

MINUTES

GREATER DALTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (GDMPO) JOINT POLICY COMMITTEE & TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 15, 2010 – 1:30 P.M.

WHITFIELD COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING #2
214 WEST KING STREET, DALTON, GEORGIA 30720

The Policy Committee (PC) and the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) of the Greater Dalton Metropolitan Planning Organization (GDMPO) held a regular meeting on February 15, 2010 at 1:30 P.M. at the Whitfield County Administrative Building #2.

PC Members Present:

Mike Babb, Chairman, Whitfield County BOC
Ken Gowin, Mayor, City of Tunnel Hill
Dick Lowry, Councilman, City of Dalton
Robert McLeod, Administrator, Whitfield County
Dan Peeples, Mayor, City of Varnell
J. Tyson Ross, Administrator, City of Dalton

PC Members Absent:

Vance C. Smith, Jr., Commissioner GDOT
Matthew Fowler, Asst. Planning Administrator, GDOT

TCC Members Present:

Kent Benson, Engineer, Whitfield County
Benny Dunn, Director, Dalton Public Works
Palmer Griffin, Director of Operations, Dalton BOE
Heath Harrison, W&WW Manager, Dalton Utilities
Greg Hood, District 6 Plan/Program Eng., GDOT
Frank Hubbs, Chair, Dalton Airport Authority
Kyle Mote, Urban Planner, GDOT (Via telephone)
Karen Quarles, Transit Planner, GDOT (Via telephone)

TCC Members Absent:

Chad Thompson, Trans. Manager, Shaw Industries
Randy Cook, Director, Whitfield County BOE
Cornelius Davis, AICP, Community Planner, FHWA

GDMPO Advisors Present:

Ron Hale, Finance Director, Whitfield County
Kevin Herrit, Planner, Whitfield County

GDMPO Advisors Absent:

Ronnie Nix, Moreland Altobelli Associates
Michelle Nystrom, Regional Coordinator, GDHR
David Schilling, Community Planner, FTA
Kent Sager, District 6 Engineer, GDOT

Guests Present:

None

GDMPO Staff Present:

Zachary P. Montgomery, GDMPO Transportation Planner
Bill Allen, GDMPO Consultant & Transportation Planner

General: Bill Allen introduced himself, gave a brief history of the GDMPO, introduced Zach Montgomery as the new GDMPO Transportation Planner, asked the PC and TCC members to introduce themselves and all did. Allen turned meeting over to Montgomery who asked the PC and TCC members to nominate and elect their officers. J. Tyson Ross was nominated and elected as Chairman of the PC. Mike Babb was nominated and elected as Vice-Chairman of the PC. Kent Benson was nominated and elected as Chairman of the TCC. Montgomery turned the meeting over to PC Chairman J. Tyson Ross, who called the meeting to order and started with agenda item III. Chairman Ross recognized Whitfield County Commissioner Harold Brooker in the audience and asked Montgomery to introduce the members joining the meeting via conference call (Kyle Mote and Karen Quarles of GDOT). Chairman Ross asked members of the committees to review their committee By-Laws and make a joint recommendation as to their approval by and for both committees. The By-Laws for both committees were approved and adopted. Chairman Ross discussed item IV. "Meeting Minutes" from previous meetings and Allen informed him that no previous GDMPO Committee meetings have taken place and the item was on the agenda for future use only. Chairman Ross then requested the report from staff.

Staff Report: Montgomery updated members on GDMPO projects: **2nd Quarter Progress Report & Invoice** submitted to GDOT 2-11-10. **3rd Quarter Report** due 4-15-10; **5303 Transit Grant Application** submitted to GDOT 2-11-10 for \$25,000 to assist MPO Transportation Planning; **Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)** is used to create contract between GDOT and GDMPO and lists planning projects MPO plans to work on during Fiscal Year. GDOT to review Draft by 4-1-10 with final approved UPWP in their office by 6-30-10. Work is ongoing to complete Draft for GDOT, PC and TCC review; **Participation Plan (PP)** defines policies/procedures for attaining public involvement and it is being rewritten for the GDMPO and will be ready for review by the PC and TCC at March meeting, with approval at May meeting; **2010-2013 Transportation Improvement Program** is before members/public for review/comment and on GDMPO website and located at eight locations around County for public review/comment for 30 days with approval of final 2010-2013 TIP at March meeting; **GDMPO Webpage** was created to display everything GDMPO is working on plus all meetings and announcements; **GDMPO Logo** is being created for review/comment at the March meeting. See status of **2035 LRTP** below. Vice Chairman Babb recommended visual aids at future meetings to help people understand what is being discussed. Montgomery stated they will be available. Robert McLeod recommended adding TCC recommendations to future agendas on issues coming before the PC for approval. Montgomery stated that will be added.

GDOT Status Report on Projects: Greg Hood from GDOT gave status report on current projects: Rocky Face Exit Reconstruction to start reconstruction June, 2013; I-75 at Carbondale Road Interchange to start construction in 2015; State Route 3 from 136 in Gordon County to SR 3 in Whitfield County is getting PE phase approved. Hood updated members on all other short-range projects throughout County and explained lump-sum funding, which is basically resurfacing and repairs not needing reconstruction, widening or intersection changes. SPLOST projects were asked to be included on TIP and it was explained if no State or Federal monies were being used in project, it does not need to be included on the TIP.

Old Business: No old business to discuss.

New Business: Chairman Ross asked Montgomery to discuss the 2010-2013 TIP. Montgomery asked the members to review the TIP and get any comments back to him within 20 days so he can incorporate them into the final draft for approval at the March meeting. Montgomery gave a status report on the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) which will be before the members and public before the March meeting. McLeod recommended getting hard copies out to members instead of emailing it to them. Montgomery stated he would do so.

Adjourn: With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 P.M.

J. Tyson Ross, Chair, GDMPO - Policy Committee

Kent Benson, Chair, GDMPO - Technical Coordinating Committee