

SUMMARY MINUTES

MACORTS Policy Committee
Madison County Government Annex – Public Meeting Room
91 Albany Avenue - Danielsville
Wednesday, September 7, 2016
10:00 a.m.

Voting Members Present: Melvin Davis, Oconee County Chairman
Anthony Dove, Madison County Chairman
Jim Anderson, Athens Citizen
Kelly Gwin, GDOT Planning Alternate
Bob Sanders, Oconee County Citizen
Brad Griffin, ACC Mayor Alternate

Others Present: Sherry McDuffie, MACORTS Staff
Cherie Varnum, MACORTS Staff
David Ballard, Athens Transit System
Sarah Bell, Oconee County Citizen
Derek Doster, Athens SPLOST
Kim Coley, GDOT
John Daniell, Oconee County Chairman-Elect

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Dove called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

II. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 10, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Davis made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 10, 2016 Policy Committee meeting. Mr. Griffin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

III. REVIEW OF PUBLIC COMMENT RECEIVED AT TCC MEETINGS / PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

There was none.

IV. REVIEW AND DETERMINATION OF THE FINAL DRAFT AMENDMENT TO FY 15 – 17 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO MOVE THE RIGHT-OF-WAY PHASE OF THE SR 10 LP AT LEXINGTON ROAD INTERCHANGE PROJECT TO FY 2017 AND ASSOCIATED PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. McDuffie explained that this amendment would bring the ROW phase from 2019 to 2017. She noted a 15-day public comment period was held from July 25 – Aug 8 with 3 public meetings. A summary of the public comment was sent to members.

Mr. Anderson stated concerns about access for cyclists and pedestrians to the Firefly Trail and Park & Ride on Lexington Road. There was some discussion about access to both locations. Mr. Griffin asked Mr. Doster, from the Athens SPLOST Department, to speak about this project since he has been in contact with the GDOT project manager about the current status. Mr. Doster stated that he had previous meetings with the GDOT project manager to ensure that access to the Firefly Trail and Park& Ride on Lexington Road would be appropriately addressed through the design process. He noted this amendment being requested is only to address the funding of the ROW phase. After Mr. Doster's presentation, Mr. Davis asked Mr. Anderson if he was comfortable with this item after the information from Mr. Doster. Mr. Anderson confirmed that he felt comfortable moving forward with this project.

Mr. Davis made a motion to recommend approval of the amendment to FY 15-18 TIP to move the ROW phase of the SR 10 Lp at the Lexington Road interchange to FY17. Mr. Griffin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

V. REVIEW AND DETERMINATION OF THE FINAL DRAFT AMENDMENT TO THE 2040 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN TO ADD AN INTERCHNANGE PROJECT AT SR 316 & OCONEE CONNECTOR AND ASSOCIATED PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. McDuffie stated the amendment to the LRTP involves the addition of the SR 316 at the Oconee Connector interchange and the deletion of the Union Church Road Improvement project and the Simonton Bridge Road project. A 15-day public comment period was held July 25 – Aug 8 with 3 public meetings. A summary of the public comment was sent to members.

Mr. Davis made a motion to recommend approval of amendment to 2040 LRTP to add interchange project at SR 316 & Oconee Connector and delete the Union Church Rd Improvement project and the Simonton Bridge Rd Widening project. Mr. Griffin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Davis stated that there should be continued discussion about the Simonton Bridge Road and Union Hill Church projects in the future with TCC.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Davis thanked Bob Sanders, who will be retiring from MACORTS at the end of the year, for the many years of service. Mr. Sanders thanked Ms. McDuffie for her years of service to the Oconee County Land Use and Transportation Committee. Mr. Davis

introduced Mr. John Daniell, who will take office on January 1st, 2017 as the new chairman for the board of Oconee County commissioners.

VIII. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 am. The next meeting is scheduled for October 12th.