

# Meeting Minutes

December 7, 2021

2:00 PM

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## Committee Members Present:

Randy Ognio, Committee Chair – Representative, Fayette County BOC  
Kevin Madden, Committee Vice Chair – Council Member, Peachtree City  
~~Lee Hearn – Chairman, Fayette County BOC~~  
~~Edward Johnson – Mayor, City of Fayetteville~~  
Proxy: Cajen Rhodes  
Gary Laggis – Mayor, Town of Woolsey  
Maurice Ungaro – Staff, Town of Brooks  
Phil Mallon – Staff, Fayette County  
Tobi Ayodeji – Staff, Fayette County  
~~Chris Robison – Sgt., Fayette County Sheriff's Office~~  
Martin Sas – Citizen Representative, Fayette County  
Jaimi Tapp – Citizen Representative, Town of Tyrone

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### 1. Call to Order

Committee Chair Ognio called the December 7, 2021 meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

### 2. Ascertainment of Quorum

Committee Chair Ognio acknowledged that a quorum of the Transportation Committee was available with nine members present.

### 3. Acceptance of Meeting Agenda

The meeting agenda was presented and accepted.

### 4. Review and Approval of November Minutes

Mr. Ungaro motioned to approve the November minutes with minor changes to the Hampton Road Project name (designate east and west Hampton Road) and the County Truck Routes item under unfinished business (strike the explanation why the item was removed during the pre-agenda meeting). Mr. Madden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### 5. Report of Committee Members

- a. **Brooks** – Mr. Ungaro said Brooks purchased three solar-powered radar signs. Two will be installed on Hwy 85 C and one on West McIntosh Road.
- b. **Fayette County** – The following information was provided by Mr. Mallon:
  - ARC TIP Solicitation Update** – Two applications were submitted to ARC: FA-279 and FA-100C (multi-jurisdictional resurfacing). Both are requesting additional funds for projects already in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Notices of funding awards are expected in spring 2022.
  - Project Updates** – Construction work is underway for the Brogdon & New Hope Road roundabout. Full intersection closure is expected in January and should last seven to nine weeks. Right-of-way acquisition is underway for the Redwine Road/Bernhard/Peachtree Parkway roundabout project, and staff is waiting on right-of-way plans for the Hampton Road (east & west) / SR 92 project.
- c. **Fayetteville** – Mr. Rhodes said the ARC resolution is complete for FA-100C. The City issued a multi-use path RFP to determine trail needs and priorities within the City limits. LMIG-funded road work is on-going.
- d. **Peachtree City** – The following information was provided by Mr. Madden. Crabapple Lane was closed to all through vehicles on December 1. There have been no complaints from any residents, thus far. New golf carts stickers are being proposed at \$250 a year and it will be a two-sticker system.
- e. **Tyrone** – The following information was provided by Mr. Trocquet. An intersection study has been started at the Senoia/Palmetto/Tyrone Road location. Pond is the Town's new Engineer of Record (EOR). Questions were asked about the status of the I-85 and SR 74 interchange, but no updated schedule information was available from Tyrone or other committee members.
- f. **Woolsey** – Mayor Laggis noted that new direction signs have been installed and passed along thanks to Bryan Keller and the Road Department for their help.

## 6. Public Comment

Keith Larson representing Bike-Walk FAYETTE spoke about a recent meeting with Fayette County's Pete Frisina regarding the Comprehensive Plan. Information from the plan will be shared with GDOT as part of their efforts to update bike routes across the state. Mr. Larson also noted that grants are available through GDOT and suggested the local governments look at the funding opportunity. A community workshop may be held to further discuss bike and pedestrian needs and funding options.

Mr. Larson also said a 3-month community study of path safety recently concluded within Peachtree City. Mr. Mallon asked if he (Keith) would present the findings to the Transportation Committee at a future meeting.

## **7. Unfinished Business – None.**

## **8. New Business**

- a. **Future SPLOST** – Mr. Mallon spoke about the potential SPLOST referendum being discussed for CY 2022. There was agreement that a draft project list should be developed quickly to allow for vetting by the public and elected officials. Mr. Mallon said County staff are to provide draft lists to the County Manager by January 31, 2022. All present (i.e., the various local governments) agreed that a continuation of the SPLOST is essential to provide needed maintenance and to fund local projects.

Chairman Ognio supports storm water projects as well as improvements to the intersection of 54 and 85 in Fayetteville.

Mrs. Tapp noted the importance of public outreach and education on infrastructure maintenance and supports an increase (as compared to the 2017 SPLOST) in the amount of funding for infrastructure maintenance. She also said the project should account for the increasing truck traffic on our local roads.

Mr. Keith Larson (Bike-Walk Fayette) suggested we use existing inventory data to help identify and rank projects. He acknowledged that Peachtree City has performed a lot of maintenance recently, but more is needed.

Mr. Phillip Trocquet (Town Planner for Town of Tyrone) agreed on having an education campaign that highlights the importance of infrastructure maintenance.

Mayor Laggis noted there could be two SPLOST votes next year – and E-SPLOST for the Board of Education and the one being discussed. This could hurt the chances for the SPLOST.

Mr. Ungaro asked how we could better highlight current SPLOST accomplishments.

Mr. Mallon asked how much support there is for the new road connector project between SR 54 and First Manassas Mile, which would reduce truck traffic on Grady Road. There was general support for the project, noting the benefits it would have to Grady Avenue, Spring Hill Elementary, and future developments in the area.

Chairman Ognio asked if additional money is needed for the East Fayetteville Bypass project. Mr. Mallon said yes, additional money will probably be needed.

Mr. Ungaro asked if impact fees for new subdivisions and other developments could be collected to help offset the costs associated with the growing infrastructure.

Mr. Trocquet said Tyrone is improving their ordinance to build better roads and create a good network. He said Tyrone does a fiscal analysis on each project to help assess what the cost and/or impact will be to the local government.

Mayor Laggis said voters ask why the current taxes (local, state, or federal) can't be used, or are not enough, to maintain our roads. Educational material is needed to explain and justify the need for a SPLOST renewal.

Mr. Madden said the BOE might have an uphill battle in getting the ESPLOST passed for the upcoming year. Mr. Madden and Mr. Ungaro said Stagecoach Road (improvements and/or extension) may be a good project but warned that local property owners are not supportive.

Mr. Madden said path system connectivity (e.g., with Coweta or Tyrone) may be good projects and that path projects should use the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) as a guide.

Mr. Larson referenced his December 7, 2021 Bike-Walk Fayette letter which identifies several specific projects (see attached). He supports finishing path connection along Redwine Road, starting a path network along Kenwood Road, and providing a bridge over SR 54 connecting the Banks Road area to McCurry Park.

Mayor Laggis suggested a path from Woolsey to Lake Horton, along existing Hampton Road (west) and Antioch Road.

Mr. Mallon said County staff is considering a SPLOST McDonough Road improvement project from McElroy to SR 54. The project would consider capacity, turn lanes, intersection improvements, sidewalks/path, improved shoulder, pedestrian crossing (between the parks), etc. One of the intersection improvements may be a roundabout to serve as primary entrance to the multiple County facilities along the road (McCurry Park north and south, Public Works, Building & Ground Maintenance, the Water System, and E911).

Mr. Mallon also relayed input received from the Sheriff's Office asking for improvements/changes to Christopher Drive. Middle school traffic can block this road and prevent people, and emergency response, from accessing homes along Cedar Creek Court. and Reed Creek Court. The Sheriff's Office noted this could be a joint venture with the BOE.

Mr. Sas said Sandy Creek Road gets a lot of traffic from the Trilith developments and recommendations from the 2019 Corridor Study should be included.

Chairman Ognio added the Veterans Parkway and Eastin Road roundabout to the list.

Mr. Ungaro identified four potential projects: 1) a roundabout at Morgan Mill Road and Hwy 85 C; 2) paving of Old Friendship Church Road (currently gravel); 3) a roundabout at Gable Road and Hwy 85C; and 4) seed money for a Southern Rail Path project.

- b. **Committee Membership.** Chairman Ognio informed the Committee of membership changes being considered by the Board of Commissioners, specifically the possible removal of all elected officials from the Committee.

Mr. Ungaro asked why the changes were being made and why input was not sought from the Committee. He also said the Committee should include representation from the Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Education. Mr. Madden said PTC used a citizen representative for most of the Committee's existence, but that removing the option for elected officials to participate reduces the purpose and power of the committee. Mayor Laggis said the current membership, including elected officials, allows the municipalities to best represent their communities. Mrs. Tapp said each community should be allowed to pick its own representative.

Mr. Ungaro made a motion for the Transportation Committee Chair to provide the following membership recommendation to the Board of Commissioners:

One Board of Commissioner to Chair the Transportation Committee (1)

One representative from each municipality (5)

A bike/pedestrian advocate (1)

A Chamber of Commerce / Business / Industry advocate (1)

A Board of Education representative (1)

A Sheriff's Office representative (1)

Two County citizens (appointed by County) (2)

This recommendation increases the Committee membership from 11 to 12, removes County staff from the Committee, adds representatives from the BOE and business community, and allows for elected officials to be members. The motion was seconded by Mr. Madden and approved by the Committee 9-0.

The next meeting was set for January 11, 2022.

9. **Adjournment.** Mr. Ungaro made a motion to adjourn at 4:00 PM. The motion was seconded by Mr. Madden and it passed unanimously.