



**AUGUSTA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION STUDY**

535 Telfair Street • Suite 300 Augusta, Georgia 30901

**AUGUSTA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION STUDY (ARTS)  
SPECIALLY CALLED JOINT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND TECHNICAL COORDINATING  
COMMITTEE  
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM –  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2020 at 10:30 A.M.  
MEETING MINUTES**

<b>JOINT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING</b>	
<b><i>CAC VOTING MEMBERS ATTENDING:</i></b>	<b><i>CAC VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:</i></b>
<p><b>Geneva Jackson</b>, Aiken County <b>Dr. Chris Noah</b>, Columbia County</p>	<p><b>Martin Cochran</b>, Aiken County <b>Joe Collins</b>, Columbia County <b>Shirley Abney</b>, Aiken County?? <b>Frank Plumley</b>, Columbia County <b>Bill Busser</b>, Aiken County <b>Hafeez Chaudhry</b>, Columbia County?? <b>J. Ashley Williams</b>, Edgefield County</p>
<b><i>TCC VOTING MEMBERS ATTENDING:</i></b>	<b><i>TCC VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:</i></b>
<p><b>Robert Sherman</b>, ARTS MPO Project Director <b>Joel Duke</b>, Director Aiken County <b>Corbett Reynolds</b>, P.E. District Engineer represented by <b>Ellen Wright/Todd Price</b> <b>Tom Caiafa</b>, GDOT <b>Trang Mai</b>, GDOT <b>Hart Clark</b>, Edgefield County Building and Planning Director represented by <b>Kevin Singletary</b> <b>Libby Hodges</b>, City of North Augusta Planning Director <b>Thomas Zeaser</b>, Engineer, North Augusta <b>Dr. Hameed Malik</b>, Director, City of Augusta Engineering Dept. <b>Sharon Dottery</b>, Director, Augusta Transit <b>Matt Schlachter</b>, Columbia County represented by <b>Steve Exley</b> <b>LaToya Grate</b>, SCDOT Planning Engineer <b>Herbert Judon Jr.</b>, Director, Augusta Regional Airport represented by <b>Greg Larsen</b></p>	<p><b>Teresa Crain</b>, Aiken County Engineer <b>Curtis Murphy</b>, City of New Ellenton <b>Michelle Jones</b>, City of Aiken Public Works <b>Andrew Strickland</b>, Director, Columbia County Planning <b>John Ussery</b>, Augusta Traffic Engineer <b>Ryan Bland</b>, City of Aiken Planning Director <b>Rhonda Mitchell</b>, LSCOG <b>Kyle Titus</b>, Director of Columbia County Engineering</p>

<b>Adam Humphries</b> , SCDOT Program Manager represented by <b>Alex Bennett</b> , SCDOT	
<b>TCC NON-VOTING MEMBERS ATTENDING:</b>	<b>TCC NON-VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:</b>
<b>Carole Burrowbridge</b> , ADA Augusta <b>Yolanda Morris</b> , FHWA (SC) <b>Frank Childs</b> , GDOT	<b>Eric Duff</b> <b>Andy Crosson</b> , CSRA-RC <b>LJ Peterson</b> , Aiken County <b>Tamara Christion</b> , FHWA (GA)
<b>OTHERS ATTENDING:</b>	
<b>Carla Delaney</b> <b>Erik Engle</b> <b>Dr. Oliver Page</b> <b>Mariah Harris</b> <b>Udomekong Udoko</b> <b>Marques Jacobs</b> , Augusta Engineering Department <b>June Hammal</b> , Augusta Engineering Department <b>Glenn Coyne</b> , WSP USA Inc. <b>Regina Pyles</b> , CSRA-RC <b>Dr. William Molnar</b> , LSCOG <b>Betsy McCall</b> , SCDOT	<b>Rhonda Davis</b> <b>Rick Toole</b> <b>Pete Frommer</b> <b>Gaylon Tootle</b> <b>Nicholas Myers</b> <b>Ken Makin</b> <b>Will Carter</b> , Cranston Engineering <b>Denice Traina</b> , TCAC <b>Dave Mills</b> , Cranston Engineering <b>Terra Carroll</b> , North Augusta Chamber <b>Frank Lumpkin, IV</b> <b>Tyler Tulanian</b>
<b>Unidentified Usernames / Attendees</b> iPhone David 3980 Joe Robertson ( Joe R ) Dee Crawford's iPhone Debby Clarkin mprzyby PorterEP ENGHOOVK	<b>Unidentified Numbers / Attendees</b> 180364321XX 180344257XX 170682119XX 180335103XX 180364215XX 170642156XX 170683454XX 170666440XX 180327996XX 180322126XX 170644776XX

I. Welcome and Introductions (Acknowledge Zoom)

II. Approval of Minutes

A. **Approve the minutes of the Joint Citizens Advisory Committee, Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting held on May 13, 2020. (CAC & TCC Vote)**

Carla Delaney presented this item:

CAC – Chris Noah motioned to approve and Geneva Jackson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. **(Votes submitted via email)**

TCC –Robert Sherman motioned to approve and Joel Duke seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

III. Purpose

A. **MPO 101 – The purpose of the MPO and Committees presented by Mariah Harris (Informational Purposes Only)**

Mariah Harris presented this item:

Please see the presentation below.

**“MPO Basics”**  
Introduction to the Purpose and Function of a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)  
August 1, 2020

**What is an MPO?**

- A transportation policy-making and planning body with representatives of local, state and federal government and transportation authorities
- Required in urbanized areas of 50,000+
- Ensure that federal spending on transportation occurs through a comprehensive, cooperative and continuing (I-C) process
- Variety of organizational arrangements “hosted” by another agency; stand-alone; existing agency designated as MPO

**Who is the MPO?**

**MPO Functions**

- Establish a setting - fair and impartial
- Evaluate transportation alternatives
- Cooperatively develop, update, and approve:
  - Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
  - Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)
  - Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Involve the public (residents and key affected groups) - Develop PPP

Time	Activity	Frequency
1 hour	Planning Studies, Analysis, Approval	Annual
20 hours	Metropolitan Transport & Planning	Every 3 years for the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
4 hours	Transportation Improvement Program	Every 3 years for the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

**“Typical” MPO Structure**

**Augusta Regional Transportation Study (ARTS)**

Thank you!  
Any Questions?

IV. New Business

A. **FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program – Modifications**

- **Formatting Corrections (Informational Purposes Only)**

Mariah Harris presented this item:

UPWP modifications were made in the form of formatting corrections and the removal of duplicate work activities. No funding changes were made. All funding changes will be addressed in the UPWP amendment portion of the agenda.

B. **FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program – Amendments**

- I. **Add Aiken County Bettis Academy Road Feasibility Study (CAC & TCC Vote)**

Joel Duke presented this item:

CAC – Chris Noah motioned to approve and Geneva Jackson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. ***(Votes submitted via email)***

TCC – Joel Duke motioned to approve and Robert Sherman seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

II. **Add Aiken County Whiskey Rd Feasibility Study (CAC & TCC Vote)**

Joel Duke presented this item:

CAC – Chris Noah motioned to approve and Geneva Jackson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. ***(Votes submitted via email)***

TCC – Joel Duke motioned to approve and Robert Sherman seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

C. **GAMPO March 2021 – Bike and Pedestrian Study (Informational Purposes Only)**

Carla Delaney presented this item:

The MPO will apply for Georgia Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (GAMPO) funds to complete the Bike and Pedestrian Study in March 2021. This agenda item was just to inform the committee members that this study is on the horizon.

D. **TAP/TIP Amendment – SCDOT TAP FY 2019 Knobcone Sidewalk Project (CAC & TCC Vote)**

Joel Duke presented this item:

During the 2019 TAP Call for Projects, the City of North Augusta submitted an application for the TAP Knobcone Sidewalk Project. The project was approved by the ARTS Policy Committee on September 5, 2019. After SCDOT completed an independent cost estimate, it was brought to our attention that the City of North Augusta had underestimated the project cost significantly. On April 30, 2020 we received a request from the City of North Augusta to amend the total cost from \$252,495 to \$350,000. The ARTS Policy Subcommittee recommended approval of the revised cost at its meeting on May 28, 2020.

We've been advised by SCDOT's TAP Program Manager that there is currently \$576,938 in available TAP funds but \$293,000 will lapse on September 30, 2020 if a project isn't obligated by that date. We would like for those funds to go towards the Knobcone Sidewalk Project. In an effort to try to meet that deadline, we are requesting that the option for an email vote be granted for the Policy Committee. We need an earlier email vote to give time for the application to be processed by SCDOT before the September 30th lapse date.

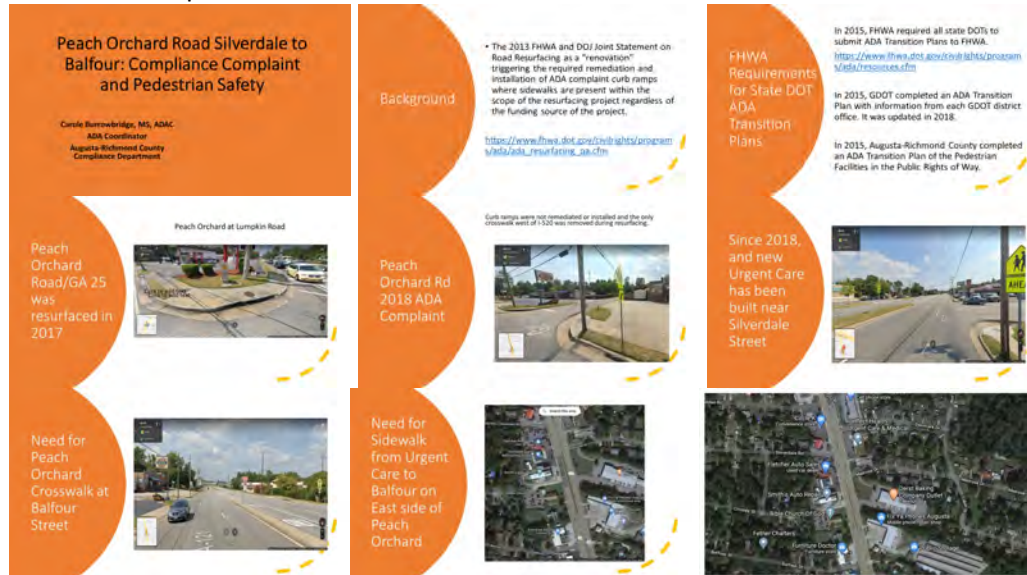
CAC – Chris Noah motioned to approve and Geneva Jackson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. ***(Votes submitted via email)***

TCC – Libby Hodges motioned to approve and Robert Sherman seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**E. Peach Orchard from I-520 to Balfour Street – Presented by Carole Burrowbridge (Informational Purposes Only)**

Carole Burrowbridge presented this item:

Please see the presentation below.



**Dr. Hameed Malik** informed the CAC/TCC committee that this project is considered to be a State Route project. All information and updates come directly from GDOT. Once the information is received from GDOT, the Augusta Engineering Department will pass the information along to the MPO.

**F. I-14 Corridor Letter of Support (CAC & TCC Vote)**

Carla Delaney and Frank Lumpkin, IV presented this item:

Frank Lumpkin asked the MPO for a letter of support for the I-14 Corridor. Funding is not associated with this letter of support.

CAC – Chris Noah motioned to approve and Geneva Jackson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. **(Votes submitted via email)**

TCC – Robert Sherman motioned to approve and Hameed Malik seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**G. 2020 TMA Certification Review (Informational Purposes Only)**

Carla Delaney presented this item:

The MPO has been given a date in late August from FHWA for the Transportation Management Area (TMA) Certification review. Some CAC/TCC members may be contacted directly to speak to FHWA in regards to the MPO.

**H. 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
  - o Widening
  - o Concept requesting the project be split into phases due to funding approved June 1, 2020.
    - 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
  - o Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Expansion and Upgrade Project (17.41 Miles)
  - o Next milestones: PM to request FFPR
    - Request to authorize PE in FY 2021 with Cost Estimate to be submitted August 2020

### ***Richmond County***

- **0013927 - SR 4/US 25 BU at Savannah River at South Carolina Line**
  - o Bridge Replacement (0.20 miles)
  - o 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.
  - o V2 Concept Report submitted July 20, 2020
  - o Ongoing coordination for funding of non-bridge replacement items including aesthetic elements, special lighting and trail connections.
    - \$5 Million in TIA funding
  - o Scoping preliminary design task order
  - o Virtual PIOH video production in process
  
- **210327 – I-20 at Savannah River and Augusta Canal**
  - o Bridge replacements over the Augusta Canal and Savannah River to include widening (0.65 miles) in Georgia and South Carolina
  - o Updates as of July 30, 2020
    - EB Exit 1 paving first week of August
    - Widening shoulder and restriping for Ramp E (WB loop on ramp) should be complete
    - Median roadwork ongoing in SC
      - Cross drain pipe first week of August, aquadam installation ongoing on the West side of Savannah River, Caisson construction is ongoing for Augusta Canal
    - Key safety enhancement was made to extend length of WB loop on ramp acceleration lane from Exit 1 to I-20 W last week (July 27-31)
  
- **220680 – SR 4 from Milledgeville Road to Government Street - TIA**

- Let to Construction June 2019
- Widening (1.59 miles)
- Utility relocation is underway and moving forward. Have been delays.

II. South Carolina Highways  
 Adam Humphries presented this item:  
 Please see the presentation below.



III. **Augusta Transit**  
 Sharron Dottery presented this item:

Augusta Transit moved into their new facility (2844 Regency Blvd, Augusta, GA 30904) on June 30, 2020. Augusta Transit Route #6 (Gordon Highway Bus) has extended its route from downtown to the new facility (every 45 minutes). Augusta Transit is still not charging fares due to COVID-19 and social distancing.

IV. **Best Friend Express**  
 No presentation

V. **Augusta Regional Airport**  
 No presentation

V. **Other Business**

VI. **Adjourn**