



Planning and Development Department

**Melanie Wilson,
Director**

**AUGUSTA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION STUDY (ARTS)
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at 11:00 A.M.
AUGUSTA RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL BUILDING
535 TELFAIR STREET, 3RD FLOOR, SUITE 300
AUGUSTA GEORGIA 30901**

MEETING MINUTES

<i>VOTING MEMBERS ATTENDING:</i>	<i>VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:</i>
CAC VOTING MEMBERS ATTENDING: Steve Cassell, P.E. Engineering Director Columbia County LJ Peterson representing Aiken County Rhonda Mitchell, LSCOG Kenny Larimore, SCDOT - Planning Adam Humphries, SCDOT – RPG3 Michelle Jones, City of Aiken Public Works	CAC VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT: Thomas Zeaser, Engineer, N. Augusta Joe Berry , Aiken County Herbert Judon, Director Augusta Regional Airport Andrew Strickland, Director, Columbia Co. Planning Yolanda Morris, GADOT Todd Turner, US Army Matt Schlachter, Columbia County Mark Pleasant, SCDOT John Pleveich, RATP Development Curtis Murphy, New Ellenton Patrick Stephens, Director Augusta Public Transit Hameed Malik, Augusta Engineering
OTHERS ATTENDING:	
Augusta Planning and Development Dept. Carletta Singleton, Strategic LRT Manager Bill Spivey – Planner II Dhruvi Panchal – Planner Udomekong Udoko, Transit Planner	SCDOT - Planning Alex Bennett
GDOT Ted Hicks Todd Price Ellen Wright Frank Childs	POND Kevin Skinner Pat Smeetar
Augusta Engineering June Hamal	Go-To-Meeting Ann Marie Day, FHWA GA Division Michele Jones, City of Aiken Public Works
Leah Cassell, Wolverton & Associates	

1. **Carletta Singleton welcomed everyone to the meeting and proceeded with introductions (Acknowledge Go-To-Meeting)**
2. **Recommend approval of the minutes of the Citizens Advisory Committee Meetings held on November 8, 2017 and June 21, 2017.**
3. **Review the Scope of Work for consultant services to update the Congestion Management Process. The proposed budget is \$200,000.00 (\$160,000.00 federal and \$40,000.00 local match). The local match provided by August, Georgia and Aiken County, South Carolina.**

Carletta Singleton presented this item: she reviewed of the scope of work for the Congestion Management Process, along with the project cost and funding sources. Ms. Singleton then provided the committee with an overview of the scope of work and activities for the consultant services and gave a review of the task list which consisted of federal guidelines for the Congestion Management Process. Including the following;

- Task 1: *Review and Conduct Assessment of the Existing CMP*
- Task 2: *Research CMP Best Practices*
- Task 3: *Develop a Stakeholder and Public Outreach Approach*
- Task 4: *Data Collection and Analysis of Existing and Future CMP Transportation System Network*
- Task 5: *Analyze Traffic Congestion Problems and Needs*
- Task 6: *Review and refine Goals and Objectives*
- Task 7: *Develop Multimodal Performance Measures*
- Task 8: *Review and Update Existing CMP Strategies*
- Task 9: *Develop CMP Data Collection, Monitoring & Performance Reporting Process*
- Task 10: *Develop CMP System Performance Monitoring Evaluation*

Ms. Singleton explained that APDD would be changing the parameters to fall in line with the federal requirements and guidelines. Ms. Singleton explained that the goal is to have this completed by December of this year and that the materials produced by the consultant will be brought before the committees. The goal is to be under contract by late March of 2018. Once the process is set and updated, APDD is required to do an annual report. Ms. Singleton explained that the purpose of this study is to look at all the projects we have in the LRTP and TIP and evaluate if we are funding projects that improve travel conditions in the MPO area.

One of the performance measures for the Performance Based Planning will look at how congestion measured in reference to the system performance and reliabilities. Once the process is set and updated, APDD is required to do an annual report.

This item is for information only

4. **Review and endorse Final Draft FY 2019 Unified Planning Work Program - Work Elements, work activities and budget.**

Bill Spivey Presented this item: The Augusta Planning and Development Department proposes to amend the FY 2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to include the FY 2019 FTA Section 5303 funding for the work elements, tasks and activities under the Public Transit. The proposed budget below demonstrates the funding levels for each work element. This budget will be included in the FY 2019 FTA Section 5303 grant application submittal to GDOT Office of Intermodal on December 4, 2017. The FY 2019 UPWP will include this budget and an overview of the ARTS transportation planning process and a description of each work element to be completed during the

fiscal year 2019 (July 1 – June 30). The Work Elements for the FY 2019 UPWP have been expanded from five (5) to seven (7) categories including: Program Administration, Public Involvement, Transportation Data Collection and Analysis, Transportation System Planning, Public Transit/Paratransit, Performance Based Planning and Transportation Improvement Program. Special emphasis will be placed on developing a framework to identify and coordinate stakeholders relative to Coordinated Human Services transportation and enhancing public transit planning for fixed-route bus and paratransit demand-response; Regional Freight Plan; Special Transportation Studies including Congestion Management Process Update, Central Martinez Area Access Management Plan for Columbia County, the Aiken County Project Prioritization Tool and the 2015 Long-Range Transportation Plan; implementing local and regional air quality initiatives and strengthening the public involvement process.

Carletta Singleton explained:

This information is available on the Augusta Richmond County website for review.

5. Review and endorse recommendation from the Technical Coordinating Committee to the Policy Committee to adopt revisions to the Functional Highway Classification for ARTS MPO area in Richmond and Columbia Counties as requested GDOT.

Carletta Singleton presented this item: The purpose of the Functional Classification review is to capture how roadways currently function based upon FHWA criteria. New changes to the guidelines in the MAP-21 prompted the reclassification of major roadways on River Watch road in the ARTS metropolitan planning area. Both Richmond County and Columbia County agreed to all of the recommended changes. There is a concern relative to changing the functional classification to a minor arterial with widening projects occurring. However, since the functional classification captures the current function of the roadway, Columbia County agreed with recommended change on the condition that once proposed improvements are completed by GDOT to widen this road from 2-4 lanes, reclassification of this road to a “Principal Arterial” is restored. The Augusta Planning and Development Department in consultation with the Engineering Department acknowledges that this corridor as a “Principal Arterial” is designated on the Federal Highway Strategic Highway Network (STRAHNET) due to its proximity to Fort Gordon and subsequent importance to the US strategic defense. Additionally, this corridor is in the ARTS 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan as a regionally significant corridor for safety and security.

A motion to approve the item was made, seconded and unanimously approved by all committee members present.

6. Review and discuss Draft Traffic Crash and Intersection Analysis Annual Report.

Dhruvi Panchal presented this item: : stated that the report that data collected for the report came from the traffic safety office from the crash report from 2015 through 2018, the report found that the number of crashes have decreased. However, more crashes were found in downtown Augusta. Fund that Aiken has more fatal crashes. However, so far, there have been no reports for crashes in Edgefield County. For traffic crash analysis the data in this report is pulled from GDOT and SCDOT sources that consolidate all locally provided traffic crash data. The two main sources of data are the Georgia Electronic Accident Reporting System (GEARS), provided for the GDOT Office of Traffic Operations, and the SCDOT Traffic Safety Office, on behalf of the South Carolina Department of Public Safety (SCDPS). Traffic crash analysis provides a summary of all four county crash trends for the Year 2011 to 2016. The analysis includes crash trends by year, by week, day and time, and day

of the week by Month. The report includes data analysis and maps. Regional non-intersection crashes, intersection crashes and pedestrian/bicycle crashes maps provide an outlook of crash trends for five years. The report also focuses on intersection accident analysis for 2011 – 2016. Intersection crash summaries by intersection for Aiken and Edgefield counties are provided by the South Carolina Department of Transportation, Traffic Engineering Safety Office and for Richmond, Columbia counties by Georgia Electronic Accident Reporting System (GEARS), GDOT Office of Traffic Operations.

7. Review and discuss ARTS Surface Transportation Program Funds – Z230 for transportation projects for Richmond and Columbia Counties in the FY 2017-2022 Transportation Improvement Program.

Carletta Singleton Presented this item: Carletta Singleton presented this item: Administrative modifications and Amendments to the TIP and LRTP (along with the Statewide TIP) follow the approved the project development process outlined in the ARTS Public Participation Plan. The most recent version of the TIP was approved June 30, 2016. The transportation projects listed below are proposed as administrative modifications to the 2040 LRTP and FY 2017-2022 TIP. These are the new project requested for review and endorsement by ARTS MPO committees. After the Policy Committee has endorsed the projects, a public meeting and 30 day public comment period will be scheduled.

Changes were made to the following projects:

- Hereford Farm Road - FY 21 local ROW to \$1,813,501, FY 23 local CST to \$3,327,846, FY 23 local UTL to \$4,061,684
- Hardy McManus Road - FY 21 local ROW to \$1,813,501, FY 23 local CST to \$3,327,846, FY 23 local UTL to \$4,061,684
- Wheeler Road - For CST FY 2020 Local funds Increased to \$ 387,000
- Boston Chapel Road - CST FY 2020 Local funds Increased to \$ 239,029.69
- Willis Foreman Road - Add local FY 2024 CST amount for \$6,514,750, Move ROW \$253,000 amount to local. Additional \$1,500,000 added to project PE Phase II (federal 80% and local 20%).
- Stevens Creek Road

Over the course of this calendar year, all of the projects in the TIP and LRP will be revisited and their funding source and revenue streams will be identified and carried over in the next plan update.

This item is for information only

8. Review and endorse recommendation to the Policy Committee to approve 2017 ARTS Transportation Alternatives (TA) Grant applications pending public review meeting.

Bill Spivey gave an update on the four applications Walton Way Accessible Sidewalk Renovation, Evans to Lock Road Multi-Use Trail and Widening, Sidewalk installation along Kissingbower Road and Street lighting in Augusta Medical District.

A motion to approve these projects and amend them into the TIP was made, seconded and unanimously approved by all committee members present.

9. Discussion on ARTS MPO Planning Process for Performance Based Planning – Asset Condition and System Performance Target Settings as required by Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Carletta Singleton Presented this item: Recently, ARTS was provided with timelines by SCDOT for the Initial Coordination Process between SCDOT and the ARTS MPO to facilitate Initial Pavement and Bridge Condition and the Initial System and Truck Travel Time Reliability Performance Target Settings. The ARTS MPO is required to set targets in coordination with SCDOT for all public roads after South Carolina has set the 4-year targets by May 20, 2018. ARTS will have 180 days or by November 16, 2018, at the latest, to either adopt and support SCDOT's statewide targets or establish a numerical target specific to the ARTS planning area. ARTS has agreed to support the targets set by SCDOT for the MPO area. Action required by Technical Coordinating Committee, a recommendation to the Citizen's Advisory Committee and Policy Committee to adopt and support the Initial Pavement and Bridge Condition and the Initial System and Truck Travel Time Reliability Performance Targets set by the South Carolina Department of Transportation for a period of four (4) years.

10. Status of Other Regional Transportation Projects:

- a. **Review of Administrative Modifications to the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and FY 2017-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**
- b. **Georgia Highways**
- c. **South Carolina Highways**
- d. **Augusta Public Transit Dept.**
- e. **Best Friend Express**

11. Other Business –Election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the ARTS Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) for 2018 Calendar Year.

12. Adjourn