



## CHATHAM URBAN TRANSPORTATION STUDY

### TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

MPC Jerry Surrency Conference Room  
110 East State Street

February 16, 2006

3:00 P.M.

#### Voting Members

Russ Abolt  
Allan R. Black, P.E.  
Robert H. Bonner Jr.  
Michael Brown  
Al Bungard, P.E.  
Robbie Byrd  
Phillip Claxton  
Scott Conner  
Hank Dangerfield  
Patrick S. Graham  
Bill Hendricks  
Doug J. Marchand  
Helen McCracken  
Keith Melton  
William Oakley

#### Representing

Chatham County  
Chatham County Engineering x  
LDH Corporation  
City of Savannah  
Chatham County Engineering  
City of Pooler  
City of Port Wentworth  
CSX Transportation  
Fort Steward/Hunter Army Airfield  
Savannah Airport Commission  
Norfolk Southern Railroad Industry  
Georgia Ports Authority  
CUTS Citizens Advisory Committee  
GDOT – Atlanta x  
CUTS Advisory Committee on  
Accessible Transportation  
Chatham Area Transit Authority  
GDOT – Jesup  
City of Savannah Engineering x  
Executive Director MPC, Chair x  
Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce  
City of Savannah Engineering x  
Metropolitan Planning Commission x

#### Present

Carl Palmer  
Gary D. Priester  
Peter Shonka, P. E.  
Thomas L. Thomson, P.E., AICP  
Hugh "Trip" Tollison  
Mike Weiner, P.E.  
Mark Wilkes, P.E., AICP

#### Voting Member Alternates

Teresa Scott  
Randy Weitman, P.E.  
John Broderick

#### Representing

GDOT – Jesup x  
Georgia Ports Authority x  
Chatham Area Transit x

#### Present

#### Others Present

Zoe Hardenbrook  
Barbara Foster  
Quinn Hazelbaker  
Wykoda Wang

#### Representing

GDOT-Jesup x  
CGRDC x  
GDOT Intermodal x  
MPO x

**I. Call to Order**

Mr. Tom Thomson called the February 16, 2006 Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting to order.

**II. Action Items**

**A. Approval of the December 8, 2005 CUTS TCC Meeting Minutes**

Mr. John Broderick moved for approval of the December 8, 2005 Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes. Mr. Keith Melton seconded.

**TCC Action: The motion to approve the December 8, 2005 TCC minutes carried with none opposed.**

**B. Establishment of Local Transportation Improvement Priorities**

Mr. Thomson stated that a subcommittee meeting had been held in order to discuss the priorities for the Transportation Improvement Program. Others present at the subcommittee meeting were John Broderick, Al Black, George Fidler, Mike Weiner, Randy Weitman, Wykoda Wang and Mark Wilkes. He stated his concerns were how to present a technical analysis to the Board and protect the integrity of the process. At that meeting, Mr. Black suggested presenting a cost benefit analysis and reviewing the priorities.

Mr. Melton indicated that last year's efforts were good since regional priorities are listed.

Mr. Wilkes presented candidate TIP projects from the Long Range Transportation Plan with a preliminary cost benefit ratio for each project. He stated the County has expressed interest in three projects that are not currently in the Long Range Plan and therefore are beyond the financial constraints of the Plan.

The TCC reviewed the project information. It was the consensus of the TCC that additional subcommittee work will be needed to refine priorities for the draft TIP.

**III. Status Reports**

**A. Task Order Transportation Studies**

Mr. Thomson stated the Metropolitan Planning Commission has selected Reynolds, Smith and Hills, Inc. (RS&H) to perform the task order transportation studies. Contract negotiation with the consultant is in process. The first task will focus on the development of the southwest area of Chatham County. Issues to be addressed may include inter-connectivity among developments, capacity issues of arterials / collectors, plans to preserve dedicated rights-of-way, financial plans for improvements, and development of detailed requirements for zoning codes / subdivision codes regarding impact analysis, etc.

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**B. Connecting Savannah Follow Up Activities**

Mr. Thomson stated that MPO Staff in concert with the City of Savannah staff are developing two Requests for Proposals (RFP): 1) the DeRenne Six Lane Widening and 2) Hampstead Avenue Connector. Mr. Weiner stated an RFP for DeRenne Avenue Ambulance Pre-emption is also being developed. Mr. Thomson further reported a group of residents are organizing to oppose the Connecting Savannah recommendations, but he feels that the elected officials will appreciate that the recommendations resulted from an extensive public consensus building process.

**C. Transportation Amenities Plan**

Mr. Wilkes stated the MPO has selected Glatting Jackson Kercher Anglin Lopez Rinehart, Inc. to develop the Transportation Amenities Plan Phase Two, Design Guidelines. Phase Two will be a cooperative process with GDOT, Chatham County and the City of Savannah to develop design standards for new roadways which incorporate tree planting, landscaping, bikeways, sidewalks and other desired transportation amenities.

**D. Transportation Enhancement Application Award**

Mr. Wilkes gave a brief summary on the Transportation Enhancement Application Awards. The State Transportation Board Members have made their selections for the Transportation enhancement (TE) projects for FY 2006 and 2007. Four applications in Chatham County received TE funding totaling \$1,220,000: 1) Tybrisa Street Streetscape Improvements; 2) Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd. Streetscape Phase 2; 3) AASU Bicycle / Pedestrian Path; and 4) Pooler Sidewalk Extension.

**E. Benton Blvd. Transportation Issues**

Mr. Thomson stated after being approached by Representative Buddy Carter whose concern was the congestion at I-95 and SR 21, MPO staff is facilitating a dialog among local property owners, developers, elected officials and other concerned parties to explore options to expedite the completion of Benton Boulevard to SR 30. Two meetings have been held. Follow up activities include: 1) establishment of dedicated/reserved right-of-way; 2) develop a short list of property owners/developers between SR 30 and Meinhard Road and hold follow-up meetings; 3) Coordinate with Effingham County on their alignment; 4) Coordinate required right-of-way with development review and planning; 5) develop detailed cost estimates; and 6) explore funding options, including state aid, developer participation, SPLOST, etc.

**F. Port Area Transportation Issues**

Mr. Thomson stated a meeting was held in order to discuss the link between the distribution centers and the Port Authority. There are other projects that are going on in the area: 1) a statewide truck only lane study; 2) GDOT Interstate Study; and 3) GPA Intermodal Freight

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Study. Mr. Weitman stated there are grant funds available to develop the plans for a Jimmy DeLoach Connector to SR 307.

**G. Coastal Georgia RDC Regional Plan**

Ms. Barbara Foster, Representing Coastal Georgia Regional Development Center, gave a brief presentation on the Regional Plan for Rural Coordinated Public Transportation. She stated the purpose of the plan is to merge DHR and Coordinated Public Transportation with the Section 5311 Rural Public Transportation System to provide a single transportation system across the region. The focus for this transportation will be primarily for the elderly, low-income, disabled persons and persons with no vehicles in rural or non urban areas. Handouts were distributed for review.

**VI. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Technical Coordinating Committee, the February 16, 2006 meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Wilkes, PE, AICP  
Director of Transportation Planning