



Planning and Development Department
Melanie Wilson,
Director

**AUGUSTA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION STUDY (ARTS)
 METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)**

**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
 THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 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>
<p>Ron Cross, ARTS Chairman Columbia Co. Commission Jamie Cochran, GDOT Tommy Paradise, County Administrator Sharon Dottery, Transit Contract Manager Michelle Shepherd Jones, Public Works Director Dean Campbell, Chairman, Edgefield County Council, SC Commissioner, South Carolina Carole Burrowbridge, ADA Officer, Augusta GA Scott Sterling, City of Grovetown Christina Jordan, ADA Officer of Augusta Recreation and Parks</p>	<p>Brent Weir, Mayor of Blythe, Georgia Robert Buchwitz, Chairman, Hephzibah City Commission, GA Gary Jones, Mayor, City of Grovetown, GA Col. Todd Turner, Garrison Commander, Fort Gordon, GA Rick Osbon, Mayor of Aiken, SC Jonathan Dicks, Mayor, City of Burnetown, SC Robert Pettit, Mayor of North Augusta, SC John Vernon Dunbar, Mayor, Town of New Ellenton, SC N. Hardee, 2nd Congressional Dist. Gary Bunker, Chairman, Aiken Co. Council, SC Ben Davis, Jr., 3rd Congressional Dist. Commissioner, South Carolina Christy Hall, Secretary of Transportation, SCDOT William Molnar, Ph.D., Executive Director, Lower Savannah Council of Governments</p>
<p>Thomas Zeaser, City Engineer, North Augusta Steve Cassell, Columbia County Engineering June Hamal, Augusta Engineering Dept. Rick Toole, Toole Engineers John Ussery, Augusta Engineering Dept. Marques Jacobs, Augusta Engineering Dept.</p>	<p>Augusta – Richmond Co. Hameed Malik, Augusta Engineering Dept. Herbert Judon, Director Augusta Regional Airport</p>

SCDOT - Planning Kenny Larimore, SCDOT – Planning Alex Bennett, Asst. Program Manager Adam Humphries, Preconstruction Brent Willis	GDOT – District 2 Ellen Wright Todd Price Edward Hicks, GDOT Headquarters Tamara Christion, FHWA
Augusta Planning and Development Dept. Robert Sherman Martin Laws Udomehkong Udoko Mariah Harris Warren Richard Lynn Russell	Lower Savannah Council of Governments Rhonda Mitchell, Transit Manager Cheney Thomasson
Aiken County Planning & Development LJ Peterson, Transportation Planner	Go-To-Meeting: Yolanda Morris, FHWA, SC Diane Lackey, SCDOT Amanda Sievers

MEETING MINUTES

1. **Welcome and Introductions** (*Acknowledge Go-To-Meeting*)
2. **Recommend approval of the minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting held on March 1, 2018.**
3. **Review and discuss ARTS Traffic Volume Map and Level of Service (LOS) GIS Spatial Map and Data Analysis.**

Meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Martin Laws presented the data analysis for the Traffic Volume Map and LOS Map for the ARTS MPO area. Mr. Laws explained that APDD updates Congestion management process every year for the ARTS Area. The ARTS Traffic Volume Map and LOS map shows data for all four counties (Richmond, Columbia, Aiken, and Edgefield). Roads on the LOS map received letter grades ranging from A to F identifying what roads really need improvement.

Martin Laws continued to present the second LOS map that represents to ARTS county roads. This map shows the volume to capacity to each road in the county in the ARTS area. The red lines show that the road ratio volume is higher than capacity and these roads are already congested. Yellow lines show road that are almost congested. With this research Ms. Panchal found that few of the roads are already identified as a CMP Corridor Congestion Management Corridor, meaning it has a level of service grade is an F and the volume to capacity ratio is greater than 1. The following roads have been identified under the CMP Study Corridor 2014:

Richmond County	Wheeler Road from I-20 to I-520
	Walton Way Ext near I-20 through Davis Road
	15 th street

Columbia County	Furry Ferry Road from Baston road to North Belair road
	Evans to Lock Road
	Washington near Martinez Blvd.
Aiken and Edgefield County	Whiskey road from east pine log road
	Silver Bluff Road

There were no questions or comments.

4. **Review and discuss Socio-economic Data Collection for ARTS –Regional Population Growth and Land use Development Trends Report.**

Martin Laws explained that the demographic data collected includes Population & Housing, Employment, Household Income, School Enrollment & Employment, Business License, Certificate of Occupancy and Building Permits. APDD is currently working with Grovetown and Columbia County to collect the rest of the remaining data. The remaining data to be collected is shown below.

Richmond County

- Private School Enrollment 2010-2017
- College/University Enrollment 2010-2017

Columbia County

- School Employment 2010 – 2017
- Private School Enrollment 2010-2017
- College/University Enrollment 2010-2017

Aiken County

- School Employment 2010-2016
- Private School Enrollment 2010-2017
- College/University Enrollment 2010-2017

Edgefield County

- School Employment 2010-2017
- Private School Enrollment 2010-2017
- College/University Enrollment 2010-2017

5. **Review and discuss FTA 5310 Enhanced Seniors and Disabled Person– Transit Service Performance Report.**

Udomekong Udoko presented this item: Udomekong Udoko explained the FTA 5310 Program was launched by Augusta Public Transit and Lower Savannah Council of Government in May 2017 to assist the seniors and disabled persons in the community. Mr. Udoko reviewed the previous invoices for the FTA 5310 program and the urbanized population of people with disabilities and seniors in Richmond, Aiken, and Edgefield County. Mr. Udoko also reviewed the 5310 service trip report from May 2017 to April 2017. According to Augusta Public Transit, the

5310 service experienced peak ridership from November 2017 through January 2018 due to the holiday season.

6. Review and discuss Scope of Work for 2045 Performance Based Multimodal Transportation Plan (Five-Year MTP Update) developed under consultant services in FY 2019.

Martin Laws presented this item: Martin Laws explained that the 2040 LRTP Update will be done in house instead of with a consultant. APDD staff will be looking to start the project within the next two months. With the data gathered during the Comprehensive Plan and the fact that APDD has done the Long Range Transportation Plan in house before, staff is confident they can handle during the Long Range Transportation Plan in house.

7. Review Administrative Modifications to FY 2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

- a. **FY 2018 UPWP Budget Transfer – GDOT FHWA PL Funds**
- b. **FY 2018 UPWP Budget Transfer – SCDOT FHWA PL Funds**
- c. **Status on consultant selection process for RFP 18-159 ARTS MPO Congestion Management Process Update and modify project schedule.**

Martin Laws presented this item: Martin Laws explained that the CMP is in the process of beginning. We are in the process of getting the contract signed by the consultant and the Augusta-Richmond County with only one more signature needed. We look to start this project in 1-2 weeks and APDD will have the first meeting with the consultant before the end of June. The consultant will be Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc out of Atlanta, GA.

8. 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)**

Martin Laws presented this item: Martin Laws explained that the TIP updates will be presented at the next meeting.

- b. **Georgia Highways**
- c. **South Carolina Highways**
Adam Humphries presented this item.
- d. **Augusta Public Transit Dept.**
- e. **Best Friend Express**
Rhonda Mitchell presented this item.

9. Other Business – Announcements

Robert Sherman gave an update on ARTS MPO staff.

Carletta Singleton is no longer with the MPO.

Lynn Russell has been brought back to assist the MPO.

Oliver Page was previously with the MPO and will return in August.

10. Adjourn – 11:45am