**CALL TO ORDER**

Paul Forgey called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **PRESENT**  Paul Forgey  Tanner Anderson  Ken Breedlove  Jeremy Brown  Shaun Cookson  Jessica Savage  Jackie Williams  Dennis Carter  Jason Tolbert  Jason Willingham  Joseph Longo  Angel Gray  Shawnasi Barron  Don Gray  Larry McClain | **(Technical Chair)** Director, City of Albany Planning & Development  Planner II, City of Albany Planning & Development  **(Vice-Chair)** Traffic Engineering Manager, City of Albany  Director, Dougherty County Engineering  Superintendent of Operations, S.W. Georgia Regional Airport  Administrative Assistant (Proxy for Robert Griffin)  GDOT Office of Planning Representative  District 4 Planning & Programming Coordinator, GDOT *(Non-voting)*  Transit Planner, Albany Transit  District 4 Preconstruction Engineer, GDOT  FHWA Representative *(Non-voting)*  Planning Manager, Albany-Dougherty Planning *(Non-voting)*  Superintendent, Albany Transit *(Proxy for David Hamilton)*  Facilities Management Director, City of Albany  Citizens’ Transportation Committee, Chairman *(Non-Voting)* |
|  |  |
| **ABSENT**  Robert Griffin  Bob Alexander  David Hamilton  Kenneth Johnson  Bruce Maples  Chuck Mathis  Michael Persley  Stacey Rowe  Beka Shiver  Billy Merritt  Brian C. Langford  Janine Miller | Interim Director, City of Albany Engineering  Director, City of Leesburg Public Works  Transportation Director, City of Albany  Chief of Police, Dougherty County  Assistant City Manager, City of Albany  Director, Dougherty County Public Works  Chief of Police, City of Albany  Director, City of Albany Public Works  Representative, S.W. Georgia Regional Commission  Chairperson, Albany-Dougherty Planning Commission *(non-voting)*  Staff Representative, GDOT Office of Planning *(non-voting)*  Staff Representative, GDOT Office of Intermodal *(non-voting)* |
|  |  |
| **Others Present**  Shawnasi Barron  Denise Clark  Shawnasi Barron  Lequrica Gaskins  Richard Fangmann  Micah Dickman  Amber Berg | Superintendent of Transit Operations  Transportation Planner II, City of Albany  Superintendent, Albany Transit  Downtown City Manager, City of Albany  Pond & Co, Project Manager  UrbanSDK, Planner  Modern Mobility |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** | (January 19, 2023) |  |

Motion to approve minutes by J. Brown. Seconded by S. Cookson and approved unanimously.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **TOPIC I** | Transportation Update | Tanner Anderson |

**FY24 UPWP**

T. Anderson stated that work began on the FY24 UPWP in September 2022 with the committee voting in January 2023 to send the document out for public review.

T. Anderson briefly went over the changes made from the draft document to the final document. He stated the biggest difference was the small change in the PL Funding amount. The total amount now is $221, 823.84 with the Federal match being $177,459.07 and Local match being $44,364.77.

T. Anderson stated a recommendation would be needed to send the document to the Policy Committee for approval.

*K. Breedlove made a motion to send the FY24 UPWP to the Policy Committee for approval. Seconded by S. Cookson and approved unanimously.*

**2023 Safety Performance Targets & Report (PM2 & PM3)**

T. Anderson briefed members the committees recently voted to adopt the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) Safety Performance Targets for PM1 in January 2023. Those targets are voted on every year.

T. Anderson stated that the target’s presented today are PM2 & PM3 Safety Targets that are adopted every 4-years. PM2 Targets are established to assess pavement condition and bridge condition for the National Highway Performance Program. T. Anderson informed the committee that in the FY21-24 TIP there was $872,000.00 programmed for bridge. PM3 Targets assess performance of the National Highway System, Freight Movement on the interstate system, and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program. T. Anderson informed the committee that in the FY21-24 TIP there was $247,000.00 programmed to address truck travel time reliability.

T. Anderson stated that these targets needed to be adopted before the June Quarterly meeting and the MPO had followed state targets previous times.

*S. Cookson made the motion to recommend PM2 & PM3 Safety Targets to the Policy Committee. Seconded by J. Brown and approved unanimously.*

**Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update:**

T. Anderson stated that the draft went out in January 2023. Comments were received by Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and GDOT. An updated Bike-Pedestrian Plan was sent back out to the committee with the comments addressed. A formal resolution isn’t required for this document.

T. Anderson introduced Project Manager, Richard Fangmann with Pond & Co. to give a brief presentation on the Bicycle-Pedestrian Plan.

Discussion followed the presentation with questions regarding the project list and recommendations.

P. Forgey asked T. Anderson that we consider maybe making a formal resolution of some sort to conclude our studies.

**2050 MTP**

T. Anderson informed members that proposals were received and reviewed by the PAG Committee. The Selected Consultant will go before the Host City (City of Albany). A draft should be available by Summer 2024 and adoption will be needed in Fall 2024.

**FY24-27 TIP**

T. Anderson stated that the MPO is currently working on the FY24-27 TIP. The TIP is a prioritization list of transportation projects over a 4-year period. The last update was done in June 2021. The FY24-27 will not be able to go in effect until the STIP is adopted, which is expected in August 2023. The draft will be going out in the next week with an adoption expected in June 2023.

**UrbanSDK Dataset Presentation**

T. Anderson introduced M. Dickman with UrbanSDK. M. Dickman stated he worked with Georgia MPO’s on datasets that help with Safety Action Plans, Model Calibration, Monthly Check-ins and identifying hotspots in the community. M. Dickman gave a brief presentation on what UrbanSDK can provide to the DARTS MPO. Discussion followed with questions.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **TOPIC II** | Transit Update | Jason Tolbert |

**Albany Transportation Center Update:**

J. Tolbert stated as of March 27th the new transit center is open and is being used as our hub for fixed-routes and greyhound. We are currently transitioning our Rider app from Route Match to Trip Spark. This should help with reliability, on-time ratio, and ridership as well.

We are still dealing with a driver shortage, but we are actively and aggressively looking for drivers. We have digital and physical billboards around the City of Albany. We are also offering a $1,000 signing bonus.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **TOPIC III** | Engineering Update |  |

**City of Albany – Ken Breedlove:**

Current sidewalk projects are complete except for a few punch list items.

Phase B resurfacing projects are complete; Phase A is completed except for a few punch list items.

8th Ave Basin Combined Sewer Separation work is happening around Hover and 13th.

Subsurface Utility Contractors are working on Traffic Signals at the intersections of Broad & Broadway and Broad & Turner Field Rd. An Appraiser for property acquisition has been hired for N. Doublegate at Dawson Rd. We are reconsidering installing a new signal at Stuart and Nottingham without acquiring Right-Of-Way (ROW). Railroad work is being done on Monroe with 5-traffic signal in all on Roosevelt Ave. The Concept report was approved for the 16-Downtown Traffic Signals in February. The let date is for July 2025 but the project is a couple months ahead of schedule.

City Commission is considering providing an additional $1,000,000 from SPLOST & TSPLOST for traffic calming measures.

**Dougherty County - Jeremy Brown:**

Contractor should be onsite within the next week or so finishing up our LMIG Safety Action Plan, which includes replacing and adding new signage on 6 County roads which are: Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Eight Mile Road, Gravel Hill Road, Radium Springs Road, Holly Drive, and Tallahassee Road.

The Flint River Trail Segment from ASU (East Campus) to downtown (1.3 miles) is currently under construction. The majority of the mass grading is complete as well as most of the drainage infrastructure and retaining walls. Weather permitting, we expect to start pouring the actual concrete trail in a few weeks.

We will shortly be bidding out the third and final phase of alleys to be paved, which totals 5 alleys. We are currently drafting our drainage and construction easements that we will need for construction. We are hopefully to start construction this summer.

We also have a couple drainage improvements and paving projects currently in design that will affect several roads throughout Dougherty County. This will save up some aging infrastructure as well and pave some smaller, spaced-out dirt roads to help cut maintenance costs. Hope to have those out for bid by mid-late summer.

P&G also has a project underway that will affect traffic on Power & Trailer Lane, as well as Mock Road and Moultrie Road. The goal is to re-route the entering and exiting truck traffic to lessen the congestion on Moultrie Road. The construction for this project was set to begin this past Monday; however, complete plans have not been approved for construction yet.

**Lee County – Christi Dockery:**

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

All LMIG road projects have been completely resurfaced. The project was delayed on two roads due to waiting on necessary railroad permits; however, once completed, the railroad corssing were greatly improved. Shoulder work and hydro seeding has also begun and while a few roads are still in need of striping and rumble strips, he stated that the project should be fully completed within a few weeks. A punch list will also be created for any repairs needed.

**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 & General Aviation Terminal:**

S. Cookson stated asbestos abatement has been completed on the terminal building and it has been demolished. Currently, the new terminal building is going up. We also received a Certificate of Occupancy for our the new hangers.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **TOPIC V** | Agency Updates | GDOT/FHWA |

T. Anderson introduced A. Berg with Modern Mobility to speak on Carbon Reduction Strategy and introducing it to the MPOS. A. Berg stated that the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) is a established program under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) that was passed recently. The purpose of the program is to fund projects that will reduce Carbon Emissions. Approximately $211 Million has been apportioned to the State of Georgia with 43% of that funding going to MPOs.

Berg informed the committee that the Carbon Reduction Strategy (CRS) plan would be required for all State DOT’s and that it would be updated every 4 years and developed in coordination with MPOs.

Berg gave the committee examples of activities that are included in program funding including Transit, Transportation demand management, retrofitting LED lighting, alternative fuel vehicles, intelligent transportation system capital improvements and the development of Carbon Reduction strategy.

Berg stated they are currently gathering feedback from stakeholders and MPOs on what should be included in the draft. The CRS plan is expected to be done by September 30, 2023, prior to the FHWA November 15th submission deadline.

Berg informed everyone that Seth Hartley would be the Point of Contact for outreach moving forward on the CRS Plan.

P. Forgey asked if there were anymore GDOT or FHWA agency updates.

J. Longo of FHWA informed the committee that the FY23 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is open through July 10th. The key requirement is that if you don’t have an existing action plan in place, you will need that in order to go after an implementation plan. The stress for the action plan is that you need to do a safety analysis for the entire jurisdiction for all roads.

J. Longo stated that there is Y410 Implementation guidance now available, and webinars are upcoming as well.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **TOPIC VII** | Citizens’ Transportation Committee |

T. Anderson informed the committee that the only concern brought over from the Citizens’ Transportation Committee was ridership with transit. Transit is working diligently to address those concerns.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 10:03 AM.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Submitted by: | Tanner Anderson |