



Greater Dalton Metropolitan Planning Organization

Meeting Minutes

April 2, 2015

I. Call to order

Ty Ross – PC Chairman called to order the regular meeting of the Greater Dalton Metropolitan Planning Organization at 9:06 A.M. on April 2, 2015 at Mack Gaston Community Center.

II. Introductions

The meeting attendees were as follows:

Policy Committee:

- 1) **PC Chairman – Ty Ross**
Administrator, City of Dalton
- 2) **Brittany Pittman**
Sole Commissioner, Murray County
- 3) **Mike Brown**
Administrator, City of Varnell
- 4) **Mike Babb**
Chairman – Whitfield County Board of Commissioners
- 5) **Radney Simpson**
Assistant State Planning Administrator, GDOT
- 6) **Ken Gowin**
Mayor of Tunnel Hill
- 7) **Ron Shinnick**
Mayor of Cohutta



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Technical Coordinating Committee:

- 1) **TCC Chairman – Kent Benson P.E.**
County Engineer, Whitfield County
- 2) **Benny Dunn**
Director Public Works, City of Dalton
- 3) **Dave Cox**
GDOT, West Georgia Planning
- 4) **Cherie Marsh**
Planning/Scheduling Engineer, GDOT – District 6
- 5) **Megan Weiss**
GDOT Transportation Planner
- 6) **Dewayne Hunt**
Whitfield County Public Works Director

Advisory Committee:

- 1) **Barnett Chitwood**
Assistant Director of Planning, Northwest Georgia Regional Commission

Guest:

- 1) **Andrew Parker**
City of Dalton, Assistant Public Works Director
- 2) **Frank Hubbs**
Dalton Airport Manager
- 3) **Bill Allen**
Senior Transportation Engineer, MAAI
- 4) **Tracey Crawley**
Administrative Assistant
- 5) **Glen Warlick**
GDOT



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6) Steve Addawale

GDOT Project Manager

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Chairman Ross asked for a vote to approve the previous meeting minutes. Ken Gowin provided the motion, and Brittney Pittman seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as recorded.

IV. Open issues

a) GDOT Status Report on Open Projects –

Radney Simpson provided the status report for following projects:

- 1) ***Carbondale Business Park*** – Kent Benson informed the group that a Public Hearing would be held on April 14, 2015 at Valley Point Middle School. The meeting is an essential part of the environmental assessment (EA). Any public comment will be incorporated into a resubmittal of the EA. Whitfield County is awaiting the soil survey.
- 2) ***Louise Lane*** – DeWayne Hunt requested termini information regarding the Louise Lane Project. Kent Benson informed the group the locations have shifted slightly to be closer the railroad right-of-way.
- 3) ***House Bill 170*** – Radney Simpson discussed the intended use of House Bill 170. The funding will be used for improvement projects tabled due to funding. Current projects will not receive any funding until FY 2017.

Steve Addawale provided the status report for following projects:

- 4) ***PI #10685*** – Ty Ross requested information regarding the LET date and Steve informed the group that the March LET date would be reassigned.
- 5) ***Carbondale Interchange*** – The right-of-way has been completed and certified. Currently, the project is on schedule.
- 6) ***Pedestrian Upgrades (PI #13173)*** – GDOT has taken the project back to scope to better allocate the funding. This project is different from the current signal upgrades taking place.
- 7) ***Rocky Face Interchange*** – Ty Ross requested a status update, and Steve approximated the project as 40 % completed.



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- b) **Administrative Report** – Jacob Bearden explained the Draft FY 2016 UPWP had been through the public comment period and did not receive any comments. The Draft was approved by GDOT and FHWA. Jacob introduced the Long Range Transportation Update and provided the attendees with the current project list and opened discussion.

V. New business

Approval/Disapproval of the FY 2016 UPWP – Ken Gowin made a motion to approve the FY 2016 UPWP, and Radney Simpson seconded the motion. The FY 2016 UPWP was approved with no further comment.

Long Range Transportation Update – Jacob Bearden introduced the project list to the attendees and requested the group review the lists and determine the prioritization of the projects. An open discussion of the projects began. There was a concern that some projects were either completed or started and should be removed from the lists. The attendees commented funding was not correctly reflected on the projects. Kent Benson informed Moreland Altobelli that SPLOST projects should not have Federal or State funding. The MPO decided to have all comments to Moreland Altobelli by May 1st before the public comment period begins. The group requested a separate work session be held to discuss the project lists.

Approval/Disapproval of the Draft 2040 Long range Transportation Plan – Mike Babb made a motion to table the Draft 2040 LRTP, and Radney Simpson seconded the motion. The Draft 2040 LRTP was tabled and until the next meeting.

No further business was required and no public comment was given.



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VI. Adjournment

Ty Ross – PC Chairman adjourned the meeting at 10:02 A.M.

Minutes submitted by: Jacob Bearden – GDMPO Coordinator

Minutes approved by:

J. Tyson Ross, Policy Committee Chairman

Mike Babb, Policy Committee Vice-Chair

Kent Benson, Technical Coordinating Committee Chair