**CALL TO ORDER**

B. Breeden called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM.

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| **PRESENT**  Billy Breeden  Bob Alexander  Steven Carter  Scott Chambers  Ted Hicks  Jackie Williams  Barry Brooks  Christi Dockery  Bo Dorough  Paul Forgey  David Hamilton  Vivian Canizares | **(Chair)** Mayor, City of Leesburg  City Manager, City of Leesburg  City Manager, City of Albany  District 4 Engineer, GDOT  Branch Chief, GDOT Office of Planning  Representative, GDOT Office of Planning  Dougherty County Assistant Administrator  County Manager, Lee County  Mayor, City of Albany  Director of Planning & Development, City of Albany  Transportation Director, City of Albany  GDOT Office of Planning Representative |
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| **ABSENT**  Billy Mathis  Lorenzo Heard  Ken Breedlove  Jeremy Brown  Robert Griffin | Chairperson, Lee County Commission  **(Vice Chair)** Chairperson, Dougherty County Commission  Traffic Engineering, City of Albany  Director, Dougherty County Engineering  Interim, Director of Engineering, City of Albany |
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| **OTHERS PRESENT**  Tanner Anderson  Marina Rosen  Jason Tolbert | Planner II, City of Albany  Transportation Planner I, City of Albany  Transit Planner, City of Albany |
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| **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** | (June 22, 2023) |  |

Motion to approve minutes by B. Dorough. Seconded and approved unanimously.

**TOPIC I** Election of Vice-Chair

B. Alexander made the motion to elect Mayor Bo Dorough Vice-Chair. Seconded and approved unanimously.

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| **TOPIC II** | Transportation Update | Tanner Anderson |

**FY24-27 TIP**

T. Anderson stated that the Technical Committee passed all the recommendations to approve this document. T. Anderson further stated that the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a prioritized listing of transportation projects over a 4-year period that is developed and formally adopted by an MPO as part of the metropolitan transportation planning process, consistent with the metropolitan transportation plan, and required for projects to be eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S.C. and Title 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53. The TIP must be updated every other year and was last updated in June 2021. We have received comments from GDOT and FHWA; these comments were addressed and put into the comment section of the TIP. The FY24-27 TIP will not be able to go into effect until the STIP is adopted.

*Motion to approve the FY24-27 TIP made by B. Alexander seconded by B. Dorough and passed unanimously.*

**2045 MTP Amendment #3**

T. Anderson informed the committee that the only comment made by the steering committee, when this went out for public review was regarding the Oglethorpe Bridge Project being moved back to Band 2, where it was originally. T. Anderson stated that this amendment is to make sure we stay fiscally constrained over the next twenty (20) years and are within GDOT’s budget, whether it be 10% above or 10% below, and that this is an action we need to take to insure our checkbooks balance over the next 20 years.

*Motion to approve the 2045 MTP Amendment #3 made by S. Carter seconded and passed unanimously.*

**2050 MTP**

T. Anderson stated that Metro Analytics was selected as our consultant in June 2023, and has begun socioeconomic data review. Staff performed this data review in 2020, which created our Base Year Data. They are executing the 2050 data review and are revising some of our 2020 data. They plan to come in October 2023, as our Public Participation Plan says we should hold a preliminary kick-off meeting with our Citizens’ Transportation Committee (CTC) to outline the priorities that the public may have. Public outreach with sub-committees and stakeholders will begin in January 2024.

**FY25 UPWP**

T. Anderson gave an overview of the dates for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 which runs from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025. The UPWP document identifies and describes the MPO’s budget, planning activities, and studies/technical support expected to be undertaken in a one-year period. Examples of activities include, Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, Freight Profile, Planning Documents (2050 MTP, FY 24-27 TIP), maintaining traffic counts and trip generation, carrying out recommendations of the MTP and maintaining relationships with City/County Planning Organizations to integrate land use planning with transportation planning. A Call for activities went out July 2023, and a Dawson Road Corridor Study was proposed by K. Breedlove. T. Anderson stated that the *Safe Streets and Roads for All* (SS4A) and the *Neighborhood Access Equity* (NAE) Grants have been applied for. S. Carter inquired about bicycle maps. T. Anderson responded that we do have a current bicycle layout that he will provide for him.

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| **TOPIC III** | Transit Update | Jason Tolbert |

**Albany Transportation Center Update:**

J. Tolbert stated that Transit is still in the process of hiring drivers. The Transit Center is offering a $1,000 signing bonus after new hires have completed six (6) months on the job. Transit will be participating in the City of Albany Job Fair on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, and is hosting a Public Community Event on that same day.

B. Dorough asked J. Tolbert how many budgeted positions we have for bus drivers. D. Hamilton responded that we have 24 full-time positions and 11 part-time positions. At present we have only 14 full-time and 2 part-time positions filled within the city.

B. Dorough commented that he heard that municipal city transportation was understaffed throughout the country. S. Carter commented that we have put several things in place to address this problem, such as sign-on bonuses and an increase in pay. In speaking with other city managers around the country, this staffing challenge is not just an Albany problem but is a countrywide problem.

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| **TOPIC IV** | Engineering Update |  |

**City of Albany – Ken Breedlove:**

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

* E. Broad Ave @ Turner field - traffic signal upgrade - Bid posted
* E. Broad Ave @ Broadway - traffic signal upgrade - Bid postedRFQ for upgrading the City's Traffic Management Center.
* RFQ for Nottingham Way upgrade and Whispering Pine roundabout, Engineering firm selected Infrastructure Systems Management, Steve Cassel), PE, PTOE.
* Commission approved list of streets for Street Resurfacing Phase C; Authorizing use of LMIG and TSPLOST Funds for 18.58 miles of roadway
* PI# 0010571-Westover Blvd from Albany Mall to N of Ledo Rd, 27% Complete, Contract completion date 10/31/2024
* R/R Safety Project installing 5-traffic signals on Roosevelt Ave, Construction Percent 35% Complete.
* PI# 0017843-Gillionville at ASU West & Magnolia, Slappey & Lippitt, Oglethorpe at
* Radium Springs, Thornton, Edison, & Loftus, Oakridge at Radium Springs, Clark at Turner Field, Mock, & Cordele (10) isolated intersections on GDOT roads. Field Survey83%, Preliminary Plans 50%, Let Date 12/15/2025
* PI# 0008384 16- Intersections downtown, design funded by GDOT, Approved ConceptReport, PFPR 2/19/2024, FFPR 5/7/2025, Letting 7/15/2025 Southeastern

Engineering — is doing the project design — Flint & Madison, Monroe, Jackson,

Washington, Pine & Davis, Madison, Monroe, Jackson, Washington, Broad & Davis Madison, Monroe, Jackson, Washington, Front and Highland at Jackson

* PI# 0015401- Albany Downtown Streetscape, Approved Concept Report, PFPR 1/18/2024, FFPR 1/31/2025 Letting 7/3/2026, plans to improve five (5) streets in the historic commercial center of the City including improvements to Pine Avenue (2 blocks), N. Front Street (1 block), West Broad Avenue (l block), North Washington Street (1 block) and North/South Jackson Street (2 blocks). These improvements will be funded with a Transportation Assistance Grant (TAP) from GDOT.
* 12-Speed tables sites, Construction have started
* The City Commission has approved TSPLOST fund for 10 alleys
* SR91 Jefferson Street from 7th Ave to Society Ave closed to traffic, Detour in place on N. Washington St. and N. Jackson St. The 2nd Avenue phase is scheduled to start September 25th . East and west roadways between 7th Ave. and Society Ave. will be intermittently blocked due to construction.
* Lake Park subdivision Summit from the lake Cornella to Three Oaks, storm pipe installed, and sidewalk 440 ft work continues and final roadway paving.
* 8th Ave basin at Hover area laying pipe to Station 25+18 and lack about 260' more feet.

**Dougherty County - Jeremy Brown:**

J. Brown was not present for update. T. Anderson briefed members on report from Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC). ASU to Downtown multipurpose trail is slowly wrapping up. There is approximately 1,700 LF of trail left to pour. The portions on the trail that have already been installed, are being backed up and stabilized. Locations that require the installation of handrails should begin next week and trail signage is in production. Weather permitting, we hope for the project to be substantially complete by mid to late October. 5 drainage improvements that affect 4 County roads were just approved by the Commission this past Monday. The projects will include the replacement of ageing culvert pipes. The roads include Lovers Lane, Mud Creek, Tarva Road and Eight Mile Road. Expecting to begin work in the coming month. Finalized all remaining easements needed for the last Phase of the County's alley paving. Working to complete the bid documents and should be put out for bids in the next few weeks.

Also putting together the documents to release the County's next resurfacing package which will include approximately 47 miles of roads.

**Lee County – Christi Dockery:**

T. Anderson gave the report on behalf of Lee County Engineering. This month, the Georgia Department of Transportation will begin accepting applications for the FY 2024 LMIG Program. The county’s formula amount for 2024 is $690,908.06, plus our 30% local match of $207,272.42 comes to a total of $898,180.48 to put towards various road projects. This is an increase of $82,528.29 from FY2023. All electronic LMIG applications must be received no later than February 1, 2024. Roads Projects expected in 2024 will happen on the following roads: Argyll Place, Aylesbury Place, Berkeley Road, Cambridge Road, Carillon Court, Carowind Drive, Chokee Road, Coosaw Court, Coston Road (dirt road), Country Drive, Creek Isle Drive

Creekshire Court, Creekview Drive, Danbury Lane, Doris Drive, Foxworth Drive, Halifax Place, Huntingdon Drive, Johns Drive, Knollwood Drive, Lavender Lane, Longleaf Drive, Margate Drive, Marion Court, Midway Street, Morning Mist Drive, Muckalee Lane, New York Road, Pebble Ridge Drive, Pineview Drive, Pinewood Road, Red Bay Court, Springlake Drive, Towne Lane, Victorian Court, Village Lane, Warrington Road, Willard Court and Wiregrass Way

**Leesburg – Bob Alexander**

B. Alexander stated that the City of Leesburg is currently working with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) on a Transportation Alternative Project (TAP) for Downtown Leesburg, that will include sidewalks and downtown beautification. Bids are out for putting in a parking lot in the downtown area to encourage more business activity. An application has been submitted to FHWA for an updated school connectivity study.

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| **TOPIC V** | Airport Update |  |

**General Aviation Terminal & Hangers:**

D. Hamilton stated that the GA Terminal is coming along very well and is on schedule for completion in January 2024, and he believes the Corporate Hangars are 99% complete. He invited everyone to come to the airport to get a great idea of how the layout/landscape of the airport has changed. He reiterated how well the General Aviation Project is going and how excited he is to see the completion.

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| **TOPIC VI** | Agency Updates | GDOT/FHWA |

T. Anderson stated that the only update from our Planner was information regarding upcoming grant funding training.

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

T. Anderson informed the committee that no concerns have been passed onto the Technical or Policy Committees from the Citizens’ Transportation Committee.

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| **TOPIC VIII** | Discussion/Comment |

No further discussion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 10:23 A.M.

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| Submitted by: | Tanner Anderson |