



**AUGUSTA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION STUDY (ARTS)  
 METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)  
 TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING  
 JANUARY 11, 2018 at 10:30 A.M.  
 AUGUSTA RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
 535 TELFAIR STREET, SUITE 300 – ROOM 391  
 AUGUSTA GEORGIA 30901**

**MEETING MINUTES**

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

1. **Carletta Singleton welcomed everyone to the meeting and proceeded with introductions (*Acknowledge Go-To-Meeting*)**
2. **Recommend approval of the minutes of the Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting held on October 12, 2017.**  
**The meeting minutes from the Technical Test Network Sub-committee meeting will be held over to the next meeting.**
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:** provided a review of the scope of work for the Congestion Management Process update 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 which consisted of federal guidelines for the Congestion Management Process. The task consisted of 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*

Carletta Singleton stated that this task list will play a part in the performance measures.

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

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

**Carletta Singleton 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 Section. The proposed budget below demonstrates the funding levels for each work element. This

budget was 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 completing 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 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan; and implementing local and regional air quality initiatives. This information is available on the Augusta Richmond County website for review.

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

**This item will require a vote to recommend approval by the Policy Committee.**

- 5. Review and endorse recommendation 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 this report includes data collected for the report came from the traffic safety office from the crash report from 2015 through 2017, the report found that the number of crashes have decreased. However, more crashes were found in downtown Augusta, and that Aiken County 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 by 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 from year 2011 or 2016. The analysis includes crash trends by year, by week, day and time, and day of the 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. The report is available on the ARTS website for review.

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

**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.

**8. Review and endorse recommendation to the Policy Committee to adopt 2017 ARTS Transportation Alternatives (TA) set-aside Grant recipients pending public review meeting.**

**Bill Spivey presented this item:** The four (4) applications received were evaluated by three (3) members of the Technical Coordinating Committee on January 9, 2018; the evaluation committee was made up of members of the TCC and ARTS's staff. The highest scoring project was the Walton Way Accessible Sidewalk Renovation with an average total of 38 points. The second

place project was the Evans to Lock Road Multi-Use Trail with an average total score of 37 points, and the third place project was the Sidewalk Installation along Kissingbower Road with an average total score of 36 points. The fourth project was the Street Lighting in the Augusta Medical District, but this type of project is not eligible for funding. TA program funding guidelines identifies street lighting as an eligible project as part of a bicycle and/or pedestrian project. TA funds cannot be used for maintenance work, and second, the lighting project would have to be part of a larger transportation project.

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.

**Ann Marie Day stated;** there was a discussion on the lighting project and she sent for further interpretation of the regulations for clarity purposes. She sent an email to the person that provides oversight to this program in the headquarters' office, currently he is at TRB, and so she is waiting to hear from him. She also sent him the application so he will have an idea of what the proposal contains, and the extent of the work.

**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).**

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 (Refer to attachment)
- c. South Carolina Highways (Refer to attachment)
- d. Augusta Public Transit Dept. (no one present)
- e. Best Friend Express (Refer to attachment)

**11. Other Business – Announcements - Election of Vice-Chair of the ARTS Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) for 2018 Calendar Year.**

**12. Adjourn**

