

DARTS Technical Coordinating Committee Minutes

Thursday, April 18, 2024, at 9:00 A.M.

Hybrid – 240 Pine Ave. Suite 380, Albany, GA 31701

CALL TO ORDER

P. Forgey called the meeting to order at 9:00 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
Robert Griffin	Interim Director, City of Albany Engineering
Joey Davenport	Planning & Development, Lee County
Jackie Williams	GDOT Office of Planning Representative
Dennis Carter	District 4 Planning & Programming Coordinator, GDOT (Non-voting)
Jason Tolbert	Transit Planner, Albany Transit
Jason Willingham	District 4 Preconstruction Engineer, GDOT
Joseph Longo	FHWA Representative (Non-voting)
Amanda Nava	Director, Planning & Development, Lee County
Larry McClain	Citizens' Transportation Committee (Non-Voting)
Roberto Pagan	Superintendent of Southwest Georgia Regional Airport

ABSENT

David Hamilton	Transportation Director, City of Albany
Don Gray	Facilities Management Director, City of Albany
Bob Alexander	Director, City of Leesburg Public Works
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
Janine Miller	Staff Representative, GDOT Office of Intermodal (non-voting)
Jeremy Brown	Project Engineer, Dougherty County Public Works
Angel Gray	Deputy Director, City of Albany Planning & Development (Non-Voting)
Christie Dockery	County Manager, Lee County (Non-Voting)
Vivian Canizares	GDOT Office of Planning Representative
Ted Hicks	GDOT Office of Planning, Branch Chief (Non-voting)
Ann-Marie Day	FHWA Planning Team Leader (Non-Voting)

OTHERS PRESENT

Marina Rosen	Transportation Planner II, City of Albany
Tonie Mitchum	Planner II, City of Albany

Approval of Minutes **(February 21, 2024)**

Motion to approve minutes by K. Breedlove. Seconded by R. Griffin and approved unanimously.

TOPIC I **Transportation Update** **Tanner Anderson**

2050 MTP

T. Anderson updated the committee with a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the following information:

- GDOT and Metro Analytics are on the 4th and 5th Network model, the 6th Network Project is being compiled. The 6th Network consists of projects that address Model Concerns with Level of Service (LOS) while also addressing public comment and Federal Guidelines and Planning Standards.
- Stakeholder and Public Outreach Meeting will be held in June 2024
- Draft expected in June/July 2024
- Adoption in October/November 2024.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

T. Anderson updated the committee with a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the following information:

- The DARTS Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is updated every Census Cycle and based on the population of each jurisdiction
- This change will affect the 20% match on planning funds (PL) for studies
- The MOU will need a vote from the committee in June.

FY24-27 TIP AMENDMENT #3

T. Anderson stated there will be a FY24-27 TIP/MTP Amendment #3 P.I. 0008384, Signal System Upgrade @ 16 locations – Phase IV, that will need a vote in June. A detailed project sheet will be sent out for the committee’s review. K. Breedlove stated that this will be a dramatic improvement for the city and will work hand in hand with the Streetscape Project. T. Anderson further presented the following:

- Preliminary Engineering (PE) - \$641,000.00 – 100% Federally Funded
- Construction (CST) - \$4,591,852.23 – 50% Federally Funded, 50% Local (City of Albany)
- Construction set for FY28; proposed amendment moves the project to FY26.

TOPIC II

Transit Update

Jason Tolbert

J. Tolbert began the Transit Report by stating they have gone live with the My Ride App. This will allow Albany Transit passengers to see locations in real-time. ASU students will participate in this pilot program. He further added that Transit is going to extend its Saturday hours from 2:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. beginning July 2024. No further questions were presented.

TOPIC III

Engineering Update

Ken Breedlove

City of Albany – Ken Breedlove: K. Breedlove summarized the city's current projects:

- Traffic Signal upgrade @ E. Broad and Turner Field pending commission approval in May
- E. Broad @ Broadway – re-bidding
- Traffic Management Center kick-off meeting was on April 9th. Design plans are scheduled for completion and ready for bid by the end of July
- PI#0010571-Westover Blvd. from Albany Mall to the north of Ledo Rd., one bridge deck will be poured on 4/18/24. The project is 58% complete, and the completion schedule is 12/14/24.
- PI #0011727 R/R Safety Project installing (5) traffic signals on Roosevelt Ave., construction pending Norfolk Southern preempt connections
- PI #0017843 Gillionville @ ASU West and Magnolia, Slappey and Lippit, Oglethorpe @ Radium springs, Thornton, Edison and Loftus, Oakridge @ Radium springs, Clark @ Turner Field, Mock and Cordele (10) isolated intersections on GDOT roads in the city. PFPR 3/21/24 completed, R/W authorization 9/24, FFPR 3/25. Let date 12/15/25
- PI #00088385 (16) intersections downtown, design funded by GDOT, approved concept report, PFPR completed 4/2/24, FFPR 5/7/25, Letting 7/15/2025, Southeastern engineering is doing the project design, Flint and Madison, Monroe, Jackson, Washington, Pine and Davis, Madison, Monroe, Jackson, Washington, Broad and Davis, Madison, Monroe and Jackson, Washington, Front and Highland @ Jackson
- PI #0015401 Albany Downtown Streetscape, approved concept report, PFPR completed 1/24/24, FFPR 1/21/25, Letting 7/3/26, plans to improve (5) streets in the historic commercial center of the city including improvements to Pine Ave. (2 blocks), N. Front Street (1 block), West Broad Ave. (1 block), N. Washington St. (1 block) and North/South Jackson Streets (2 blocks), these improvements will be funded with a Transportation Assistance grant (TAP) from GDOT
- PI #0013992 will replace the existing bridge on SR 520BU/US 82BU over the Flint River, let date 4/18/24 (??)
- (3) speed table sites (Winterwood, Ingleside and Pearce), pending bids
- SR91 Jefferson Street from Society Ave. to W. Broad Ave. is closed to through traffic; a detour is in place on N. Washington Street and N. Jackson Street. East and West movement will remain open until construction closes the intersections
- (2) new design projects: E. Broad Ave. sidewalks from Church St. to E. Walmart area and Washington Street extension, east of the R/R tracks from N. Front Street at 3rd Avenue to Jefferson Street. Due to the 7th Avenue R/R grade crossing

Dougherty County - Jeremy Brown: T. Anderson presented, in J. Brown's absence, that Phase III Alleys have been bid out; construction is to begin soon. No questions were presented.

Lee County – Amanda Nava: A. Nava stated Lee County has LMIG projects ongoing and a bridge repair project on New York Road.

Lee County – Joey Davenport:

J. Davenport commented on mid-range plans for resurfacing Ledo Road.

TOPIC IV

Airport Update

Roberto Pagan

R. Pagan reported that the airport, along with their consultant J-Aviation, is rolling out parts of a 20-year Master Plan. He further stated that the General Aviation Terminal is complete, and the ribbon-cutting ceremony is pending minor contractor issues. No further questions were presented.

TOPIC V

Agency Updates

GDOT/FHWA

J. Williams of GDOT had no updates at this time. No questions were asked of GDOT.

J. Longo reported that FHWA's Greenhouse Gas Performance Measure has been challenged in court and is on hold at this time. He further provided information on the EV Charging Infrastructure Playbook and will be sharing a link with T. Anderson for the committee's reference. GDOT's Workzone Safety Week was also mentioned.

TOPIC VI

Discussion

P. Forgey opened the floor for miscellaneous discussion. It was stated that the let date for the Oglethorpe Bridge Project is tomorrow, Friday, April 19, 2024. K. Breedlove asked when GDOT will be taking control of the road. Jason Willingham responded that there could be approximately 60 days before this happens. T. Anderson brought up a Complete Street Policy/Ordinance and whether the MPO should pursue this if we could get the local jurisdictions' backing, in our next FY. T. Anderson also brought up the Transportation Investment Act (TIA), a regional TSPLOST, 10-year program for consideration in our next FY. There being no further questions, P. Forgey moved for adjournment.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:32 AM.

Submitted by: Tanner Anderson