka Shiver	Representative, S.W. Georgia Regional Commission
Billy Merritt	Chairperson, Albany-Dougherty Planning Commission <i>(non-voting)</i>
Brian C. Langford	Staff Representative, GDOT Office of Planning <i>(non-voting)</i>
Janine Miller	Staff Representative, GDOT Office of Intermodal <i>(non-voting)</i>

Others Present

Shawnasi Barron	Superintendent of Transit Operations
Denise Clark	Transportation Planner II, City of Albany
Shawnasi Barron	Superintendent, Albany Transit
Jessica Savage	Administrative Specialist, Engineering
Kimberly Brooks	Community Development Manager, Dougherty Community & Economic Development
Lequricia Gaskins	Downtown City Manager, City of Albany

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (September 22, 2022)

Motion to approve minutes by J. Brown. Seconded by K. Breedlove and approved unanimously.

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

T. Anderson stated a recommendation to send the FY24 UPWP out for public review would be needed by the committee.

S. Cookson made a motion to send the FY24 UPWP out for public review. Seconded by J. Brown and approved 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 100MVT 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.

S. Cookson motioned to adopt the state performance targets. Seconded by R. Griffin and approved 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.

P. Forgey asked if this would be passed on to the Policy Committee. T. Anderson stated it would for final acceptance.

K. Breedlove motioned to accept the Freight Profile and move it to the Policy Committee. Seconded by J. Brown and approved unanimously.

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.

P. Forgey encouraged all members of the committee to review the plan and provide feedback.

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 last 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.

Ann-Marie asked if PL Contracts had been received and executed. T. Anderson stated that all contracts had been received and were being circulated for signature. A problem with the notary seal has kept the contracts from being executed.

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.

T. Anderson says the schedule could very well change based on State Adoption.

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.

J. Tolbert gave a brief overview on the new transit center. J. Tolbert stated the facility was 90% complete and they are waiting on an electronic panel box to be shipped. The delay in shipping has pushed back the opening date several times.

P. Forgey asked when the facility should be expected to be open to the public. J. Tolbert stated that everything should be moved in and open to the public by March 2023.

TOPIC III

Engineering Update

City of Albany – Ken Breedlove:

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:

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:

T. Anderson stated that Lee County was not present but a report would 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

T. Anderson stated Leesburg was not present, but a report would be reflected in the minutes.

City of Leesburg is currently working with 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 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

S. Cookson spoke on the GDOT Air Cargo Study and how Southwest Georgia Regional Airport is the second largest freight carrier in the state. The Airport is the largest in the state for United Parcel Service (UPS).

S. Cookson also briefed members on the FAA inspections that took place in December 2022. The airport is in compliance with all regulations.

J. Longo informed the committee that FY24 PL funding amounts were released and will need to be included in the adoption of the FY24 UPWP. GIS Data has been released for the 2020 Census urban boundaries.

J. Longo reminded members that the Department of Transportation (DOT) navigator website is a good tool for looking at Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO) and dates for application deadlines. T. Anderson stated he would send links from J. Longo out to the committee member.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:32 AM.

Submitted by: Tanner Anderson
Approved by: