# Southern Georgia Regional Commission

# Valdosta-Lowndes MPO

# Minutes Citizen's Advisory Committee September 4, 2012 3:00 pm

Members Present	Organization	
Dick Saeger	Valdosta	
Stephanie Joachim	Valdosta Schools	
Ken Sherrill	Lake Park	
Earl Wetherington	Valdosta	
Robert Jefferson	Lowndes County	
Steve Barnes	Moody AFB	
Amanda Peacock	CVDA	
Caroll Griffin	Remerton	
Charlie Clark	Lowndes	
Bryan Almand	Valdosta	
Clarence Parker	Airport Authority	
Debbie Hobdy	Lowndes County	
Leggett Lovan	Chamber	
Blake Waagner	Lowndes County	
Edward Rawls	Lowndes County	
Harriet Crum	Hahira	
Ray Sable	VSU	
Others Present		
Mike Fletcher	Lowndes County	
Corey Hull	SGRC	

#### Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order

Mr. Jefferson called the meeting to order at 3pm.

### Agenda Item #2 – Introductions/Roll Call

Mr. Jefferson asked those present to introduce themselves.

### **Agenda Item #3 – Special Presentation**

Mr. Jefferson introduced Mike Fletcher with Lowndes County to speak about the current status of road development and transportation in Lowndes County. Mr. Fletcher talked about the new entrance to Moody at Davidson Road that will be open on Friday morning, including a new signal at Davidson Road and Bemiss Road.

Mr. Fletcher talked about the future changes coming to Exit 22 and 29 as well as the resurfacing of US 84 and N Valdosta Road. Mr. Fletcher also talked about the Hill Ave. Overpass in the City of Valdosta.

Mr. Fletcher described the process by which the county is resurfacing 8-10 miles of road each year using LMIG funds. Mr. Fletcher also talked about a safety striping and signage program through GDOT improving 35-40 miles of roadway each year.

Responding to a question, Mr. Fletcher described the scope of the Exit 22 project. Mr. Hull answered a question from Mr. Wetherington the Hill Ave. Overpass will extend from Goolsby to West St.

Mr. Parker asked if there were any future projects that would change traffic patterns. Mr. Fletcher said that the Lake Park Bellville Road is one that is on the county long range plans, but there is no funding available for it right now.

Mr. Fletcher also described some new residential developments that are going to be developed along the Bemiss Road corridor, but none that would be required to expand the current road infrastructure.

#### Agenda Item #4 – Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Jefferson asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 5, 2012 meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Wetherington and seconded by Mr. Sherrill. The motion carried unanimously.

#### Agenda Item #5- Old Business

None.

#### Agenda Item #6- New Business

A. FY2013 UPWP Amendment – Resolution FY2013-1

Mr. Hull presented and described a sheet describing the annual budget amendment reflecting the FY2012 carryover funds that can be brought into the current FY2013 budget.

Mr. Jefferson asked how many people are on the MPO staff. Mr. Hull said that he is the primary staff person, however other SGRC staff (GIS, other planners, fiscal staff) also charge their time to

the MPO funds, however he noted that this is a small amount, that himself is the largest staff expense.

Mr. Jefferson asked why this is not something that can be carried out administratively, why did a resolution need to be passed. Mr. Hull responded that the resolution is required to change the grand total of the MPO budget in order for GDOT and FHWA to process funding and payments to the MPO.

Leggett Lovan moved to recommend to the Policy Committee that the UPWP amendment be approved as presented, it was seconded by Bryan Almand. The motion carried unanimously.

### B. Policy of DBE Program Activities – Resolution FY2013-2

Mr. Hull presented the proposal for a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program. Mr. Hull described the reasons for enacting this program to provide minority businesses a greater opportunity to bid on contracts that the MPO might bid out. This does not include construction projects.

A motion was made by Mr. Sherrill to recommend that the Policy Committee adopt the DBE plan, it was seconded by Mr. Griffin, the motion carried unanimously.

#### C. Update to PPP – Resolution FY2013-3

Mr. Hull presented the comments and proposed changes to the PPP from the public comment period that the MPO held over the summer. He noted that one comment was received, and it was not germane to the topic of the PPP. He noted that this comment will be forwarded to the City of Valdosta to address further.

Mr. Sherrill made a motion to recommend to the Policy Committee that the PPP be updated as presented, the motion was seconded by Mr. Lovan. The motion carried unanimously.

#### D. Presentation on FY2012 Annual Report

Mr. Hull presented information as an overview of the FY2012 Annual Report, reviewing some of the things the MPO has done in the past year.

#### E. Presentation on MAP-21 Provisions

Mr. Hull presented information on the new federal transportation law called MAP-21 highlighting the changes to funding, project development and MPO structure and activities.

#### Agenda Item #7- Staff Update

#### A. TSPLOST Update

Mr. Hull noted that the TSPLSOT did not pass in this region and that all local governments are now subject to a 30% match on LMIG funds. He said that there was talk of changing the law in the upcoming legislative session and that he would report back as news changed. Mr. Hull answered several questions about the current status of the projects that were on the TSPLOST list that will no longer be funded.

#### B. Project Updates

Mr. Hull presented the committee with updates on several projects in the region.

#### C. Urban Area Boundary

Mr. Hull noted that over the next few weeks the staff would be meeting with local officials and GDOT to develop new maps to adjust the 2010 Census designated Urban Area Boundary for the Valdosta Urban Area, which now includes portions of Brooks County.

#### Agenda Item #8 – Privilege of the Floor/Public Comment

Mr. Jefferson thanked the new members for coming and participating in the planning process.

Mr. Parker asked if the speed vehicles travel on the roadway have an impact on maintenance of those highways. Mr. Hull noted this is something he did not have knowledge on right-way but would be able to look up this information.

Mr. Parker noted that Langdale Company is installing equipment for natural gas vehicles and asked if the choice of fuels will have an impact on the vehicles we drive and funding. A discussion ensued on this topic.

#### **Agenda Item #9 - Next Meeting Date and Time**

Mr. Jefferson noted that the next meeting date will be December 4, 2012.

## Agenda Item #10 - Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Wetherington and seconded by Mr. Almand to adjourn the meeting, the motion carried unanimously.