

**Amendments to 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan &
FY 2018 – 2021 Transportation Improvement Program:
Incorporate Safety Performance Measures & Targets**

**Public Comment Period
November 20 – December 19, 2017
Frequently Asked Questions**

What are the proposed amendments to the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the FY 2018 – 2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) ?

The proposed amendments include incorporating a resolution into each document that would commit MACORTS to support the safety performance measures and targets developed by the Georgia Department of Transportation in terms of future Transportation planning and programming of projects. This action is required to be taken before February 27, 2018, the deadline imposed by the Federal Highway Administration. Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MACORTS is one) must either agree to support the safety targets adopted by the Georgia Department of Georgia or they must develop their own safety targets. MACORTS has proposed to agree to support the safety targets adopted by the Georgia Department of Transportation for 2018.

Where are we now in the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and FY 2018 – 2021 Transportation Improvement Program amendment process ?

The Draft LRTP & 18-21 TIP amendments to include a resolution into the documents that would commit MACORTS to support the safety measures and targets developed by the Georgia Department of Transportation in the future transportation planning and programming of projects. This action has been approved to go to the public for comment for 30 days (November 20 – December 19, 2017). Any comments received will be presented to the Technical Coordinating Committee and Policy Committee of the Madison Athens-Clarke Oconee Regional Transportation Study (MACORTS) before they vote whether or not to approve the amendments.

Three public meetings have been scheduled to give the public opportunities to review and comment on the Draft Amendments to the LRTP & TIP:

Oconee Veterans Park, Community Center
3500 Hog Mountain Road, Watkinsville, Georgia
Monday, November 27, 2017 – 5 pm to 7 pm

Madison County Government Building Public Meeting Room
91 Albany Avenue, Danielsville, Georgia
Tuesday, November 28, 2017 – 3 pm – 5 pm

Athens-Clarke County Planning Department Lobby
120 W. Dougherty Street, Athens, Georgia
Wednesday, November 29, 2017 – 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

The Draft amendments will be available for review and comment at these meetings. MACORTS Staff will be present to answer any questions and take public comments. There is no formal presentation at these meeting, so feel free to drop in at any time during the meetings.

How do I get copies of the Draft Amendments to the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan and FY 2018 – 2021 Transportation Improvement Program to review ?

The Draft Amendments to the 2040 LRTP and the FY 18-21 TIP and supporting information have been posted on the MACORTS website located at www.macorts.org. Paper copies of the amendments and associated materials on CD's are available at the Athens-Clarke County Planning Department, located at 120 W. Dougherty St. in Athens. You can reach us by phone at (706) 613-3515, by fax at (706) 613-3844, or by e-mail at macorts@athensclarkecounty.com. Copies may also be obtained at the Oconee County and Madison County Planning Offices in Watkinsville and Danielsville, respectively.

How can I comment on the Draft Amendments to the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan and FY 2018 – 2021 Transportation Improvement Program ?

Comments will be accepted from November 20 – December 19, 2017. Comments may be submitted via mail, e-mail, phone, fax, or in person at the Planning Departments of Athens-Clarke County, Madison County, or Oconee County, or handed in at the public meeting.

You can contact MACORTS directly at the Athens-Clarke County Planning Department at 120 W. Dougherty Street in Athens, by phone at (706) 613-3515, by fax at (706) 613-3844, or by e-mail at macorts@athensclarkecounty.com.

What will happen to my comments ?

After the comment period, all comments will be taken to the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) at their meeting on January 24, 2018 and Policy Committee (PC) at their meeting on February 14, 2018 for their review and consideration. The Policy Committee will make the final decision concerning the amendments at that meeting.

The TCC meeting will be held at 10am in the Athens-Clarke County Planning Department Auditorium located at 120 W. Dougherty Street in Athens. The PC meeting will be held at 10am in the Board of Commission Chambers of the Oconee County Courthouse in Watkinsville. Both meetings are open to the public.

How and when will the public know if the amendments to the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan and FY 2018 – 2021 Transportation Improvement Program were approved?

Should the Policy Committee approve the amendments to the 2040 LRTP and FY 2018 - 2021 TIP, it will be posted on the MACORTS website (www.macorts.org) within a day or two of its approval.

If you do not have internet access, please do not hesitate to contact Sherry McDuffie or Cherie Varnum at the Athens-Clarke County Planning Department (120 W. Dougherty Street in Athens). Ms. McDuffie or Ms. Varnum may be contacted by phone at (706) 613-3515, by fax at (706) 613-3844 or by e-mail at macorts@athensclarkecounty.com or cherie.varnum@athensclarkecounty.com.

How can I be notified of MACORTS happenings in the future ?

The easiest way to stay informed of what's going on with MACORTS is to sign up for our e-mail list on the MACORTS website (www.macorts.org) or by calling Ms. Sherry McDuffie to be added to the MACORTS mailing list (for paper or e-mail, please specify).