



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

**TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
MEETING SUMMARY**

**MPC Jerry Surrency Conference Room
110 East State Street**

April 21, 2011

3:00 P.M.

<u>Voting Members</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Present</u>
Russ Abolt	Chatham County	
Scott Allison	City of Garden City	x
Robert H. Bonner Jr.	LDH Corporation	
Daniel Bostek	Norfolk Southern Railroad Industry	
Sean Brandon	Director of Mobility & Parking Services	x
Teresa Brenner	CUTS Advisory Committee on Accessible Transportation	
Al Bungard, P.E.	Chatham County Engineering	
Robbie Byrd	City of Pooler	
Phillip Claxton	City of Port Wentworth	
Karon Ivery	GDOT – District 5	
Jason Crane	GDOT – Atlanta	
Leon Davenport	Chatham County Engineering	
Curtis Foltz	Georgia Ports Authority	
Patrick S. Graham	Savannah Airport Commission	
Will Ingram	Fort Steward/Hunter Army Airfield	
Jonathan Lynn	City of Tybee Island	
Lupita McClenning	Coastal Regional Commission	
Frank McIntosh	Savannah Bicycle Campaign	x
Chad Reese	Chatham Area Transit	
Representative, staff	City of Bloomingdale	
Representative, engineering	CSX Transportation	
Representative	CUTS Citizens Advisory Committee	
Representative, staff	Town of Vernonburg	
Peter Shonka, P. E.	City of Savannah Engineering	
Rochelle Small-Toney	City of Savannah	
Linton Smith	Town of Thunderbolt	
Thomas L. Thomson, P.E., AICP	Executive Director MPC, Chair	
Hugh "Trip" Tollison	Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce	
Mike Weiner, P.E.	City of Savannah Traffic Engineering	x
Mark Wilkes, P.E., AICP	MPO	x

Voting Member Alternates

Enoch Dumas
George Fidler
Tom McQueen
Kaycee Mertz
Ron Sadowski
Teresa Scott

Representing

CAT/Veolia X
Savannah Airport Commission X
GDOT X
GDOT X
Coastal Regional Commission X
GDOT - Jesup

Others Present

Michael Adams
Tyronda Edwards (phone)
Carlos Gonzalez
Jane Love
Barbara Settzo
Wykoda Wang

Representing

MPO X
GDOT – Intermodal X
FHWA X
MPO X
for MPO X
MPO

Call to Order

Mr. Mark Wilkes called the meeting to order.

I. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

II. Action Items

A. Approval of the February 17, 2011 Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2011 Technical Coordinating Committee.

TCC Action: the motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2011 Technical Coordinating Committee carried with none opposed.

B. Endorsement of the FY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Wilkes reported that this was the staff work program for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011. Comments have already been received from Federal Highway Administration. Mr. Wilkes highlighted points in the program. Several major studies, including the Total Mobility Plan are included in this UPWP. Corridor studies (SR 21, SR 204 and US 80) are included. Strategic studies include the Transit Mobility Vision Plan, Streetcar Plan, and the I-16 flyover removal plan.

There was a discussion of what studies will be undertaken in the next fiscal year.

Mr. Carlos Gonzalez stated that only the year prior needs to be included in the description of previous work under each task.

It was moved and seconded to endorse the FY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program.

TCC Action: the motion to endorse the FY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program carried with none opposed.

C. Endorsement of the Proposed Amendments to FY 2011-2014 TIP

Ms. Wykoda Wang presented the staff report. These amendments concern funds from previous years that are about to expire. The current TIP needs to be amended so that CAT can access these funds and obligate the funds before June 30, 2011. Section 5307 funds need to be rolled forward to this fiscal year. The Section 5309 amendment replaces estimated figures with actual figures. The Section 5317 amendment also rolls funds into this current fiscal year. Ms. Wang briefly described what CAT planned to do with the rolled over funds. The fourth amendment is to access \$475,000 federal earmark funds for the Savannah Water Ferry. Mr. Carlos Gonzalez commented on the unexpended funds on the highway side that need to be obligated. The number he has is \$3.2 million. He already told Wykoda about \$2.1 million and will send her an updated report. His concern is that it be listed in the TIP in a transparent manner. Today's amendment is for \$475,000 to be included in the TIP. A previous amendment was for \$787,000 which is now in the TIP. There was a discussion about any FTA funds.

It was moved and seconded to endorse the proposed amendments to FY 2011-2014 TIP.

TCC Action: the motion to endorse the proposed amendments to FY 2011-2014 TIP carried with none opposed.

D. Endorsement of proposed Priority Projects for FY 2012-2015 TIP development

Ms. Wang reported that this is an affirmation of priority projects planned for the future. She reviewed projects in different categories at different priority levels. The project categories are highway, bridges, transit, and non-motorized, and the priority levels are first, second & third. Many projects from the original list compiled in 2006 have been implemented. A list of implemented projects is at the end of the staff report. First priority projects remaining have been programmed in previous TIPs. Second priority projects have regional significance. Third priority projects have high cost/benefit ratios.

Mr. Enoch Dumas, from CAT, commented that the Automatic Vehicle Locator (AVL) system was still a CAT priority because only some of the system is in place. Other parts of the system still to be implemented.

Ms. Wang reviewed priority projects that MPO does not have planning control over, such as transportation enhancement projects, lump sum projects, and earmark projects.

The TIP process should be completed by June. Mr. Wilkes confirmed that the TIP is consistent with the Long Range Transportation Plan. The entire process is on the website and staff follows this process step-by-step in order to conform with all federal regulations.

In response to Mr. Ron Sadowski's question about bike projects it was confirmed that the Non-motorized Transportation Plan will replace the 2000 Bikeway Plan, and also include pedestrian projects..

It was moved and seconded to endorse the proposed priority projects for FY 2012-2015 TIP development.

TCC Action: the motion to endorse the proposed priority projects for FY 2012-2015 TIP development carried with none opposed.

III. Other Business

No other business at this time.

IV. Status Reports

A. Non-motorized Transportation Plan Update – Networks & Focus Areas

Ms. Jane Love presented the staff report. At this point in the plan, staff is proposing networks and focus areas in which to evaluation conditions, as part of the development of the Non-motorized Transportation Plan. Various density maps were used to identify pedestrian focus areas for potential development of pedestrian amenities. Population density, employment density, bus routes & stops, and school locations were all reviewed.

The bicycle network is based on the the 2000 Bikeway Plan and has been expanded to include more routes and to recognize new facilities put in by the City of Savannah or by Chatham County.

Mr. Gonzalez asked about allowing bicycle riding across the Talmadge/Back River bridges. It appears to be permissible to go in one direction but not the other. Mr. Sean Brandon stated that this fact is related to the contrasting character of the roadway on the Georgia side and the South Carolina side. The Georgia side is a limited access highway prohibiting bicyclists and pedestrians, but the South Carolina side is not. It was noted that the ferries allow bicycles.

B. Update on Wave Ecology Study

Ms. Wang presented the staff report. The purpose of the study is to review the periodic, or "waves", of congestion on Tybee Island at peak seasons and during special events, and to come up with some solutions that can be implemented now. Four main areas of concern are congestion, narrow bridges, inadequate parking, and emergency evacuation. Study groups were formed, and five short-term strategies were selected for further study and implementation. She referred committee members to the dedicated website for further information.

Mr. Sadowski asked if any recommendations from this study will come through the MPO. Ms. Wang responded that a final report is expected from this study. Mr. Wilkes replied that any recommendations requiring MPO approval will go through the process.

V. Agency Reports

A. Federal Highway Administration

Mr. Gonzalez reported that funding through September 30, 2011 will continue at the 2009 level, unless they reach the debt ceiling.

B. Federal Transit Administration

No report at this time.

C. Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield

No report at this time.

D. Georgia Department of Transportation

Ms. Teresa Scott referred the members to the written report and reviewed progress on selected projects.

E. Coastal Regional Commission

Mr. Ron Sadowski reported that the CRC is updating the regional bike/pedestrian plan.

F. Chatham Area Transit Authority

No report at this time.

G. Chatham County

Written report was distributed.

H. City of Savannah

Mr. Mike Weiner reported that the Anderson curve was paved.

I. City of Garden City

No report at this time.

J. City of Tybee Island

No report at this time.

K. Georgia Ports Authority

No report at this time.

L. Savannah-Hilton Head International Airport

Mr. George Fidler reported that the Airways Ave improvement project is underway. Other improvements associated with the Gulf Stream expansion are underway. Mr. Fidler also reported numerous terminal improvements and the addition of sidewalks and bus shelters.

M. Savannah Bicycle Campaign

Mr. Frank McIntosh reported about the 2011 bicycle census and the upcoming events for Earth Day.

VI. Other Public Comments

No other public comments at this time.

VII. Announcements

No announcements at this time.

VIII. Other Non-Agenda Information for Reference

No items.

IX. Adjournment

There being no other business, the April 21, 2011 meeting of the Technical Coordinating Committee adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Wilkes, P.E., AICP
Director of Transportation Planning