



# *Gainesville - Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization*

## **GHMPO**

Braselton - Flowery Branch - Gainesville - Oakwood - Hall County - Jackson County

### **TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE** Hall County Government Center, HR Training Room Minutes of April 17, 2018 Meeting

#### **Voting Members Present:**

Rhonda Brady, City of Gainesville  
Stan Brown, City of Oakwood  
Brandon Kirby, GDOT  
Kevin McInturff, Hall County  
Gina Roy, Jackson County  
Jennifer Scott, Town of Braselton  
Phil Peevy, GDOT  
Sam Baker, GHMPO  
Denise Farr, Hall County  
Srikanth Yamala, GHMPO  
Chris Rotalsky, City of Gainesville  
Angela Sheppard, City of Gainesville  
Adam Hazell, GMRC  
Bill Andrew, City of Flowery Branch

#### **Others Present:**

Joseph Boyd, GHMPO  
Emily Foote, Hall County  
Matt Tarver, City of Gainesville  
Megan Weiss, GDOT  
Scott Frederick, GDOT  
Lee Hawkins, GA House of Representative  
Connie Propes, GHMPO CAC  
Jeff Gill, Gainesville Times  
Caleb Hutchins, WDUN

#### **Voting Members Absent:**

Ken Rearden, Hall County  
Phillippa Lewis Moss, HAT

Gary McClung, Citizen  
Darlene Long, Citizen  
Mike Jones, Citizen  
Douglas Aiken, Citizen  
Annette Aiken, Citizen  
Robin Terrell, Citizen  
Keith Floyd, Citizen  
Ron Winkowski, Citizen  
Betty Winkowski, Citizen  
Anne Chenault, Citizen

#### **1. Welcome**

Mr. McInturff opened the meeting at 10:32 AM, and introductions were made.

## **2. Approval of January 16, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Mr. Yamala made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2018 meeting, with a second from Ms. Brady, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

## **3. Recommend Approval of an Amendment to the FY 2018 Unified Planning Work Program**

Mr. Boyd presented an amendment to the FY 2018 Unified Planning Work Program. An application requesting federal transportation planning funds for the Jackson County Transportation Master Plan Update was submitted to the PL Funds Review Committee at the Georgia Department of Transportation on March 26, 2018 and was awarded a grant of \$32,805 with a local match/lump sum payment by Jackson County of \$142,195. This draft amendment to the FY 2018 Unified Planning Work Program moves the Jackson County Transportation Master Plan Update from the unfunded list of projects on page 29 into the funded Special Transportation Studies under Task 4, Sub-Element 4.6 on page 22.

**MOTION:** Ms. Roy made a motion to recommend approval of an amendment to the FY 2018 Unified Planning Work Program, with a second from Mr. Brown, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

## **4. Recommend Approval of the Draft FY 2019 Unified Planning Work Program**

Mr. Boyd presented the Draft FY 2019 Unified Planning Work Program. The Draft FY 2019 Unified Planning Work Program describes the planning projects, studies, and activities the Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization will undertake in FY 2019 from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. In FY 2019, GHMPO and its planning partners intend to complete the following four planning studies:

1. Dawsonville Highway-McEver Road Connectivity Study
2. Gainesville Trail Connectivity Study
3. South Hall Trail Study
4. Oakwood Citywide Traffic Improvement Study

Mr. Boyd explained that the Citizens Advisory Committee is requesting that the North Hall Parkway Study be moved up within the unfunded studies portion of the document from FY 2022, as it is currently listed, to FY 2019. Two versions of the draft FY 2019 UPWP were presented. Version A lists the North Hall Parkway Study as anticipated to begin in FY 2022, while Version B lists the North Hall Parkway Study to begin in FY 2019.

Mr. Brown asked who will be responsible to pay the 20% local match. Mr. Yamala answered that the local match can be paid with staff hours from each jurisdiction and commented that no funding has been secured for the project at this time. Mr. Brown commented that the UPWP can be amended at a later date if funding is secured for the project in FY 2019. Mr. Yamala asked for a recommendation from the Technical Coordinating Committee on when the study should be undertaken. Mr. Brown commented that the agenda item should be tabled until the discussion of funding in agenda item 5 had been addressed. Mr. Yamala expressed that agenda item 4 only concerns itself with the recommendation of the Technical

Coordinating Committee on whether the study is needed in FY 2019 or in FY 2022, not the specifics of the financing of the project, which would be discussed at a later date. Mr. Yamala explained that the FY 2019 UPWP has not been adopted and the North Hall Parkway Study can be added for FY 2019 as an unfunded project.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mr. Terrell, Ms. Chenault and Mr. Akin spoke in favor of moving the North Hall Parkway Study to FY 2019.

**MOTION:** Mr. Brown made a motion to recommend approval of the Draft FY 2019 Unified Planning Work Program with Version A, keeping the North Hall Parkway Study in FY 2022, with a second from Mr. Yamala. Mr. Brown withdrew his motion, with a second by Mr. Yamala.

**MOTION:** Ms. Scott made a motion to recommend approval of the Draft FY 2019 Unified Planning Work Program, with Version B, moving the North Hall Parkway Study to FY 2019, with a second from Mr. Andrew, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

**5. Recommend Approval of the Draft Resolution Requesting Additional PL Funds for a North Hall Parkway Study**

**MOTION:** Mr. Yamala made a motion to remove item #5 from the agenda, with a second from Mr. Andrew, and the motion passed. Mr. Brown voted against the motion.

**6. Recommend Approval of the Draft Resolution Amending the Financially-Constrained Project List of the Gainesville-Hall Regional Transportation Plan: 2015 Update**

Mr. Baker presented the Draft Resolution Amending the Financially-Constrained Project List. The Martin Road Widening project was removed last year from the mid-term phase (2024-2032) of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)'s project list. It was replaced with Martin Road Alternative Improvements #7. The widening was a \$46 million project, whereas the cost estimate for the alternative improvements is below \$1 million. The City of Gainesville has requested that the Green Street Corridor Improvements (GH-121) be added in the mid-term phase of the project list for the RTP. This project is estimated to cost \$13 million in 2018 or \$15 million in 2024, adjusted for inflation. In addition, the Georgia Department of Transportation has requested to add the widening of I-85 from north of I-985 to north of SR 53 (GH-123, PI# 110610) to the 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). For a project to be added to the TIP, it needs to be included in the RTP first. GDOT has identified funding for the I-85 widening project and the addition of the project will not affect the financial constraint of the RTP.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mr. McClung asked for clarity on the percentage of local funding being used on the projects listed and Mr. Terrell asked if it were possible to move the Green Street Improvements project up to a sooner time to which Mr. Baker responded that alternative funding sources are always being explored to expedite needed projects.

**MOTION:** Ms. Sheppard made a motion to recommend approval of the Draft Resolution Amending the Financially Constrained Project List of the Gainesville-Hall Regional

Transportation Plan: 2015 Update, with a second from Ms. Roy, and the motion passed unanimously.

## **7. Recommend Approval of the Draft Resolution Amending the 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program**

Mr. Baker presented the Draft Resolution Amending the 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program. The Georgia Department of Transportation has asked the GHMPO to amend its Transportation Improvement Program for the following:

- a. Program additional funds for the widening of I-85 from north of I-985 to north of SR 53.
- b. Program funds for GDOT's oversight of Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ) project.

**MOTION:** Ms. Scott made a motion to recommend approval of the Draft Resolution Amending the 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program, with a second from Ms. Roy, and the motion passed unanimously.

## **8. Ongoing Studies Status Updates**

Mr. Tarver presented an update on the Gainesville Trail Connectivity Study and the Dawsonville Highway / McEver Road Connectivity Study; Mr. Boyd presented an update for the South Hall Trail Study; Mr. Brown presented an update on the Oakwood Citywide Traffic Improvement Study.

## **9. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports**

Representatives shared the status of transportation projects being completed by their jurisdictions: Mr. Tarver for the City of Gainesville, Mr. Brown for the City of Oakwood, Ms. Scott for the Town of Braselton, Mr. Kirby for GDOT, Ms. Farr for Hall County, and Ms. Roy for Jackson County.

## **10. Upcoming Meeting Date: July 17, 2018**

## **11. Public Comments**

Mr. Baker presented information on traffic congestion on Memorial Park Drive in Gainesville. Ms. Brady commented that the City of Gainesville is looking into conducting a study of Memorial Park Drive with Scott Puckett, Hall County Engineering.

## **12. Other**

Mr. Baker presented an update on the impact of a “large urban” designation for Hall Area Transit as a result of the upcoming 2020 Census.

## **13. Adjourn**

Mr. McInturff adjourned the meeting at 11:54 AM.

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Kevin McInturff, Chairman

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Emily Foote, Secretary