



Planning and Development Department
Robert H. Sherman III
Director

**AUGUSTA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION STUDY (ARTS)
 METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2018 AT 11:00 A.M.
 AUGUSTA RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL BUILDING
 535 TELFAIR STREET, FIRST FLOOR,
 LINDA BEAZLEY COMMUNITY ROOM
 AUGUSTA, GEORGIA 30901**

MEETING MINUTES

ARTS POLICY COMMITTEE	
<i>VOTING MEMBERS ATTENDING:</i>	<i>VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:</i>
Ron Cross , CHAIRMAN of POLICY COMMITTEE Chairman Columbia County Commission Mr. Rick Osbon , Mayor City of Aiken Mr. Gary Bunker , Chairman Dr. William Molnar , VICE CHAIR of POLICY COMMITTEE Mr. Vernon Dunbar , Mayor City of New Ellenton Radney Simpson , representing Commissioner Georgia Department of Transportation Russell McMurry Tommy Paradise representing Dean Campbell , Chairman Edgefield County, SC	Mr. Gary Jones , Mayor City of Grovetown Mr. Robert Buchwitz , Chairman City of Hephzibah John B. Morrison , Garrison Commander USASC & Fort Gordon Mr. Robert Pettit , Mayor City of North Augusta Mr. Jonathan Dicks , Mayor City of Burnetown Phillip Stewart , Mayor City of Blythe Doug Duncan , Columbia County Commission Marcus Campbell , representing Hardie Davis, Jr. , Mayor of Augusta Sharon Dottery , Interim Transit Director Christy Hall , Secretary of Transportation SC
<i>NON-VOTING MEMBERS ATTENDING:</i>	<i>NON-VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:</i>
Rob Sherman , ARTS Project Director	Vacant , Chairman ARTS Citizens Advisory Committee Ben Davis, Jr. , 3rd Congressional District Commissioner, SC John Burriss , 2nd Congressional District Commissioner, SC Emily O. Lawton , SC FHWA Division Administrator Jamie Buswell , Congressional Representative District 10 Don Grantham , GA State Transportation Board Tamara Christion , FHWA, Transportation Planner Edward Hicks , GDOT Atlanta
<i>OTHERS ATTENDING:</i>	
Thomas Zeaser , City Engineer, North Augusta Steve Cassell , Columbia County Engineering Rick Toole , Alfred Benesch & Company Matt Schlachter	Augusta – Richmond County Hameed Malik , Augusta Engineering Dept. Marques Jacobs , Augusta Engineering Dept. Carole Burrowbridge , ADA Officer, Augusta GA
SCDOT - Planning Kenny Larimore , SCDOT – Planning Adam Humphries , Preconstruction	GDOT Ellen Wright , Tennille Office Todd Price , Tennille Office

Augusta Planning and Development Dept. Mary Elizabeth Burgess Dr. Oliver Page Udomekong Udoko Mariah Harris Warren Richard Lynn Russell	Lower Savannah Council of Governments
Aiken County Planning & Development LJ Peterson, Transportation Planner	Go-To-Meeting: Rick Wyatt Todd Glover Joel Duke, Planning & Development Director

1. Welcome and Introductions (*Acknowledge Go-To-Meeting*)

2. Recommend approval of the minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting held on September 13, 2018.

Meeting minutes were approved with the following corrections:

- Doug Duncan’s title was changed to Columbia County Commissioner.
- Christy Hall replaced Janet Oakley as the Secretary of Transportation- SC.

Dr. William Molnar is nominated as the new chairman of the Policy Committee. Gary Bunker is nominated as the new Vice Chairman of the Policy Committee.

3. Consider approving the DRAFT FY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) (Approved by TCC & CAC on November 14, 2018).

Lynn Russell reviewed the UPWP work elements and explained that the transit planning funds were adjusted to reflect the new amount given by the Federal Transit Administration.

A motion to approve was made by Tommy Paradise, seconded by Dr. William Molnar and unanimously approved by all committee members present.

4. Consider approving applications to the Georgia Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (GAMPO) as follows (Approved by TCC & CAC on November 14, 2018):

- a. **An application for funding to hire a consultant to update the ARTS Metropolitan Transportation Plan in the amount of \$270,000 (\$216,000 Federal and \$54,000 local match). *Approved by a majority vote of the Policy Committee by electronic vote on November 16, 2018.***

A motion to approve was made by Dr. William Molnar, seconded by Radney Simpson and unanimously approved by all committee members present.

- b. **An application for funding to hire a consultant to prepare the Central Martinez Area Access Management Plan in the amount of \$500,000 (\$400,000 Federal and \$100,000 local match provided by Columbia County).**

Mary Elizabeth Burgess asked if any of the members present had any consultants in mind. No suggestions were made.

A motion to approve was made by Dr. William Molnar, seconded by Gary Bunker and unanimously approved by all committee members present.

5. Status of Regional Transportation Projects:

- a. **Georgia Highways**

Ellen Wright presented this item:
See attached status of highway projects report.

b. **South Carolina Highways**

Adam Humphries presented this item:
See attached status of highway projects report.

c. **Augusta Public Transit**

Udomekong Udoko presented this item:

Augusta Public Transit and the ARTS MPO are currently working on ridership surveys and could possibly have a report on the ridership surveys in the March 2019 meeting. APT is still working on hiring a Transit Director.

d. **Best Friend Express**

Dr. William Molnar presented this item:

6. Status of Special Studies:

a. **Congestion Management Process update**

Dr. Oliver Page provided an updated of the CMP:

Dr. Oliver Page explained that VHB has made good progress. The ARTS MPO has joined the I-95 Corridor Coalition in order to access the HERE data sets. The consultant has received the crash data from South Carolina and Georgia and has been developing heat maps reflecting crash data in the ARTS planning area. The consultants are scheduled to complete the CMP on time (end of March 2019).

7. Other Business – Election of new Chairman and Vice Chairman will be held at the March 2019 meeting.

The Policy Committee chose to vote on new officers in December per the procedures as outlined in the ARTS Policy & Procedures Manual. The vote was held at the beginning the meeting. Dr. William Molnar was nominated and elected as the new chairman on the Policy Committee. Mr. Gary Bunker was nominated and elected as the new Vice Chairman of the Policy Committee.

8. Adjourn