
BATS MEETING MINUTES

Brunswick Area Transportation Study Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Meeting

Thursday May 28, 2020 - 10:30 a.m.
Via Teleconference

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks (Pamela Thompson)
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes- Action Item
 - a. Minutes from TCC meeting held on March 9, 2020
 - b. Minutes from Special Called TCC meeting held on April 20, 2020
3. Public Participation Plan (PPP) – Action Item
4. 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update
 - a. 2045 MTP Prioritization and Performance Measures – Action Item
 - b. 2045 MTP Cost Constrained Project List– Action Item
 - c. Draft 2045 MTP – Action Item
5. BATS Administrative Updates
 - a. Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)
 - b. 2020 Roadside Enhancement and Beautification Council (REBC) Grant program
 - c. Traffic Update - Exit 38
6. Agency Updates
 - a. Glynn County Airport Commission
 - b. Glynn County School Board
 - c. Glynn County
 - d. City of Brunswick
 - e. GDOT District 5
 - f. Jekyll Island Authority
 - g. Transit Agencies
 - h. Other Items
7. Public Comment
8. Adjourn

Next Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting: Monday, July 13, 2020

Brunswick Area Transportation Study
Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday May 28, 2020 - 10:30 a.m.
Via Teleconference

ATTENDEES

Committee Members

Pamela Thompson, Glynn County Community Development
Marty Simmons, Glynn County School Board of Education Bus System Representative
Bob Nyers, Glynn County Geographic Information Systems Department
Garrow Alberson, Brunswick City Engineer
Paul Andrews, Glynn County Engineer
Vernon Bessing, Manager, Glynn County Airport Commission
Byron Cowart, GDOT Planning Representative
David Dantzler, Coastal Regional Commission
Noel Jensen, Jekyll Island Authority

Others

Maurice Postal, Glynn County Community Development
Michael Plagens, CDM Smith Consultant
Vishanya Forbes, Transportation Planner, RS&H
Rachel Hatcher, Senior Planner, RS&H
Beverly Davis, Senior Planning Group Leader, RS&H
Ann-Marie Day, FHWA
Adam Ivory, CDM Smith Consultant
Melody Butler, CDM Smith Consultant
Tom McQueen, GDOT

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:30 am by Ms. Pamela Thompson, Chairman of the BATS Technical Coordinating Committee. Ms. Thompson gave the welcome and handed the meeting over to Mrs. Hatcher.

2. Approval of Minutes – Action Item

- a. Minutes from TCC meeting held on March 9, 2020
- b. Minutes from Special Called TCC meeting held on April 20, 2020

Mrs. Hatcher addressed this agenda item. She explained that there were two sets of meeting minutes to review from previously held TCC meetings on March 9, 2020, and April 20, 2020. She stated that the meeting minutes were provided for review prior to the meeting and asked if committee members had any questions/comments. There were no questions or comments. Ms. Thompson then called for a motion to approve the minutes from the TCC meetings held on March 9, 2020 and April 20, 2020. Mr. Jensen made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Alberson seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

3. Public Participation Plan (PPP) – Action Item

Mrs. Hatcher spoke on this agenda item. She reminded the committee that the comment period for the Public Participation Plan ended on March 26, 2020 and comments received from oversight agencies have been incorporated into the final draft of the PPP. She added that there were no comments received from the public. She stated that the final draft of the PPP was made available on the BATS website prior to the meeting. Mrs. Hatcher then highlighted the comments received from FHWA and GDOT and referenced the page number where the comment log is located in the updated draft PPP.

Mrs. Hatcher stated that the next step was for the TCC was to make recommendations to the Policy Committee to adopt the updated BATS Public Participation Plan.

Ms. Thompson called for a motion for the TCC to recommend to the Policy Committee approve the final draft of the BATS Public Participation Plan. Mr. Nyers made a motion. The motion was seconded by Mr. Alberson. The motion was passed unanimously.

4. 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update

a. 2045 MTP Prioritization and Performance Measures – Action Item

Mrs. Hatcher spoke briefly on this agenda item. She introduced this agenda item to the committee, explaining each of the action items to be discussed. She stated the existing status of the 2045 MTP Update and highlighted the results of the MTP prioritization exercise and key aspects of the performance measures technical memo. Ms. Thompson then called for a motion from the TCC to recommend to the Policy Committee approval of the 2045 MTP Prioritization and Performance

Measures as presented by the consulting team. Mr. Bessing made a motion. Mr. Nyers seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

b. 2045 MTP Cost Constrained Project List – Action Item

Mr. Plagens spoke on this agenda item. He reminded the committee of the previous actions taken to develop the cost constrained project list. He stated that the list began with over 160 highway and multimodal projects. He provided the committee with a detailed overview of the process as well as the status of the cost constrained project list.

Mrs. Hatcher added that the project costs displayed are tabulated from the mid-year of the funding MTP bands, and the revenues are an aggregate for the entire MTP band.

Mr. Plagens stated next steps for finalizing the constrained project list, including review and approval of the project list, and presenting the final project list at Public Meeting #4 scheduled to occur in June 2020.

Mrs. Hatcher explained that the cost constrained project list was reviewed at the Technical Subcommittee meeting held earlier that morning and modified accordingly. She stated that the suggested motion will include the option to incorporate comments received from the technical subcommittee. She added that the updated cost constrained project list includes the removal of the preliminary engineering phase of one of the Mackay River Bridge project, which is current BATS TIP project. She further explained that this is a result of the funding already being authorized. She stated that as a result of this modification, \$1,700,000.00 is now available in band one, and there is the opportunity to move additional project phases into band one. This would allow a phase from a project on the illustrious list into the cost constrained list.

Mrs. Hatcher stated that the technical subcommittee recommended utilizing the guidance provided by oversight agencies to use the prioritization criteria to guide the next project phases that would move into the cost constrained band. She added that there was a project which is currently ranked third from the bottom of the constrained project list which is a GRIP and evacuation corridor that should be reanalyzed to be moved back into the cost constrained plan.

Mr. Plagens stated that the TIP costs were being updated, and comments from the TCC Subcommittee would be incorporated into the cost constrained project list, including removing projects that were originally in the 2040 MTP.

Mrs. Hatcher further explained the modifications made to the projects on the unfunded portion of the project list. Ms. Thompson called for a motion for the TCC to recommend to the Policy Committee adoption of the 2045 MTP Cost Constrained Project List as presented by the consulting team incorporating the modifications made by the MTP Technical Subcommittee. Mr. Andrews made a motion. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bessing. The motion was passed unanimously.

c. Draft 2045 MTP – Action Item

Mr. Plagens spoke on this agenda item. He reminded the committee of the purpose of the draft MTP and explained the process. He stated the format of the Draft MTP, and highlighted that it comprised of six chapters:

- Chapter 1 – Introduction and MTP Overview
- Chapter 2 – Planning Context
- Chapter 3 – Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures
- Chapter 4 – Study Area Characteristics
- Chapter 5 – Existing Conditions
- Chapter 6 – Plan Development

Mr. Plagens then provided an overview of the schedule and next steps for the Draft MTP, including a Public Workshop #4 scheduled to take place in the third week of June 2020, a 30-day public comment period anticipated to start in late June – early July 2020, and adoption of the MTP to FHWA in August 2020.

Mrs. Hatcher elaborated on the schedule of the Draft MTP and the recommended action/suggestion motion for this agenda item.

Ms. Thompson called for a motion for the Technical Coordination Committee to recommend to the Policy Committee release of the BATS draft 2045 MTP for a 30-day oversight agency review followed by a 30-day public comment review pending incorporation of feedback/comments provided by oversight agencies and BATS staff. Mr. Nyers made a motion. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jensen. The motion was passed unanimously.

5. BATS Administrative Updates

a. Transportation Alternative Program (TAP)

Mrs. Hatcher provided the committee with the administrative updates. She stated that GDOT issued a call for projects under the TAP program on May 4, 2020. She added that applications deadline is July 31, 2020, and that the City of Brunswick and Glynn County have had previous success with TAP program funding for projects. She stated that this program requires a local sponsor with a 20% local match and is for alternative modes of transportation such as bicycle and pedestrian modes. She briefly highlighted the funding requirements and eligible projects for the call for projects for the TAP Program.

Ms. Thompson stated that the Board has seen drops in revenue due to the COVID-19 pandemic and does not have the funding capabilities for a local match at this time, nor does the County have any projects that are shovel-ready.

Mrs. Hatcher continued with the updates on this agenda item, sharing with the committee the various types of projects eligible for this program, including streetscape improvements and Safe Routes to School Program.

There no questions or comments on this agenda item.

b. 2020 Roadside Enhancement and Beautification Council (REBC) Grant Program

Mrs. Hatcher presented on this agenda item. She stated that this was for informational purposes, as the application deadline was May 15, 2020. She added that this grant program was for landscape enhancement along highways with a max funding amount of \$50,000.

Mr. Nyers asked if the grant funding was 100% or if this program required a local match. Mrs. Hatcher replied stating that the REBC grant program was 100% funded. There were no additional questions or comments on this agenda item.

c. Traffic Update – Exit 38

Mrs. Hatcher presented on this agenda item. She stated that the MPO has been coordinating with GDOT regarding traffic congestion at Exit 38 South. She added that there were suggestions made for a striping/safety project, and that GDOT is working with Traffic Ops and State on this issue and will provide updates accordingly.

6. Agency Updates

a. Glynn County Airport Commission

Mr. Bessing provided updates on Airport projects. He stated that they recently received bids for the parking lot expansion, with work to begin soon. He added that there will be bids going out soon for the security project at the terminal.

b. Update on School Board Projects

There were no school board project updates presented at this meeting.

c. Glynn County

Mr. Andrews provide updates on County projects. He told the committee that there was a project update sheet provided as part of the meeting packet. He shared with the committee that there was intersection improvement work underway on St. Simons Island. He added that other projects are moving along in their work schedule.

There were no questions/ discussions on the County projects.

d. Update on City Projects

There were no city project updates presented at this meeting.

e. Update on GDOT Projects

Mr. Cowart provided brief updates on GDOT District 5 projects that were listed on the GDOT Project Sheets.

There were no questions/comments on GDOT project updates.

f. Jekyll Island Authority

There were no Jekyll Island updates presented at this at the meeting.

g. Transit Agencies

Mr. Dantzler provided updates for the Coastal regional Commission (CRC). He stated that they are currently operating at 1/5th of their capacity and are waiting for the senior centers to open up again to begin operating again.

Ms. Thompson asked if the senior centers were following the governor's State of Emergency orders. Mr. Dantzler replied stating that they were, and that they anticipate reopening of the centers around mid-June.

7. Public Comment

No comment from the public.

8. Adjourn

Ms. Thompson reminded everyone of the next regularly scheduled Technical Coordinating Committee on July 13, 2020. She thanked everyone for their participation and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:05 am.



BATS TCC Chairman

Date