

MINUTES

The Greater Dalton Metropolitan Planning Organization (GDMPO) held a Joint Policy Committee (PC) & Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Regular Meeting on:

May 17, 2010 – 10:00 A.M.

Whitfield County Administrative Building #1 - 301 West Crawford Street, Dalton, Georgia 30720

PC Members Present:

*J. Tyson Ross, Administrator, City of Dalton
Matthew Fowler, Asst. Planning Administ., GDOT
Dick Lowry, Councilman, City of Dalton
Robert McLeod, Administrator, Whitfield County*

PC Members Absent:

*Mike Babb, Chairman, Whitfield County BOC
Ken Gowin, Mayor, City of Tunnel Hill
Dan Peebles, Mayor, City of Varnell*

TCC Members Present:

*Kent Benson, Engineer, Whitfield County
Benny Dunn, Director, Dalton Public Works
Heath Harrison, W&WW Manager, Dalton Utilities
Frank Hubbs, Chair, Dalton Airport Authority
Kyle Mote, Urban Planner, GDOT*

TCC Members Absent:

*Cornelius Davis, AICP, Community Planner, FHWA
Randy Cook, Director, Whitfield County BOE
Palmer Griffin, Director of Operations, Dalton BOE
Greg Hood, District 6 Plan/Program Eng., GDOT
Karen Quarles, Transit Planner, GDOT
Chad Thompson, Trans. Manager, Shaw Industries*

GDMPO Advisors Present:

*Ron Hale, Finance Director, Whitfield County
Kevin Herrit, Planner, Whitfield County
Brad Kotrba, NWGRC, Community Planner*

GDMPO Advisors Absent:

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

Guests Present:

Phillip Peevy- CC MPO Data, GDOT

GDMPO Staff Present:

Zachary P. Montgomery, GDMPO Transportation Planner

General: J. Tyson Ross, PC Chairman called meeting to order at 10:06 A.M. and stated Mayor Gowin out of town; welcomed Policy Committee member GDOT Asst. Planning Administrator - Matthew Fowler; and, moved to Item II.

Meeting Minutes: Chairman Ross asked for changes or a motion for approval of the March 22, 2010 Minutes. A motion was made and seconded and Minutes were approved by unanimous vote of the PC. Chairman Ross skipped to Item IV.

GDOT Status Report on Projects: Greg Hood-GDOT was unable to attend and Zach Montgomery gave Greg's report, stating the Roundabout Project at I-75/SR 52 funding to allow it to move forward with the peer review has been approved by the Deputy Commissioner, taking it to the next stage of development. This project is listed in the GDMPO - 2011-14 TIP as a Lump-Sum project. With no comments, questions or action required, Chairman Ross moved back to Item III.

Staff Report: Montgomery stated 3rd Quarter Report/Invoice submitted 4-11-10 and 4th Quarter/Annual Report/Invoice due to GDOT July 15, 2010; the 5303 Transit Grant Contract returned to GDOT 3-15-10 and it is now active; the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) creates contract between GDOT and GDMPO and lists projects MPO to work on during FY and it is approved by the Feds and State and is before you today to approve the planning projects and the complete document so it can be submitted to GDOT to create our FY 2011 MPO Contract; the Participation Plan (PP) advertised and put at 8 locations for public review/comment for 45 days, until 5-5. The Policy Committee is asked to approve this document today; the 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) advertised and put at 8 locations and on website for 30 day review/comment period, ending 6-10, for hopeful PC approval at June 14th meeting; and, the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) "FINAL DRAFT" advertised and put at 8 locations and on website for 30 day review/comment period, ending 6-10. Public Meeting III held 5-11 at Dalton City Hall to review 2035 LRTP "Final Draft." This will require PC approval at June 14th meeting for submittal to the GDOT by June 20th deadline. With no comments, questions or action required, Chairman Ross moved to Item V.

New Business:

Item A-FY 2011 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP): Montgomery explained UPWP projects need to be selected and UPWP needs to be approved and gave description of each sub-element of Task 4. 4.3-Kent Benson recommended removal of Veteran's Dr. Corridor Study; 4.4-Bob McLeod recommended removal of MagLev, Matthew Fowler stated GDOT calls it High-Speed Ground Transportation, Montgomery to get with Karen Quarles for title; 4.5-McLeod asked GDOT about Blue-ways, GDOT recommended Blue-ways be removed. Item 4.6 will be added to cover administration of 5307 Transit Grant. Chairman Ross asked for a motion to approve UPWP as amended. A motion was made, seconded and the UPWP Resolution was approved by unanimous vote of the PC.

Item B-Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – MPO Boundaries: Montgomery explained MOU between GDMPO and Chattanooga TPO, to allow Chattanooga to cover area inside Catoosa County since they cover all of Catoosa County. Chairman Ross asked for a motion. McLeod gave a brief history of the MOU. Kent Benson was asked and recommended MOU be approved as written. A motion was made, seconded and the MOU was approved by unanimous vote of the PC.

Item C-Participation Plan (PP): Montgomery explained PP, 45-day review period, GDOT and FHWA approval of PP and need for PC approval today. Ross attended Public Mtg. and praised staff on professional presentation. Chairman Ross asked for a motion. A motion was made, seconded and the PP was approved by unanimous vote of the PC.

Item D-2011-14 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): Montgomery explained 2011-14 TIP serves as GDMPO short-range project list requiring federal/state funding, including resurfacing projects for stimulus funding, and GDOT and FHWA approval of TIP. 30-day review period ends 6-10 with final approval on 6-14 to submit to GDOT. With no action required, Chairman Ross moved to Item V-E.

Item E-2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) "Final Draft": Montgomery explained LRTP under review by GDOT and FHWA and 30-day public review ends 6-10. Approval needed at 6-14 meeting to meet GDOT's deadline. McLeod discussed Bussing issue and need for sidewalks; Ross explained contact with Montgomery on this; GDOT covered program for sidewalks; Montgomery stated GDOT's "Call-For-Projects" this fall would be applied for; Kyle Mote suggested NWGRC Bike/Ped Plan be adopted by GDMPO and if TEA application approved, it would then go into TIP. Fowler discussed "Safe-Routes-To-School" program. McLeod didn't want to leave it out of TIP for possible loss of future funding. GDOT stated once project funded/authorized, it would go in TIP. Brad Kotrba stated Bike/Ped Study would be done 6-30. Montgomery discussed Public Meeting held 5-11 at Dalton City Hall. With no action required, Chairman Ross moved to Item V-F.

Item F-TIGER II Grant Application: Montgomery explained TIGER II Grant, discussion ensued, McLeod and Benson asked about bridge projects, Montgomery discussed projects he listed as ones meeting TIGER II qualifications and asked members to think of other projects to vote on at the 6-14 meeting so he could make pre-application by 7-16 deadline. Upgrading Airport to Reliever Class was discussed. With no action required, Chairman Ross moved to Item V-G.

Item G-5307 Transit Grant Contract: Montgomery explained 5307 Transit Grant, Street Smarts Transit Study and UPWP Transit Study, stating that 5307 Grant RFP would be written to cover what the other two studies do not. We need to get Resolutions from participating governmental entities and make re-application soon. Montgomery asked for approval to proceed with the 5307 Transit Grant Contract. Ross stated he'd bring local match up with City Council and let McLeod or Montgomery know the outcome ASAP.

Item H-Public Comment Period: No persons were present from the general public that wished to speak.

Other Business: Zach reminded Ty Ross & Kent Benson of signatures he'd need for passed Resolutions/Documents.

Adjourn: With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:14 A.M.

J. Tyson Ross, Chair, GDMPO - Policy Committee

Kent Benson, Chair, GDMPO - Technical Coordinating Committee