
BATS MEETING MINUTES

Brunswick Area Transportation Study Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Meeting

Monday March 14, 2022 – 1:30 p.m.

Via Teleconference
Join Microsoft Teams Meeting

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks (Pamela Thompson)
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes – Action Item
 - a. Minutes from TCC meeting held on January 10, 2022.
3. Final Draft BATS FY 2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – Action Item
4. BATS FY 2021-2024 TIP Amendment – Action Item
5. Special PL Funding Project (MLK-Altama Bicycle Corridor Study) – Information
6. BATS Administrative Updates
 - a. GAMPO Special PL Funding Application
7. 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
8. Adjourn

Brunswick Area Transportation Study
Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday March 14, 2022 - 1:30 p.m.
Via Teleconference

ATTENDEES

Committee Members

Vernon Bessing, Glynn County Airport Commission
Katie Proctor, GDOT District 5
Marty Simmons, Glynn County School District
Paul Andrews, Glynn County Engineering
Maurice Postal, Glynn County Community Development
David Dantzler, Coastal Regional Commission
Garrow Alberson, City of Brunswick
Thomas Caiafa, GDOT Office of Planning

Others

Vishanya Forbes, Transportation Planner, RS&H
Rachel Hatcher, Senior Planner, RS&H
Bob Nyers, Glynn County GIS
Dave Austin, Glynn County
Ann-Marie Day, FHWA
Olivia Lewis, FHWA
David Schmidt, Pond and Company

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order at approximately 1:30 PM by Mr. Garrow Alberson, vice-chairman of the BATS Technical Coordinating Committee.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes – Action Item

a. Minutes from TCC meeting held on July 12, 2021.

Mr. Alberson called for a motion to approve the minutes from the TCC meeting held on January 10, 2022. A motion was made by Mr. Bessing and was seconded by Mr. Austin. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Final Draft BATS FY 2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – Action Item

Ms. Forbes presented this agenda item. She reminded the committee that in July, staff sent out a comment form for those to fill out feedback and provide a 30-day public comment period which ended on the 12th of January and that it is now being reviewed by the TCC, for final review, and then for recommendation to the Policy Committee (PC) for action in April.

Ms. Forbes mentioned that the new Planning Emphasis Areas (PEAs) as well as all comments received during the review period that occurred for the draft document. Comments from FHWA partners have been inserted into a comment log added in the final draft of the document. Ms. Forbes presented a few examples of comments received, which dealt with formatting consistency and glossary updating with information that was missing. Those comments have been addressed and the draft document has been updated to incorporate those changes.

Ms. Forbes presented the update final FY 2023 budget for the UPWP and have updated the budget table to reflect the new funding coming in. This year the federal share (80%) equals \$110,101.25 and the local match at 20% is at \$27,525.31. Overall, the total funding equates to \$137,626.56. This is approximately 17k more than FY 2022-total of about 120k this has been allocated to reflect the phase and task based on FY 23 planning priorities.

Also received additional funding for Y410 funding which will be used for complete streets study, and this has been updated as a separate line item in the budget table to show difference in funding. Also included anticipated funding for special pl funding for ongoing projects. Ms. Lewis asked if there is a separate UPWP as her copy of the UPWP still had yellow highlights in the document with mention of activities still to be incorporated before the final adoption. She also mentioned that she did not see a separate section for the complete streets section and was therefore wondering if she missed a more completed draft UPWP. Ms. Forbes mentioned she will double check the MPO website to confirm that it is hosting the most recent UPWP and mentioned that a separate chapter was included that covered the new funding for the complete streets as well as the new funding table. Ms. Forbes told Ms. Lewis that following this meeting she will send the most updated copy if this is not the finalized draft on the website.

Ms. Forbes reiterated that there is a new chapter added in the updated draft UPWP that will reflect the activities being conducted under complete streets funding and is per GDOT's update beginning this year, with this funding set aside for activities falling under increasing safety and accessible transportation options. Ms. Forbes then presented a quick refresher on the 2021, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) that each MPO must use at least 2.5% of its PL funds as well as looking into specified planning activities to increase safe and accessible options for multiple travel modes for people of all ages and disabilities. She mentioned that the next steps for the draft UPWP will be to present it to the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) later today and then to the PC in April for adoption following to the FHWA for their stamp of approval. Ms. Forbes called for questions and hearing none, Mr. Alberson called for a motion. Mr. Simmons made a motion to recommend to the BATS PC adoption of the FY 2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Mr. Austin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. BATS FY 2021-2024 TIP Amendment-Action Item

Ms. Forbes mentioned to the committee that staff received a TIP request from the GDOT Office of Planning on February 18, 2022, to reflect a new phase (SCP) for PI#0008038: SR 99 from SR 520/US 82 to SR 32 (widening project) with funding source Z231 for \$500,000.00. The document has been updated to reflect these changes as well as a new map to show the scope and length of the project.

Both have been documented on the MPOs website. The amendment can be seen on page 37 of the document. Ms. Forbes called for questions, and hearing none, Mr. Austin made a motion to recommend that the BATS Policy Committee approve the FY 2021-2024 TIP amendment per GDOT's request and release for a 30-day public comment period. Mr. Nyers seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Special PL Funding Project (MLK-ALTAMA Bicycle Corridor Study) - Information

Mr. Schmidt stated that the consultant team had a desktop GIS analysis report for the cultural and environmental areas that was utilized to find any environmentally sensitive areas including proximity to cultural resources, environmental liabilities, and protected species areas for the MLK-Altama Bicycle Corridor. He added that what was discovered is that there would be no adverse effects on the land uses, water resources, endangered species, and cultural resources. There were several archaeological surveys conducted, and this will be examined in more detail during the development of the report. He mentioned that they have created a report on February 2 of the findings of every aspect that was of interest, and all GIS reports are available for the entire corridor. Key intersections were also identified which were provided to provide the network system from the north of the trail to the southern portion of MLK. He followed up by mentioning that Pond would like to do additional studies on these intersections after Spring Break to do studies on these seven intersections to provide the most beneficial analyses. This should be completed by next week. Another update he shared is the next steps and schedule on deliverables. He mentioned that this is just one progress call and that between March 14-25 is the traffic, bike and pedestrian counts and will continue to do client updates with the ideal date around June 6th to have the final report and analysis completed.

6. BATS Administrative Updates

a. GAMPO Special PL Funding Application

Ms. Forbes mentioned that BATS staff has submitted the Sea Island Road at Dunbar Creek Bridge/Corridor Study for the Spring application cycle and that staff will be attending the GAMPO meeting later this month. She told those on the call that they will be provided with an update following the meeting on whether the project was successfully awarded. Two cycles of MPO

meetings have occurred and staff is now waiting to hear whether they have been successful and publish and prepare RFP following that meeting. Ms. Forbes confirmed that this funding is for the sea island causeway. Mr. Alberson asked for any questions and hearing none the meeting moved to agency updates.

7. Agency Updates

a. Glynn County Airport Commission

Mr. Bessing provided the update. He stated that the airport just put out for bid for the crack seal/seal coat and remarking of the runway at Brunswick Airport.

b. Glynn County School Board

Mr. Simmons stated that there were no new updates concerning the Glynn County School Board.

c. Glynn County

Project sheets for the Glynn County projects were provided in meeting materials and are posted on the MPO website for reference.

d. City of Brunswick

Mr. Alberson presented the City of Brunswick's agency update. Project kick off for the bike trail at the overlook Boardwalk trail, located between Overlook Park and the St. Simons Causeway-began environmental and survey fieldwork. The city is conducting all preliminary tasks to get the project underway. He reminded committee members to be on the lookout for survey activity if they are in that area. He stated that the last segment of the south end of the MLK Trail, the segment along 4th Avenue between MLK and highway 17 trail is out for bid and the project has been approved. The anticipated construction start date is in early May.

e. GDOT District 5

Ms. Proctor provided the updates for GDOT District 5. She stated that SR 25 Spur East @ Mackay River is continuing working towards PFPR. SR 25 from CR 415/Harry Driggers to SR 99 – Phase II is finalizing environment certification and let to shelf has been pushed to June. CR 583/Sea Island Rd @ Dunbar Creek on St. Simons remains in concept development and ecology surveys have begun with an anticipated concept meeting in May. SR 32 @ Little Buffalo Creek three miles west of SR 27 remains in concept. SR 25 @ SR 99 roundabout is working towards final plans submission with final plans anticipated in June and let in August. SR 25 @ Darien River in Darien remains in pre-let schedule development.

Ms. Proctor highlighted that the resurfacing on SR 25 Conn (Gloucester) from SR 27 to SR 25 is expected to begin in two weeks. The contractor on the resurfacing on SR 25 from North of SR 303 project is pursuing corrective work. The bridge rehab on SR 27/US 341 over Yellow Bluff and Burnett Creek has no start dates, but GDOT construction office is reaching out to the contractor for status updates. The widening and reconstruction on SR 25 from Yacht Rd. to Harry Driggers Blvd. and bridge over Thornhill Creek has received the official award letter, and GDOT is looking for a notice to proceed on this project.

f. Jekyll Island Authority

No Jekyll Island Authority updates were presented at this meeting.

g. Transit Agencies

Mr. Dantzler stated that there were no new updates to share concerning the CRC.

h. Other Items

There were no other items discussed.

i. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

8. Adjourn

Mr. Alberson reminded committee members that the next committee meeting will be May 9, 2022 and adjourned the meeting.

BATS TCC Chairman

Date