



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

COASTAL REGION METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION APRIL 2021 MPO MEETINGS

Agenda Item: Amendment to FY 2021 UPWP

Presenter: Mark Wilkes, CORE MPO Staff

Summary: The FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is the proposed MPO staff work program for the coming fiscal year that runs from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The UPWP details the staff budget and work projects expected to be undertaken by the MPO in support of the federally mandated 3-C (Continuing, Cooperative and Comprehensive) transportation planning process.

The planning activities in the work program are supported by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), with matching funds from MPO member agencies.

In September 2020 CORE MPO applied for discretionary federal highway planning (PL) funds for the SR 307 Corridor Study on behalf of Chatham County. The study information is currently included in the unfunded Illustrative Studies section. Now that the MPO has been awarded the discretionary PL funds, the study needs to be included in Task 4.13, Strategic Transportation Studies. Both the funding table under Task 4.13 and the summary financial table are being updated.

The attached documentation shows these changes.

Recommendation: Endorsement and approval of proposed UPWP amendments.



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Resolution to Amend the FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program of the Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (CORE MPO)

WHEREAS, the Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (CORE MPO) has been designated by the Governor of Georgia as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Savannah urbanized area; and

WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), in a letter dated May 29, 2015, outlined the “PL Funding Formula, Distribution and Review Committee Process”; and

WHEREAS, in September 2020 CORE MPO was awarded discretionary federal highway planning (PL) funds for a special study – SR 307 Corridor Study; and

WHEREAS, CORE MPO would like to amend the FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to include the special study in Task 4.13 Strategic Transportation Studies; and

WHEREAS, the proposed UPWP amendments have been vetted by the CORE MPO’s Advisory Committees and comments received have been incorporated into the revised amendment report; and

WHEREAS, CORE MPO desires to complete the amendment process to incorporate the proposed changes into the FY 2021 UPWP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization approves the proposed amendments to the FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program as shown in the summary of UPWP amendment report with any corrections based upon the motion of April 28, 2021.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization at a meeting held on April 28, 2021.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chester A. Ellis". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Chester A. Ellis, Chairman
Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

CORE MPO FY 2021 UPWP

TASK # 4 Systems Planning

Sub-element 4.13 Strategic Transportation Studies

Objective: Conduct or participate in strategic transportation studies on an as-needed basis in response to the needs of the MPO and its transportation stakeholders. Highway, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian modes are included. *This task addresses all of the core MPO functions by establishing a setting for effective decision making and public participation, identifying alternative transportation improvements and preparing and maintaining the MTP and the TIP.*

Previous Work: FY 2020 activities included the following.

- CORE MPO completed two Strategic Transportation studies that received discretionary federal highway planning (PL) funds - PI# 0015850, SAVANNAH MPO INTERCHANGE TRAFFIC STUDY I-16 LITTLE NECK 2018; and PI# 0015849, SAVANNAH MPO INTERCHANGE TRAFFIC STUDY I-95 AIRWAYS FY 2018. The studies were kicked off in FY 2018 and continued in FY 2019 and FY 2020. The studies were completed in December 2019. The MPO staff did the following for the two studies in FY 2020.
 - Reviewed study deliverables;
 - Continued coordination with the study committees, calling special meetings if needed;
 - Coordinated with the consultants to prepare and send documentation regarding the PL Funds Studies contract reimbursement and Annual and Quarterly Reports;
 - Prepared the report for the PL Funds Review Committee to provide briefing of the studies' progress;
 - Held Public Information Open Houses (PIOH) for the studies; and
 - Adopted the study recommendations.

Project Description and Schedule: New studies may be added at the direction of the CORE MPO Board as needs are identified through the advisory committee process and agreed upon with the MPO Board approval. The initiation and programming of any new study will follow the FHWA procurement process as outlined in Appendix D of this document. The illustrative project pages list the unfunded studies for which CORE MPO anticipates submitting applications for PL discretionary funds. Execution of the studies will be contingent on award of funding from Georgia PL Funds Review Committee and the designated study sponsor.

If awarded funds, the studies will be amended into the funded portion of the FY 2021 UPWP. Then the MPO will issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the study and secure a consultant to conduct the study. The MPO staff will oversee the study development process. The consultant will be paid with the PL discretionary funds while the MPO's oversight work will be paid with the regular PL grant.

In March 2020 CORE MPO applied for and was awarded discretionary PL funds for the SR 21 Access Management Study. The official award letter was received in May 2020. The GDOT project ID for this study is P.I. No. 0017427. **In September 2020, CORE MPO applied for and was awarded discretionary PL funds for the SR 307 Corridor Study. The GDOT funding contract was received in December 2020. The GDOT project ID is PI 0017906. The study information is thus moved from the Illustrative Section to this section as shown on the next page.**

CORE MPO FY 2021 UPWP

TASK # 4 Systems Planning Sub-element 4.13 Strategic Transportation Studies

PI 0017906 SR 307 Corridor Study

Objective: CORE MPO conducts or participates in strategic transportation studies on an as-needed basis in response to the needs of the MPO and its transportation stakeholders. Highway, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian modes are included. *This task addresses all of the core MPO functions by establishing a setting for effective decision making and public participation, identifying alternative transportation improvements and preparing and maintaining the MTP and the TIP.*

Previous Work:

Several years ago, GDOT and GPA coordinated on delivery of a State Route 307 rail grade separation project near the Port. More recently, Chatham County and GDOT has developed a project to convert the existing diamond interchange at the intersection of Interstate 16 and State Route 307 to a Diverging Diamond Interchange for which GDOT anticipates awarding a design-build contract in June 2020; that project will improve traffic congestion at that interchange in the short-to-medium term, but as traffic volumes continue to grow (cars and trucks), it may need full reconstruction in the longer-term.

GDOT is in the planning stages of operational improvements at the intersection of State Route 307 and Pine Meadows Drive; meanwhile GDOT has previously implemented significant operational improvements at the intersection of State Route 307 and State Route 21, but continued growth in car and truck volumes mean increasing levels of congestion is being observed. This situation is similar at the State Route 307 and US 80 intersection, which also experience significant congestion during peak travel hours and also needs significant improvement scenarios to be identified and analyzed.

Several years ago Chatham County and GDOT partnered to widen State Route 307 between Interstate 16 and Ogeechee Road, however there is continuing commercial development occurring along that section that contributes to increasing traffic volumes, including at its busy intersection with Ogeechee Road. Meanwhile GDOT has already recognized the congestion on Ogeechee Road and continues to develop a TIP project to widen Ogeechee Road.

The State Route 307 corridor has numerous at-grade rail crossings for several very active rail lines that serve the Port, which can cause delay when the crossing gates are down; the corridor also experiences high truck volumes due to continued commercial and warehouse-related land use developments along its length. The route connects with I-16 and is therefore a major truck corridor between the I-16 interchange and the route's northern terminus near one of the Port of Savannah's main truck gates.

Description of Project Background, Need and Goals:

With the assistance of a consultant, the Chatham County Department of Engineering, along with coordination from GPA engineering, GDOT Planning and District personnel and MPO staff will develop a scope of services and solicit a request for proposals for the corridor study following the Quality Based Selection (QBS) process. The State Route 307 corridor is one of the main routes of access to the Georgia Ports Authority from Interstate 16. This corridor is also experiencing a considerable amount of development and re-development, increasing the traffic volumes (car and truck) along the corridor.

CORE MPO FY 2021 UPWP

TASK # 4 Systems Planning

Sub-element 4.13 Strategic Transportation Studies

The study will evaluate the existing and future capacity, operation, and safety conditions of the corridor from its southern terminus at Ogeechee Road/US17/SR25 northwards to its terminus at Main Street/SR25 near a major GPA truck gate. Updated traffic counts and projections will be obtained throughout the corridor, as well as crash data. This data will be used to evaluate the operation and safety of the corridor with strong consideration given to access management improvements that will improve the operation and safety. The study will consider freight, commuter, local traffic and pedestrian/bicyclist travelers. The study will also account for current and future land use patterns and anticipated continued growth. The goal of the study will be to identify and prioritize short and long-term improvements needed for the corridor to operate at an acceptable level of service and provide prioritization of the required improvements to facilitate planning and programming of projects through the MPO MTP process. Previous studies and projects will be used to help develop baseline and existing conditions.

Product: Final, detailed corridor study that identifies and prioritizes short term (0-5 years) and long term (5+ years) projects that will improve the operation and safety of the corridor. The study will help justify the future programming of projects in the CORE MPO's Mobility 2045 and TIP.

Cost Description (contract, staff, purchase data costs, etc.): This study is sponsored by Chatham County, and will be closely coordinated with the Georgia Ports Authority and Georgia Department of Transportation. Chatham County will be the contracting sponsor and the Georgia Ports Authority will provide the local match.

- **PL FUNDS (Federal Portion): \$200,000 (80%)**
- LOCAL MATCH (CASH): \$50,000 (20%)
- LOCAL MATCH (IN-KIND): \$0 (0%)
- **TOTAL COST: \$250,000**

CORE MPO FY 2021 UPWP

TASK # 4 Systems Planning Sub-element 4.13 Strategic Transportation Studies

PI# 0017427, SR 21 Access Management Study

Project Description: Garden City is seeing considerable development and redevelopment within their jurisdiction. Much of the development is the re-development of portions of the SR 21 corridor. The Savannah - Chatham County Public School System is in the process of constructing a new K-12 campus at the intersection of SR 21 and Pricilla D Thomas Way. The new school is expected to stimulate significant redevelopment of the area. Garden City would like to have a plan in place that limits the number of conflict points along their section of the corridor. The study should analyze existing and future roadway conditions as this is a major thoroughfare that serves freight, local traffic, commuters and pedestrians. The study should also analyze current and future land use patterns, traffic, level of service and crash data in conjunction with transportation projects and development opportunities that will impact the corridor in the future. A comprehensive study of this 3.5-mile corridor is intended to support future development along SR 21 and recommend access management policies and other supplemental transportation improvements.

The study will extend from SR 25 to Grange Road in Garden City. This study should evaluate existing and potential operational deficiencies that could arise from access management issues. The study should also analyze current and future year conditions, provide recommendations focusing on operational improvements and access management strategies. The previous SR 21 Corridor Study should serve as a basis for this study and provide data useful to this supplemental endeavor.

Cost Estimate: \$150,000

- Federal Portion - \$120,000
- Local Match - \$30,000

Lead Agency and Local Sponsor: Garden City

Consultants: The project will be contracted to a qualified engineering firm through the QBS process. Garden City is limited in its staffing levels and will require the assistance from consultants for a bulk of the work. Garden City will also require the support of CORE MPO staff for compliance and informational needs. No In-Kind services will be provided by Garden City for this endeavor. Consultants will be contracted to carry out this task. MPO staff will provide oversight of consultant work.

Product: Access management strategies report with recommendations that can be incorporated into the MPO's Mobility 2045 and the Transportation Improvement Program.

CORE MPO FY 2021 UPWP

TASK # 4 Systems Planning
Sub-element 4.13 Strategic Transportation Studies

Transportation Planning Related Activities of Agencies	
Organization	Activities
CORE MPO	Study oversight agency; apply for PL discretionary funds; develop RFP; secure consultant
Local governments	Lead agency and local sponsor for identified studies; provide local match funds.
GDOT and FHWA	Project coordination

Funding Source*	Amount
FHWA Formula PL	\$28,000.00
MPO Dues Formula PL Match	\$7,000.00
FHWA Discretionary PL for PI# 0017427	\$120,000
Local Match Discretionary PL for PI# 0017427	\$30,000
FHWA Discretionary PL for PI 0017906	\$200,000
Local Match for Discretionary PL for PI 0017906	\$50,000
FTA Formula Section 5303	\$0.00
GDOT Formula 5303 Match	\$0.00
MPO Dues Formula 5303 Match	\$0.00
TOTAL FUNDS	\$435,000.00

*The PL formula funds only cover the expected MPO staff's study oversight costs. The staff's pre-award work activities (coordination with local project sponsors, PL funds application, RFP process, consultant procurement, etc.) are covered under Task 1.2.

CORE MPO FY 2021 UPWP

TASK # 5 Illustrative Studies - Unfunded

TASK # 5 Illustrative Studies - Unfunded

Sub-element I.2 – SR 204 between King George Blvd and US 17

Objective: CORE MPO conducts or participates in strategic transportation studies on an as-needed basis in response to the needs of the MPO and its transportation stakeholders. Highway, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian modes are included. *This task addresses all of the core MPO functions by establishing a setting for effective decision making and public participation, identifying alternative transportation improvements and preparing and maintaining the MTP and the TIP.*

Previous Work: This is a new illustrative task.

Project Description: This is a traffic engineering study to propose concept alternatives to complete limited access through the section of SR 204 between King George Blvd and US 17. Scope would include review of previous corridor studies, traffic counts, determination and evaluation of alternatives including cost estimates, intermediate and final reports as well as several stakeholder meetings.

Cost: \$200,000

- Federal Portion - \$160,000
- Local Match - \$40,000

Product: Final, detailed traffic study of recommended improvements to be utilized to program a project in the CORE MPO's 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Lead Agency and Local Sponsor: Chatham County

Consultants: Consultants will be contracted to carry out this task. MPO staff will provide oversight of consultant work.

Transportation Planning Related Activities of Agencies	
Organization	Activities
CORE MPO	Study oversight, apply for discretionary PL funds, secure consultant through the RFP process
Chatham County	Lead agency and local sponsor for the study
GDOT and FHWA	Project coordination

Funding Source	Amount
FHWA Discretionary PL	\$160,000.00
Discretionary PL Match	\$40,000.00
TOTAL FUNDS	\$200,000.00

CORE MPO FY 2021 UPWP

TASK # 5 Illustrative Studies – Unfunded

Sub-element I.3 – Islands Expressway between Truman Parkway and US 80

Objective: CORE MPO conducts or participates in strategic transportation studies on an as-needed basis in response to the needs of the MPO and its transportation stakeholders. Highway, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian modes are included. *This task addresses all of the core MPO functions by establishing a setting for effective decision making and public participation, identifying alternative transportation improvements and preparing and maintaining the MTP and the TIP.*

Previous Work: This is a new illustrative task.

Project Description: This study is safety and operational review of the corridor of Islands Expressway between Truman Parkway and US 80. Scope would include traffic counts and traffic study, review of crash data, potential for a bike lane, report with recommendations for operational and safety improvements.

Cost: \$100,000

- Federal Portion - \$80,000
- Local Match - \$20,000

Product: Final, detailed traffic study of recommended improvements to be utilized to program a project in the CORE MPO's 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Lead Agency and Local Sponsor: Chatham County

Consultants: Consultants will be contracted to carry out this task. MPO staff will provide oversight of consultant work.

Transportation Planning Related Activities of Agencies	
Organization	Activities
CORE MPO	Study oversight, apply for discretionary PL funds, secure consultant through the RFP process
Chatham County	Lead agency and local sponsor for the study
GDOT and FHWA	Project coordination

Funding Source	Amount
FHWA Discretionary PL	\$80,000.00
Discretionary PL Match	\$20,000.00
TOTAL FUNDS	\$100,000.00

CORE MPO FY 2021 UPWP

TASK # 5 Illustrative Studies – Unfunded

Sub-element I.4 – Purchase of Transportation Data and Analytical Tools

Objective: CORE MPO conducts or participates in strategic transportation studies on an as-needed basis in response to the needs of the MPO and its transportation stakeholders. Highway, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian modes are included. *This task addresses all of the core MPO functions by establishing a setting for effective decision making and public participation, identifying alternative transportation improvements and preparing and maintaining the MTP and the TIP.*

Previous Work: This is a new illustrative task.

Project Description: Purchase of data and analytical tool package to supplement existing data where gaps exist in the network. A gap analysis will be conducted to determine areas of need. The data will be utilized in the Congestion Management Process update, the Freight Plan update, Metropolitan Transportation Plan update and other planning activities as needed.

Cost: \$100,000

- Federal Portion - \$80,000
- Local Match - \$20,000

Product: Transportation data set that can be used to supplement existing data.

Lead Agency and Local Sponsor: CORE MPO

Consultants: Vendors will be contracted to deliver the data. MPO staff oversight of consultant work are a part of this task.

Transportation Planning Related Activities of Agencies	
Organization	Activities
CORE MPO	Study oversight, apply for discretionary PL funds, secure vendor through the RFP process
GDOT and FHWA	Project coordination

Funding Source	Amount
FHWA Discretionary PL	\$80,000.00
Discretionary PL Match	\$20,000.00
TOTAL FUNDS	\$100,000.00

CORE MPO FY 2021 UPWP FUNDING SOURCE BY TASK PERFORMING AGENCY

Funding Source	Task No.	Task Description	FHWA Formula PL	State PL Match	Local Formula PL Match (MPO Dues)	Formula PL Total	FHWA Discretionary PL	Local Discretionary PL Match (MPO Dues)	Discretionary PL Total	FTA-SEC 5303	State 5303 Match	Local 5303 Match (MPO Dues)	5303 Total	Federal Total	State Total	Total Local Match (MPO Dues + CAT Match)	Total Program
FHWA PL, Local	1.1	Program Coordination	\$37,200.00	\$0.00	\$9,300.00	\$46,500.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$37,200.00	\$0.00	\$9,300.00	\$46,500.00
FHWA PL,Local	1.2	Operations and Administration	\$92,098.94	\$0.00	\$23,024.74	\$115,123.68				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$92,098.94	\$0.00	\$23,024.74	\$115,123.68
FHWA PL, Local	1.3	Training and Professional Development	\$22,400.00	\$0.00	\$5,600.00	\$28,000.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$22,400.00	\$0.00	\$5,600.00	\$28,000.00
FHWA PL, Local	1.4	Equipment and Supplies	\$19,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,750.00	\$23,750.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$19,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,750.00	\$23,750.00
FHWA PL, Local	1.5	Contracts and Grants	\$16,800.00	\$0.00	\$4,200.00	\$21,000.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$16,800.00	\$0.00	\$4,200.00	\$21,000.00
FHWA PL, Local	1.6	Unified Planning Work Program	\$16,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	\$20,000.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$16,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	\$20,000.00
FHWA PL, Local	2.1	Community Outreach/Education	\$14,400.00	\$0.00	\$3,600.00	\$18,000.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14,400.00	\$0.00	\$3,600.00	\$18,000.00
FTA 5303, State, Local	2.2	Environmental Justice/Title 6/Anti-Poverty Planning	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
FHWA PL, Local	3.1	Socio-economic Data	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$5,000.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$5,000.00
FHWA PL, Local	3.2	Traffic Impact Analysis/Land Use Monitoring	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$12,500.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$12,500.00
FHWA PL, Local	4.1	Congestion Management Process	\$14,400.00	\$0.00	\$3,600.00	\$18,000.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14,400.00	\$0.00	\$3,600.00	\$18,000.00
FTA 5303, State, Local	4.2	Transit / Paratransit Planning	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00				\$108,407.00	\$13,550.88	\$13,550.88	\$135,508.75	\$108,407.00	\$13,550.88	\$13,550.88	\$135,508.75
FHWA PL, Local	4.5	Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning	\$5,600.00	\$0.00	\$1,400.00	\$7,000.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,600.00	\$0.00	\$1,400.00	\$7,000.00
FHWA PL,Local	4.6	Model Development and Applications	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$5,000.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$5,000.00
FHWA PL, Local	4.10	Freight Planning	\$10,400.00	\$0.00	\$2,600.00	\$13,000.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,400.00	\$0.00	\$2,600.00	\$13,000.00
FHWA PL, FTA 5303, State, Local	4.11	Long Range Plan	\$36,000.00	\$0.00	\$9,000.00	\$45,000.00				\$16,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$52,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$65,000.00
FHWA PL, FTA 5303, State, Local	4.12	Transportation Improvement Program	\$32,000.00	\$0.00	\$8,000.00	\$40,000.00				\$8,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$50,000.00
FHWA PL, Local	4.13	Strategic Planning Studies	\$28,000.00	\$0.00	\$7,000.00	\$35,000.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$28,000.00	\$0.00	\$7,000.00	\$35,000.00
FHWA PL, Local	4.13	PI# 0017427, SR 21 Access Management Study	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$120,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$120,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$150,000.00
FHWA PL, Local	4.13	PI 0017906 SR 307 Corridor Study	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200,000.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	\$250,000.00
Grand Total			\$362,298.94	\$0.00	\$90,574.74	\$452,873.68	\$320,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$400,000.00	\$132,407.00	\$16,550.88	\$16,550.88	\$165,508.75	\$814,705.94	\$16,550.88	\$187,125.61	\$1,018,382.43