
BATS MEETING MINUTES

Brunswick Area Transportation Study Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Meeting

Monday, July 11, 2022 – 1:30 p.m.

Hybrid Format (In-person/Via Teleconference)

Harold Pate Building, 1725 Reynolds Street, Second Floor
Brunswick, GA 31520

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks (Pamela Thompson)
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes – Action Item
 - a. Minutes from TCC meeting held on May 9, 2022.
 - b. Minutes from Special Called TCC meeting held on June 10, 2022.
3. BATS FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – Information
4. BATS Administrative Updates
 - a. Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program
 - b. BATS FY 2023 UPWP Administrative Modification
 - c. GAMPO Special PL Funding Applications
 - d. 5303 Transit Planning Grant Application
 - e. Special PL Funding Project (Sea Island Road at Dunbar Creek Bridge Corridor Study)
5. 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
 - i. Public Comment
6. Adjourn

Brunswick Area Transportation Study
Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 11, 2022 – 1:30 p.m.
Hybrid Format (In-person/Via Teleconference)

ATTENDEES

Committee Members

Garrow Alberson, City of Brunswick
Vernon Bessing, Glynn County Airport Commission
Tom Caiafa, GDOT Office of Planning
David Dantzler, Coastal Regional Commission
John Hunter, City of Brunswick
Noel Jensen, Jekyll Island Authority
Maurice Postal, Glynn County Community Development
Katie Proctor, GDOT District 5
Robby Caudill, GDOT
Bob Nyers, Glynn County GIS
Paul Andrews, Glynn County Engineering
Olivia Lewis, FHWA
Cassius Edwards, GDOT District 5

Others

Stefanie Lief, Planning and Zoning, Glynn County
Vishanya Forbes, Transportation Planner, RS&H
Justin Dammons, Transportation Planner, RS&H

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order at approximately 1:30 p.m. by Ms. Pamela Thompson, Chairman of the BATS Technical Coordinating Committee.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes – Action Item

a. Minutes from TCC meeting held on May 9, 2022

b. Minutes from special called TCC meeting held on June 10, 2022

Ms. Thompson called for a motion to approve the minutes from the TCC meeting held on May 9, and special called meeting held on June 10, 2022. A motion was made by Mr. Alberson and seconded by Mr. Nyers to approve the meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

3. BATS FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) - Information Item

Ms. Forbes presented this agenda item. She provided the committee updates and highlights from the 2022 fiscal year UPWP. She stated that the fiscal year ended on June 30, 2022, along with several highlights including the completion of the MLK-ALTAMA Bicycle Corridor project, the awarding of the Sea Island Road at Dunbar Creek Bridge Corridor Study and carrying out the CAC membership drive for FY 2022. She gave updates on the FY 2023 UPWP and reviewed the planning priorities. Some of these priorities include the monitoring of the 2020 US census count, preparing for the self-certification review, prioritizing equity in the transportation planning process, and preparing for the BATS 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan update.

Ms. Forbes presented the Draft FY 2024 UPWP Schedule of Activities compliant with the Federal 3C process, which is continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive. She added that BATS staff will begin development the draft UPWP with input for planning priorities from all BATS committees. She encouraged the committee members to think about planning priorities for the upcoming fiscal year and added that staff included a feedback form in their meeting packet to collect this feedback.

There were no questions or comments.

4. BATS Administrative Updates

a. Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program

Ms. Forbes provided the committee with administrative updates. She explained the Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program for planning grants and capital construction grants. The grant program is funded with \$1 billion over the next five years and is designed to reconnect communities that were previously cut off from economic opportunities by transportation infrastructure. Eligible facilities include highways, roads, streets, parkways, or other transportation facilities. She stated that eligible entities include states, units of local governments, federally recognized tribal governments, MPOs, and nonprofit organizations. She

reviewed eligible planning activities for this program, including planning studies, public engagement activities, and other transportation planning activities. Grant applications are due on October 13, 2022, and award winners are expected to be announced in early 2023.

b. BATS FY 2023 UPWP Administrative Modification

Ms. Forbes stated that BATS staff performed an administrative modification to incorporate funding awarded for the Sea Island Road at Dunbar Creek special PL funding project.

There were no questions or comments.

c. GAMPO Special PL Funding Application

Ms. Forbes reminded the committee that the next rounds of GAMPO Special PL funding applications are due in September 2022 and March 2023. She stated that if there is a project the committee wants to apply for, this would be the time to prepare for a March 2023 submittal. She added that funding is for planning projects only and cannot be used for preliminary engineering, right of way acquisition, utilities, or construction phases. Projects submitted must have a 20% local match, and there is no minimum or maximum award size. The projects must be reflected in the BATS UPWP, must go through two cycles of MPO meetings prior to submittal, and support the BATS MTP.

Ms. Thompson asked if the St. Simons Gateway that recently had an initial design concept completed would be eligible for this funding opportunity. Ms. Forbes responded that it would be, if it is not to facilitate implementation or construction for that project.

Ms. Thompson stated that even if the MPO does not submit an application for this project, it would still need to be included in the upcoming UPWP. She added that she will wait to see if it would be feasible to submit the project for the September GAMPO meeting or wait until the March 2023 meeting.

d. 5303 Transit Planning Grant Application (FY 2024)

Ms. Forbes gave a brief refresher on the 5303 grant application process. She stated that the annual formula funding for BATS includes both PL and 5303 funds. The TCC has already taken action on this funding, as the 5303 funding is programmed for two fiscal years. She reviewed the typical timeline for funding application and the estimated funds broken out by Federal, state, and local match.

e. Special PL Funding Project (Sea Island Road at Dunbar Creek Bridge Corridor Study)

Ms. Forbes provided an update on this agenda item. She stated that the RFP has been released for this project, and once a selection has been made and the project is underway, BATS staff will update the committee.

5. Agency Updates

a. Glynn County Airport Commission

Mr. Bessing stated that there are no updates at this time.

b. Glynn County School Board

There were no school board updates presented at this meeting.

c. Glynn County

Ms. Thompson stated that the project sheet was provided to committee members prior to the meeting, and she would answer any questions committee members had.

d. City of Brunswick

Mr. Alberson provided updates on City of Brunswick projects.

- The Magnolia Park project is ongoing, and the paving is anticipated to be completed this week. The Habersham section is remaining.
- There is another resurfacing project that is expected to kick off later this month.
- There is a public information open house for the Boardwalk on US 17 project overlooking the Causeway on August 11 from 5-11 at Howard Coffin Park.

e. GDOT District 5

Ms. Proctor stated that they are waiting for the STIP amendments to be processed to change the funding on several projects.

Ms. Thompson asked if there was an anticipated start date for the widening project on US 17 from Yacht Rd. to SR 99.

Ms. Proctor responded that they do not know when the start date is. The construction firm received the notice to proceed, but there is no start date as of yet.

f. Jekyll Island Authority

Mr. Jensen stated that Jekyll Island Authority is still working on the design for the bike path on the causeway, and they may be able to start construction in 2025.

g. Transit Agencies

Mr. Hunter stated that they are waiting on LOST negotiations, and they will be moving forward after that is completed.

h. Other Items

No updates on other items were presented or discussed at this meeting.

i. Public Comment

No public comments were provided at this meeting.

6. Adjourn

Ms. Thompson reminded everyone of the upcoming meeting scheduled on Monday, September 12, 2022, and it will most likely be hybrid format as well. Ms. Thompson thanked everyone for their participation and the meeting adjourned at approximately 2:00 pm.

BATS TCC Chair

Date