



**AUGUSTA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION STUDY (ARTS)  
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING  
535 TELFAIR STREET, SECOND FLOOR, COMMISSION CHAMBERS  
AUGUSTA GEORGIA 30901  
THURSDAY, June 4, 2020 at 11:00 A.M.  
MEETING MINUTES**

<b>ARTS POLICY COMMITTEE</b>	
<b><i>VOTING MEMBERS ATTENDING:</i></b>	<b><i>VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:</i></b>
<p><b>Dr. William Molnar</b>, CHAIRMAN of POLICY COMMITTEE  <b>Gary Bunker</b>, VICE CHAIR of POLICY COMMITTEE  <b>Radney Simpson</b>, representing GDOT Commissioner <b>Russell McMurry</b>  <b>Rick Osbon</b>, Mayor City of Aiken  <b>Hardie Davis, Jr.</b>, Mayor of Augusta  <b>Scott Cooper</b>, Edgefield County Chairman  <b>Tommy Paradise</b> representing <b>Dean Campbell</b>, Chairman Edgefield County, SC</p>	<p><b>Gary Jones</b>, Mayor City of Grovetown  <b>Robert Buchwitz</b>, Chairman City of Hephzibah  <b>John B. Morrison</b>, Garrison Commander USASC &amp; Fort Gordon  <b>Robert Pettit</b>, Mayor City of North Augusta  <b>Jonathan Dicks</b>, Mayor City of Burnetown  <b>Phillip Stewart</b>, Mayor City of Blythe  <b>Christy Hall</b>, Secretary of Transportation SC  <b>Vernon Dunbar</b>, Mayor City of New Ellenton  <b>Sharon Dottery</b>, Transit Director represented by <b>Burshunda Harden</b>  <b>Doug Duncan</b>, Columbia County Commission represented by <b>Matt Schlachter</b></p>
<b><i>NON-VOTING MEMBERS ATTENDING:</i></b>	<b><i>NON-VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:</i></b>
<p><b>Robert H. Sherman III</b>, ARTS MPO Project Director</p>	<p><b>Vacant</b>, Chairman ARTS Citizens Advisory Committee  <b>Ben Davis, Jr.</b>, 3rd Congressional District Commissioner, SC  <b>John Burriss</b>, 2nd Congressional District Commissioner, SC  <b>Emily O. Lawton</b>, SC FHWA Division Administrator  <b>Jamie Buswell</b>, Congressional Representative District 10  <b>Don Grantham</b>, GA State Transportation Board</p>
<p><b>Joel Duke</b>, Director Aiken County  <b>Trang Mai</b>, GDOT  <b>Libby Hodges</b>, City of North Augusta Planning Director  <b>Adam Humphries</b>, SCDOT Program Manager  <b>LaToya Grate</b>, SCDOT Planning Engineer  <b>Rhonda Mitchell</b>, LSCOG  <b>Carole Burrowbridge</b>, ADA Augusta  <b>Dr. Hameed Mailk</b>, AED</p>	<p><b>Tamara Christion</b>, FHWA, Transportation Planner  <b>Todd Price</b>, GDOT  <b>Frank Childs</b>, GDOT  <b>Ellen Wright</b>, GDOT  <b>Tamara Christion</b>, FHWA  <b>Alex Bennett</b>, SCDOT  <b>Tom Caiafa</b>, GDOT  <b>Trang Mai</b>, GDOT  <b>Rhonda Mitchell</b>, LSCOG</p>
<b>CITY OF AUGUSTA</b> Carla Delaney	<p><b>Rhonda Davis</b>, GMC  <b>Brandis Chandler</b></p>



<b>Erik Engle</b> <b>Dr. Oliver Page</b> <b>Mariah Harris</b> <b>Udomekong Udoko</b> <b>June Hamal, AED</b> <b>Marcus Holland</b>	<b>Rev. Nellie Pearl Merriweather</b> <b>Ian Bridgeforth</b> <b>Michelle Bunker</b>
<b>Glenn Coyne, WSP USA Inc.</b> <b>Christy Jeon, WSP USA Inc.</b> <b>Julia Billings</b>	<b>Regina Pyles, CSRA RDC</b> <b>Will Carter, Cranston Engineering Group</b> <b>David Mills, Cranston Engineering Group</b> <b>Rick Toole</b> <b>Alan Wertz</b> <b>Ryan Walker</b> <b>Emory Langston</b> <b>Jean Yarsawich</b> <b>Cordell Carter</b> <b>Henry Howard</b>

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

(Carla)

**II. Approval of Minutes**

A. Approve the minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting held on March 5, 2020. **(PC Vote)**

Carla Delaney presented this item:

Gary Bunker motioned to approve and Rick Osbon seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**III. Purpose**

Carla Delaney presented this item:

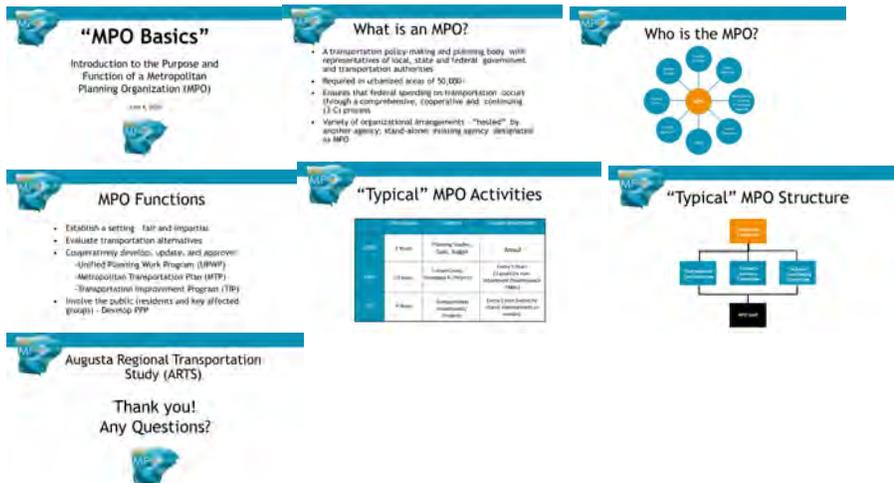
**A. MPO 101 – The purpose of the MPO and Committees presented by Carla Delaney**

(Carla Delaney) A Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) updated once every five (5) years will list projects which are ranked based on the data that’s available at the time the MTP was prepared. When it comes time for the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the funding at the state level is identified (each state funds their own projects) that is done at the TIP level. Projects listed in the MTP will not necessarily be funded in the TIP in the same order. As municipalities and the local and state governments get together and identify funding opportunities and funding sources, projects will be rearranged in the TIP. This process allows room for local and regional input into which projects get funded in the TIP. So don’t go into the MTP procedure thinking your voices aren’t being heard. Understand that the MTP has to identify every potential project. As your projects increase in urgency in the upcoming years and as your state representatives identify and agree with your concerns, they will fund your projects. We just have to get them all listed in



the MTP. The MTP is the largest list of potential projects and the TIP applies the funding. All projects go through the MTP and your input allows the selection of projects of the highest interest/impact and their placement in the TIP to be funded right now.

See attached presentation below.



**IV. Old Business** Dr. Molnar introduced:

**A. TAP FY 2020 Call For Projects - James Brown Boulevard Streetscape - Phase III (PC Vote)**

Carla Delaney presented this item:

Mayor Rick Osbon motioned to approve and Mayor Hardie Davis Jr., seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**B. TAP FY 2020 Call For Projects – Wrightsboro Rd/McCauley St At-Grade Highway/Railroad Crossing Safety Improvements Appraisal (PC Vote)**

Carla Delaney presented this item

Essentially this project was approved and went through the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) FY 2020 application process. The project progressed through the procurement process, however, it was found out that as Federal funds were to be used to fund the project the process should have been a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) instead of a Request for Proposal (RFP). The process had to start over. Starting over there was a revision upwards of pricing due to the lapse of time (several months) since the start of the procurement process. So the project has returned requesting additional funding. There were unobligated funds from the TAP FY2020 to accommodate this \$20,000 increase in price.



Mayor Hardie Davis Jr., motioned to approve and Radney Simpson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**C. 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update  
Presentation of Performance Measures, Project Lists, 5th & 6th Networks and Financially Constrained Plan (Informational Purposes Only)**

Glenn Coyne WSP presented this item:

See attached presentation below.

**ARTS 2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE**  
Future Mobility  
futuremobility2050.com

Augusta Regional Transportation Study (ARTS)  
Policy Committee  
June 4, 2020

**2050 MTP Deliverables**

- Project Operations Plan
- Technical Report #1: Public Participation Plan
- Technical Report #2: Document Review of Data – Existing Conditions
- Technical Report #3: Goals, Objectives and Performance Indicators
- Technical Report #4: Project Prioritization Process
- Technical Report #5: Transportation Needs Assessment
- Technical Report #6: Financial Plan + Financially Constrained Project List
- Technical Report #1 (Update): Public Participation Outcomes
- Draft MTP
- Final MTP

**Plan Development Process**

**Second Round Public Involvement**

- 7 Community Meetings – Attendance
  - Georgia = 30
  - South Carolina = 66
- MetroQuest Survey – Responses\*
  - Georgia = 118
  - South Carolina = 64

\*2020 Response represents expected number of responses

**Development of Projects**

**Project Prioritization Framework**

1. Identify mission of project
2. Assign the score for each project according to project evaluation criteria
3. Add the weights assigned for each goal corresponding to the project evaluation criteria
4. Rank projects based on weighted scores

**Georgia and South Carolina Funding Distribution**

2040 LRTP

- Georgia: 83% (\$1,570,764,964)
- South Carolina: 17% (\$321,664,557)
- Total: \$1,891,514,521

2050 MTP (Draft)

- Georgia: 88% (\$2,431,922,573)
- South Carolina: 12% (\$317,414,666)
- Total: \$2,749,337,441

**2050 MTP Draft Funding Allocation**

Funding Category	Percentage		Funding		Percentage	
	2050 MTP	2040 LRTP	2050 MTP	2040 LRTP	2050 MTP	2040 LRTP
Intermodal / Bicycle	\$114,703,418	5%	\$19,244,892	4%	1%	1%
Transit	\$118,758,948	7%	\$61,848,625	13%	3%	3%
Intermodal / Capacity	\$1,014,212,419	47%	\$676,143,243	42%	43%	43%
Capital / Operations	\$496,120,797	18%	\$46,476,263	3%	2%	2%
Other / Fundamentals	\$104,202,985	4%	\$10,470,761	1%	1%	1%
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>\$2,418,088,971</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$182,654,884</b>	<b>100%</b>		

**Tier 1 Projects (2021-2024)**

**How can you reach us?**

Visit the project website:  
www.futuremobility2050.com

Follow us on Facebook:  
@futuremobility2050

Contact us:  
1-811-ARTS (toll-free)  
1-800-876-6876 (toll-free)  
1-800-876-6876 (toll-free)  
1-800-876-6876 (toll-free)

**Thank You!**

ARTS MPO, GDOT, SCDOT, WSP, and other partners.

**V. New Business**



**A. 2020 TMA Certification Review**

**I. Overview of Certification Review**

Carla Delaney presented this item:

The Certification Review will be in late August. Due to COVID-19 it is undetermined if the Certification Review will be in person or a virtual meeting. We have a preliminary questionnaire to address some questions from previous years that was submitted on May 29<sup>th</sup> to FHWA and GDOT. At this point in the process, we await feedback.

**II. Administrative Modification for the Congestion Management Plan – Title VI Statement (Informational Purposes Only)**

Dr. Oliver Page presented this item:

Since the MPO is a federally funded agency we are required to submit a Title VI statement as part of all documents. Documents that have already been completed will have the Title VI statement inserted and placed online.

**III. FY 2021 UPWP Amendment identifying the prioritization tool and the connection between freight and transportation planning. (PC Vote)**

Glenn Coyne / Dr. Oliver Page presented this item:

FY 2021 UPWP Amendment is identifying the prioritization tool and the connection between freight and transportation planning.

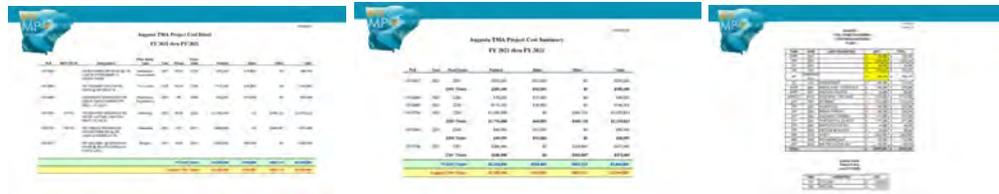
Carla Delaney: The UPWP was approved for FY2021 before the prioritization tool was included so we need a vote to amend the approved FY2021 UPWP to include the prioritization tool.

Gary Bunker motioned to approve and Mayor Rick Osbon seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**B. GDOT FY 2021 STIP Amendment for FY 2018-21 STIP (Augusta) (PC Vote)**

Tom Caiafa presented this item:

See attached presentation below.





Radney Simpson motioned to approve and Mayor Hardie Davis Jr., seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**C. Status of Regional Transportation Projects:**

**I. Georgia Highways**

Ellen wright presented this item:

***Columbia County***

- 0008345 – I-20 from McDuffie County Line to SR 383
  - Widening
  - Concept submitted for approval on 04/02/2020 requesting the project be split into phases
    - Phase 1 – SR 388 to SR 383
    - Phase 2 – SR 47/US 221 to SR 388
    - Phase 3 – A point East of SR 47 (omit)

***Columbia/ Richmond Counties***

- 0016924 - I-20 FM SR 383 TO S CAROLINA LINE & I-520 FM I-20 TO CR 3888
  - Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Expansion and Upgrade Project (17.41 Miles)
  - Currently under Design
  - FFPR expected later this summer
  - Let anticipated for Spring 2021

***Richmond County***

- 0013927 - SR 4/US 25 BU at Savannah River at South Carolina Line
  - Bridge Replacement (0.20 miles)
  - Let date to be moved to March 2024. PCRF currently in review with OPD.
    - Bridge Office and Office of Environmental Services have concurred with new let date.
  - Concept Report submitted for management review 04/21/20. Currently in route to reviewers on 05/28/20. Approval date on schedule for late July/ early August 2020.
  - Ongoing coordination for funding of non-bridge replacement items including aesthetic elements, special lighting and trail connections.
    - TIA will support this project on TIA 2 if passed in the amount of \$5,000,000 for aesthetics only. Vote is June 9, 2020.
  - Meeting scheduled for June 10 or 12, 2020 with MPO representatives for both GA and SC. Updated cost estimate and funding discussion on agenda.



**Richmond County**

- 210327 – I-20 at Savannah River and Augusta Canal
  - Bridge replacements over the Augusta Canal and Savannah River to include widening (0.65 miles) in Georgia and South Carolina
  - Waiting on update from Project Manager
- 220680 – SR 4 from Milledgeville Road to Government Street - TIA
  - Widening (1.59 miles)
  - Utility relocation is underway

**II. South Carolina Highways**

Adam Humphries presented this item:



**III. Augusta Transit**

Udomekong Udoko presented this item:

- Augusta Transit has begun installing new bus shelters throughout the city of Augusta.
- The Augusta Transit is still currently working on its initiative to get bus service to South Augusta
- Augusta Regional Airport is on board to allow transit to connect its service to their facility

**IV. Best Friend Express**

Rhonda Mitchell presented this item:

The Best Friend Express transit system has not experienced a disruption in service during the present COVID-19 pandemic. All routes are continuing to run their regular scheduled schedules. Dial-A-Ride trips and 5310 Urban trips continue to be performed as well.



We have seen a decrease in ridership across our programs with the Governor of South Carolina Stay-at-Home Order that was put in place. However, essential shopping and essential medical trips continued to be requested by citizens and transit services continued to be performed without any disruption.

Drivers have been issued Protective Personal Equipment (PPE) and buses are disinfected several times a day. In the short term, a plastic protective barrier shielding the bus operator has been installed and a permanent protective barrier solution is being explored.

**V. Augusta Regional Airport**  
No presentation

**VI. Other Business**

Subcommittee meeting from last week, there was a call for a virtual workshop regarding the 2050 MTP.

**VII. Adjourn**