



CORE MPO Technical Coordinating Committee

Chatham County Commission: 3rd Floor Conference Room -- 2:00 p.m.
124 Bull St. Savannah, Ga.
Minutes

February 6, 2020 Meeting Minutes of the CORE MPO Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)

<u>Voting Members</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Present</u>
Charles Ackridge	City of Bloomingdale	
Scott Allison	City of Richmond Hill	
Pamela Bernard	Chatham County Engineering	X
Caila Brown	Bike Walk Savannah	X
Matt Saxon	City of Pooler	
Ned Green	GDOT - Planning	
Mark Denmark	Savannah Airport Commission	
Byron Cowart	GDOT - District Five	X
Vacant	City of Garden City	
Trent Long	City of Port Wentworth	X
Don Masisack	Coastal Regional Commission	
Peter Gulbranson	City of Tybee Island	X
Ashley Goodrich	Chatham Area Transit	X
Melanie Wilson	MPC Executive Director	
Randy Weitman	Georgia Ports Authority	
Mark Wilkes	CORE MPO/MPC	X
Stephen Henry	City of Savannah	
Teresa Concannon	Effingham County	X
Vacant	Town of Thunderbolt	
Vacant	Town of Vernonburg	
<u>Voting Alternate</u>	<u>Representing</u>	
Wykoda Wang	CORE MPO	X
Michelle Strickland	City of Savannah	X
Tom McQueen	GDOT	X
<u>Others</u>	<u>Representing</u>	
Stephanie Rossi	CORE MPO	X
James Small	CORE MPO	X
Ann-Marie Day	FHWA	X
Leon Davenport	Thunderbolt Consultants LLC	X
Shawn Gillen	Tybee Island	X

I. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Caila Brown motioned to approve the February 6, 2020 CORE MPO TCC meeting agenda; seconded by Ms. Pamela Bernard. The motion was passed with none opposed.

II. Action Items

1. Approval of December 5, 2019 TCC Meeting Minutes

☞ [December 5 TCC.pdf](#)

Ms. Pamela Bernard motioned to approve the December 5, 2019 TCC meeting minutes; seconded by Ms. Calia Brown. The motion was passed with none opposed.

2. Adoption of the FY 2021 UPWP

☞ [FY 2021 UPWP Adoption Staff Report.pdf](#)

☞ [Revised Draft 2021 UPWP.pdf](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang presented on the FY 2021 UPWP. The UPWP outlines the staff budget for the next fiscal year. An illustrative project section for special studies has been added in case we need to apply for discretionary planning funds.

Mr. Mark Wilkes asked if there were any substantive changes from the first draft. Ms. Wang stated that there were not.

Mr. Mark Wilkes stated that in order to stay on schedule for next year's planning grants, MPO staff intends to have the FY 2021 UPWP approved in the month of February and have the contracts in place by the end of the fiscal year. Ms. Wang stated that TCC members have two weeks to send in their comments.

Ms. Michelle Strickland motioned to endorse the Draft FY 2021 UPWP; seconded by Ms. Pamela Bernard. The motion was passed with none opposed.

3. Resolution to Support Funding Application for SR 21 Access Management Study

☞ [Resolution for Illustrative Project Funding Application 2-26-2020.pdf](#)

☞ [PL Fund Application Final.pdf](#)

Mr. Mark Wilkes presented the resolution to support funding application for SR 21 Access Management Study. MPO staff issued a Call for Plans and Studies in the Fall of 2019. Staff received 3 proposals, 2 from Chatham County and 1 from Garden City. The Chatham County proposals are on hold but have been included in the draft work program for next year. This gives Chatham County the opportunity to produce the matching funds in the future if they decide to proceed.

The Garden City proposal is active. Mr. Leon Davenport, consultant for Garden City, stated that Garden City plans to conduct an access management study for the area due to the current and anticipated future development in the SR 21 corridor. This study will extend from SR 25 to Grange Rd. in Garden City. The intended PL funds request is \$120,000 with a local match of \$30,000.

Mr. Wilkes stated that this process will consist of the TCC endorsing the resolution and presenting it to the MPO board. If adopted by the Board, staff will begin the application to GDOT and present it to the PL funds review committee.

Ms. Michelle Strickland motioned to endorse the Funding Application for SR 21 Access Management Study; seconded by Ms. Calia Brown. The motion was passed with none opposed.

4. Approval of 2020 Call for Projects Packages

☞ [Calls for Projects staff report.pdf](#)

☞ [CORE MPO HIP Application Form 2020.pdf](#)

☞ [CORE MPO HIP Manual 2020.pdf](#)

☞ [CORE MPO Z230 Application Form February 2020.pdf](#)

☞ [CORE MPO Z230 Manual February 2020.pdf](#)

☞ [CORE MPO TA Application Form February 2020.pdf](#)

[CORE MPO TA Manual February 2020.pdf](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang presented the FY 2020 Calls for Projects Packages. This process is to prioritize projects for the FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and/or process amendments to the FY 2018-2021 TIP. CORE MPO staff plan to issue Calls for Projects in February 2020 for Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Urban Attributable (Z230) funds, Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) Funds, and Transportation Alternatives (TA – Z301) funds.

Mr. Shawn Gillen, City Manager of Tybee Island, asked if there was anything needed from Tybee concerning the project in their area. Ms. Wang stated that they will need to apply for the funds using the application form in the package. The formally issued Call for Projects will start the day of the CORE MPO Board meeting, February 26, 2020. Mr. Wilkes stated that the TCC will then review and score the applications and present the funding recommendations and project programming to the MPO Board to adopt.

The CORE MPO Project selection schedule is as follows...

- The TCC will review and comment on the three Calls for Projects application packages.
- CORE MPO staff will edit and finalize the application packages based on TCC comments.
- After review and approval by the CORE MPO Board, staff will announce the Calls for Projects.
- The application deadline is March 25, 2020.
- TCC members will screen and score applications and send the scores to MPO staff to compile.
- TCC will review the scores, develop a project priority list, and make award recommendations based on GDOT revenue projections.
- Project recommendations for approval will be presented at the April 22, 2020 CORE MPO Board meeting, and TIP amendments will be processed based on the TCC recommendations.
- The projected adoption date for programming the Z230-, Z301-, and HIP-funded projects that are awarded funds will be June 24, 2020.

Awardees will need to attend subsequent TCC meetings to report on the progress of their projects. They should make adequate progress to ensure funding authorization. Awardees have 2 years to spend the funds after they are authorized. If not spent within the time frame, the funds may be revoked and allocated to other projects.

Ms. Pamela Bernard motioned to endorse the 2020 Calls for Projects schedule and packages subject to comments from the Committee; seconded by Ms. Calia Brown. The motion was passed with none opposed.

[5. Amendments to the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan](#)

📎 [Amendments to Non-motorized Plan Staff Report Feb 2020.pdf](#)

Ms. Stephanie Rossi presented the Amendments to the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan. The previous Non-Motorized Plan was completed in October 2014. Staff is conducting the update to consider new studies and plans such as Tide-to-Town, East Coast Greenway, and Coastal Georgia Greenway, that started after the 2014 plan adoption. MPO staff has developed a comprehensive list of amendments to better align the plan with the area's current trends and needs. A local working group was formed to review the list of proposed amendments and make necessary changes. All projects listed in the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan are eligible for TIP funding if the project has a local sponsor. Staff intends to have the amendments to the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan adopted before the FY 2020 Calls for Projects start.

Mr. Shawn Gillen requested more information on the Tide-to-Town Project. Ms. Calia Brown stated that the project is an envisioned 30-mile urban trail system that will circle the City of Savannah and connect all six

Aldermanic Districts. It will include existing trails and structures including the Truman Linear Park Trail and Springfield Canal Path, and connect them from Windsor Forest to River Street. The plan includes future connections to Tybee Island, West Chatham County, and further points South. Information on the project can be found on Tide-to-Town.org. The plan includes updated policy statements to include spurs and connections to trail projects.

Ms. Calia Brown motioned to endorse the proposed Amendments to the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan to the CORE MPO Board; seconded by Ms. Ashley Goodrich. The motion was passed with none opposed.

III. Other Business
NONE

IV. Status Reports
NONE

V. Information Reports (verbal)
GDOT

Mr. Byron Cowart, Planning and Programming engineer for District 5, presented the GDOT/ Chatham County Projects Status Report. Ms. Wang asked what needs to be done before the construction funds can be authorized for the DeLesseps Avenue project. The project will more than likely roll into the next fiscal year. Ms. Wang stated that the Z230 and Z301 funds programmed on this project need to be relinquished because the project is not ready. This will allow GDOT to distribute that money in subsequent fiscal years. The City of Savannah will then need to submit the funding application again. Mr. Leon Davenport indicated that the City is making progress and inquired whether the awarded funds can be moved to the next fiscal year with the project. Mr. Tom McQueen indicated there are some utility phase programming issues that need to be worked out for this project. It has been decided that the MPO staff will coordinate with GDOT Planning and the City of Savannah after the TCC meeting regarding this project.

Chatham County

Ms. Pamela Bernard presented the Chatham County Projects Status Report. Mr. Tom McQueen inquired on the I-16/ Little Neck Rd. Project. Ms. Bernard stated that the interim recommendations on the project were received from the project consultants.

Effingham County

Ms. Teresa Concannon gave an update on the projects in Effingham County.

Chatham Area Transit

Ms. Ashley Goodrich gave an update on the projects at Chatham Area Transit. Ms. Wang stated that CAT was previously awarded Z230 funds for CAT bus purchases and ITS. She inquired on the progress of the bus purchases. Ms. Goodrich stated that they were working with FTA on accessing these funds and the NEPA process. They decided it will be a categorical exclusion.

CAT has also hired a new staff planner.

City of Savannah

Mr. Leon Davenport gave an update on the projects in the City of Savannah.

Garden City

Mr. Leon Davenport gave an update on the projects in Garden City.

Bike Walk Savannah

Ms. Caila Brown gave an update on the projects for Bike Walk Savannah.

VI. Other Public Comments (limit to 3 minutes)
NONE

VII. Announcements

[6. Next TCC Meeting: Thursday, April 16, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. at the Metropolitan Planning Commission : Jerry](#)

[Surrency Room](#)

VIII. Other Non-Agenda Information for Reference

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, the February 6, 2020 meeting of the CORE MPO TCC was adjourned.

The Chatham County - Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission provides meeting summary minutes which are adopted by the respective board. Verbatim transcripts of minutes are the responsibility of the interested party.