



TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

MPC Surrency Conference Room -- 2:00 p.m.  
 112 East State Street, Savannah  
 Minutes

**December 8, 2016, Regular Meeting of the CORE MPO Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)**

<u>Voting Members</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Present</u>
Charles Akridge	City of Bloomingdale	
Toss Allen	Effingham County	
Scott Allison	City of Richmond Hill	X
John Bennett	Savannah Bicycle Campaign	
Robbie Byrd	City of Pooler	
Byron Cowart	GDOT - District 5	X
William Eastin	GDOT - Planning	X
George Fidler	Savannah Airport Commission	
Caroline Hankins	Town of Thunderbolt	
Jackie Jackson	City of Garden City	
Trent Long	City of Port Wentworth	X
Don Masisack	Coastal Regional Commission	
Nathaniel Panther	Chatham County Engineering	X
Representative, staff	Town of Vernonberg	
George Shaw	City of Tybee	
Grant Sparks	Chatham Area Transit	
Wykoda Wang	CORE MPO	X
Mike Weiner	City of Savannah Traffic Engineering	
Randy Weitman	Georgia Ports Authority	
Mark Wilkes	CORE MPO	X
<u>Voting Alternates</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Present</u>
Jorge Espinoza	Chatham Area Transit	X
Michele Strickland	City of Savannah Traffic Engineering	X
<u>Others Present</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Present</u>
Pam Bernard	Chatham County Engineering	X
Vivian Canizares	GDOT -- Planning	X
Jo Hickson	Coastal Georgia Greenway, Inc.	X
Jane Love	CORE MPO	X
Tom McQueen	GDOT - Planning	X
Troy Pittman	GDOT - District 5	X
Stephanie Rossi	CORE MPO	X

## I. Approval of Agenda

### 1. [Approval of Agenda](#)

The agenda of the December 8, 2016 TCC meeting was approved as written.

## II. Action Items

### 2. [Approval of the Oct. 20, 2016, TCC Meeting Minutes](#)

Attachment: [TCC minutes 10-20-14.pdf](#)

A motion was made and seconded to approved the minutes of the October 20, 2016 TCC meeting, as written. The motion passed with none opposed.

### 3. [Endorsement of the CORE MPO Committees' 2017 Meeting Schedule](#)

Attachment: [2017 CORE MPO Committee Meeting Schedule.pdf](#)

Ms. Jane Love directed TCC members' attention to the proposed schedule for TCC meetings in 2017. Extra meetings are proposed for the TCC in January and in March, as staff will be seeking committee involvement in several processes or products that should wrap up by March. She also noted that the October TCC meeting would occur in an earlier week than usual in order to avoid overlap with the national conference of the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations that is occurring in Savannah, and in which CORE MPO staff will be heavily involved.

There were no questions or comments. A motion was made and seconded to endorse the CORE MPO Committees' 2017 Meeting Schedule. The motion passed with none opposed.

### 4. [Amendment to 2040 Total Mobility Plan](#)

Attachment: [2040 MTP Amendment Staff Report November 2016.pdf](#)

Ms. Wykoda Wang explained the proposed amendment to the 2040 Total Mobility Plan, which is the CORE MPO's current Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). She said GDOT had requested to add Preliminary Engineering (PE) for widening I-16 from Pooler Parkway to I-95 into Cost Band Three of the plan, as well as adding Construction into the Vision Plan. The reason is that GDOT anticipates the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will be looking for this to be in the long range plan when they review the Interchange Modification Report (IMR) for the already-programmed widening project for I-16 from I-95 to I-516.

The addition of PE into Cost Band Three does not negatively impact any other projects in

the plan. Ms. Wang described the participation process the MPO is following for this proposed amendment.

Staff recommended TCC endorsement of the amendment. There were no questions. A motion was made and seconded to endorse the proposed amendment to the 2040 Total Mobility Plan. The motion passed with none opposed.

5. [Amendment to FY 2015 - 2018 Transportation Improvement Program](#)

Attachment: [FY 2015-2018 TIP Amendment Staff Report November 2016.pdf](#)

Ms. Wang stated that the proposed amendment to the FY 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) would program an additional \$9.1 million for PE for I-16 widening from I-95 to I-516 in FY 2017. This request came from GDOT. GDOT would provide the additional federal and state funding, and thus the financial balance of the TIP is not affected. She described the participation process the MPO is following.

Staff recommended TCC endorsement of the proposed amendment to TIP. A motion was made and seconded to endorse the amendment to the FY 2015-2018 TIP. The motion passed with none opposed.

6. [Congestion Management Process Update](#)

Attachment: [cmpagenda12\\_2016.pdf](#)

Ms. Stephanie Rossi said that staff is seeking TCC endorsement of the direction staff plans to take in updating the Congestion Management Process (CMP). She reviewed the tasks described in the staff report.

Staff mentioned the need to shift funds within the FY 2017 Unified Planning Work Program, from other tasks onto this task, in order to cover staff time, now that it is known that the work will be done in house. Ms. Wang displayed the budget table showing how funds could be shifted and explained why this would not negatively impact progress on other tasks. It was agreed that shifting the funds does not require a UPWP amendment since the total budget is unchanged. Mr. Will Eastin suggested that staff inform the MPO Board of the funding shift within the UPWP. Staff agreed to provide an informational report to the Board.

Regarding data sources, it was noted that the City of Savannah has some travel time runs. Also, Ms. Rossi would send Ms. Michele Strickland a list for the counts.

Staff recommended TCC endorsement of the direction for the CMP update. A motion was made and seconded to endorse the scope and parameters for the CMP update and for staff to share budget adjustment with the CORE MPO Board. The motion passed with none opposed.

7. [Call for Projects for CORE MPO's Surface Transportation Block Grant \(STBG\) Funds](#)

Attachment: [Z230 Funds Call for Projects staff report.pdf](#)

Ms. Wang reviewed a proposed process for a Call for Projects for CORE MPO's portion of the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds, also known as Z230 funds, as covered in the written staff report. Considerations included: maximum request, minimum request, frequency for future calls for projects, a schedule for the upcoming call, scoring criteria and application review process, as well as whether current TIP projects with Z230 funding need to compete to retain their funding.

A motion was made and seconded to decide on the details of the Call for Projects at this meeting. The motion passed.

**Schedule:** A motion was made and seconded to adjust schedule such that the Call for Projects would be announced January 3, applications would be due Feb. 3, and the TCC would score the applications in February. The motion passed.

**Maximum request:** A motion was made and seconded to remove the proposed \$4 million cap on the funding request for individual applications. The motion passed.

**Currently programmed projects:** A motion was made and seconded that TIP projects currently programmed with Z230 funds would not need to be re-submitted in the Call for Projects. There was discussion on whether currently known cost increases for current Z230-funded TIP projects would be deducted from the available funding before issuing the call or would sponsors have to apply to cover cost increases. It was agreed that increases would be covered prior to the call as long as they met the criteria for administrative modification. There was no modification of the motion. The motion passed.

The scoring criteria were accepted as proposed in the staff report. TCC members will individually score applications on their own and then discuss scores at their meeting. The frequency for the future calls for projects would be at least every four years. TIP amendments could still be requested in between Calls for Projects, as the MPO Board could consider such requests in comparison to the prioritization resulting from the Call.

## 8. [Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects Process](#)

Attachment: [TA Selection Process staff report.pdf](#)

Ms. Jane Love reviewed a proposed process for a Call for Projects for the CORE MPO's Transportation Alternatives (TA) funds. The process and schedule would be similar to the Call for Projects for the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds, but the criteria would be slightly different because project eligibility is more restricted for TA funds. This will be the CORE MPO's second call for projects for TA, although last time, in 2014, it was known as Transportation Alternatives Program, or TAP.

The proposed offering in the call is \$3 million in federal funds, plus a required 20% minimum local match. She said that sum is an estimate of what is available when adding the MPO's TA balance as of FY 2015 to the TA revenue for FY 2016 through FY 2021.

Staff recommended TCC endorsement of the TA Call for Projects process. A motion was made and seconded to endorse the proposed process, with the exception that the schedule and the review committee would be adjusted, as decided for the STBG Call for Projects in

the previous agenda item. The motion passed.

9. [Nomination and Election of TCC Chairperson](#)

Current TCC Chairman Nathaniel Panther opened the floor for nominations for TCC Chairperson. Mr. Scott Allison nominated Mr. Panther. Ms. Wykoda Wang nominated Mr. Mark Wilkes. There were no other nominations. Mr. Panther closed the nominations. He called for a show of hands on the nominees. Mr. Panther received four votes. Mr. Wilkes received three votes. Mr. Panther was thus elected TCC Chairman for the upcoming calendar year.

10. [Nomination and Election of TCC Vice-Chairperson](#)

As Chairman, Mr. Panther opened the floor for nominations for TCC Vice Chairperson. Ms. Wang nominated Mr. Scott Allison. Mr. Allison nominated Mr. Mark Wilkes. Mr. Wilkes declined, as the intent was to rotate the responsibility and he had served as Vice Chairman for many years previously. There were no other nominations. Nominations were closed. Mr. Scott Allison was elected TCC Vice Chairman for the next calendar year.

**III. Other Business**

11. [CORE MPO Staff Contact List](#)

Attachment: [MPO Staff Contact List By Subject Area Staff Report.pdf](#)

Attachment: [MPO Staff Contacts by Subject Area List.pdf](#)

Mr. Mark Wilkes directed TCC members' attention to the list of MPO staff responsibilities, to ensure that members know who they can contact on specific topics. This was suggested by FHWA. Speaking of FHWA, Mr. Wilkes added that MPO staff would send out FHWA's report on the results of their review on Procurement Processes by Georgia MPOs.

**IV. Status Reports**

**V. Information Reports (verbal)**

**A. Federal Highway Administration**

12. [Report](#)

No report at this time.

**B. Federal Transit Administration**

13. [Report](#)

No report at this time.

**C. Georgia Department of Transportation**

14. [Report](#)

Mr. Byron Cowart directed attention to the handout on the status of GDOT projects in the MPO planning area, and offered to answer any questions.

**D. Member Governments**

15. [Reprots](#)

**Chatham County:** There was a handout listing status of projects. Mr. Panther mentioned that the Quacco Rd. design proposes a three-lane section with a shared use path on one side and a five-foot sidewalk on the other side. They will coordinate with CAT about the bus stops. He also stated that Canebrake Rd. path could be ready for construction by the end of 2017.

**City of Savannah:** Ms. Michele Strickland informed the committee of the prior night's open house about Project DeRenne. It was very well attended. There was public concern about the schedule and the fact that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) might be required instead of the less intensive Environmental Assessment (EA)/ Finding of No significant Impact (FONSI). MPO staff inquired about whether bike lanes and sidewalks are included in the Gwinnett Street concept. Ms. Strickland was not certain but believed that they normally would be included, especially given the emphasis on the Canal District. MPO staff would check with Mr. Weiner.

**City of Richmond Hill:** Mr. Allison reported they are working on the sidewalk project on Hwy. 144 between I-95 and US 17. He said that the signal and landscaping project at Hwy. 144 and US 17 is 95% done.

**Port Wentworth:** Mr. Trent Long said he had no report at this time.

**E. Coastal Regional Commission of Georgia**

16. [Report](#)

No report at this time.

**F. Chatham Area Transit Authority**

17. [Report](#)

Mr. Jorge Espinoza stated that at next week's CAT Board meeting, the consultants would present the process for the Origin-Destination Study. The Board would also decide on the Executive Director.

**G. Georgia Ports Authority**

18. [Report](#)

No report at this time.

**H. Savannah-Hilton Head International Airport**

19. [Report](#)

No report at this time.

**I. Savannah Bicycle Campaign**

20. [Report](#)

No report at this time.

**VI. Other Public Comments (limit to 3 minutes)**

21. [Comments](#)

Ms. Jo Hickson stated that the Coastal Georgia Greenway will be holding a strategic planning workshop on February 28.

**VII. Announcements**

22. [Next meeting of the TCC: January 19, 2017, 2:00 p.m. in MPC Surrency Room \(pending approval of the 2017 schedule\)](#)

**VIII. Other Non-Agenda Information for Reference**

23. [FHWA Letter on CORE MPO Interim Certification Findings](#)

Attachment: [SavannahTMACerticationInterimImprovements\\_11\\_08\\_16.pdf](#)

24. [Victory Drive Corridor Study Phase III Draft Recommendations](#)

Attachment: [V-III-Draft-Recommendations-FINAL-MPC-lres.pdf](#)

Attachment: [comment card\\_summary\\_Nov.pdf](#)

**IX. Adjournment**

25. [Adjournment](#)

The December 8, 2016 meeting of the TCC was adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

*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.*