

## FAYETTE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

### Meeting Agenda

February 1, 2022 at 2:00PM

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**1. Call to Order**

Mr. Ungaro called the February 1, 2022 meeting to order at 2:08 PM.

**2. Ascertainment of Quorum**

Mr. Ungaro acknowledged that a quorum of the Transportation Committee was available with the following six voting members present: Maurice Ungaro, Cajen Rhodes (proxy for Chris Hindman), Kevin Madden, Jaimi Tapp, Phil Mallon, and Tobi Ayodeji (proxy for Deborah Bell).

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Madden made a motion to accept the meeting agenda. Mr. Mallon seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.

**4. Reading and Approval of January Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Ungaro thanked Mr. Mallon for putting together and mailing out the January minutes for review. He noted that approval of the January meeting minutes will have to be put off to next month as Mrs. Tapp will have to abstain and without her vote there won't be a quorum.

**5. Report of Committee Members**

a. **Brooks** – No report.

b. **Fayette County** – The following information was provided by Mr. Mallon:

He noted that County staff has been busy with procurement efforts. Fayette County's annual Engineer-of-record (EOR) contract has been awarded to POND Engineering. Staff is also in the process of scoping and negotiating with the winning consultant on the SR 279 realignment project.

He mentioned a citizen complaint about the left turn arrow at Birch/54/Ginger Cake. A GDOT signal tech checked the intersection and noted the signal was functioning correctly, but vehicles are pulling up beyond the loop, so no trigger is being send to the signal unless there are multiple cars in queue. The information was passed along to the complainant.

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Mr. Mallon also stated that GDOT was in the process of implementing two safety projects on SR 54 at Cobblestone and Knight intersections. This includes an R-cut at both locations and a striped crosswalk at one.

County staff submitted a preliminary SPLOST list to the County manager for review. After review, the list will be presented to the Transportation Committee. Transportation projects were divided into two lists. The first list are the recommended projects with a total cost of \$28 million. The second list totaled about \$45 million. The Tier 2 list is aspirational. Mr. Ungaro asked how many other (non-transportation) projects were on the County list. Mr. Mallon said the list included public safety, parks & recreation, stormwater, and other types of projects totaling more than \$150 million. Mr. Madden stated that Peachtree City's SPLOST committee will be meeting next week Thursday for the first time to discuss what projects to put on their wish list.

Mr. Mallon also spoke on the Federal Aid resurfacing project. Four responses were received. They will be reviewed and scored by an evaluation committee.

Last, Mr. Mallon noted that Mr. Pete Frisina from the Planning & Zoning Department is retiring. Various members of the committee said he will be missed.

c. **Fayetteville** – The following information was provided by Mr. Rhodes:

The City has entered into a service agreement with a traffic company to help with preventative maintenance on control boxes. The company is responsible for evaluating how it works and making sure that everything is working as it should. Mr. Mallon asked if it was all the control boxes in the city and Mr. Cajen clarified that it was just the ones owned by the City of Fayetteville.

Mr. Cajen said a couple of calls have come in about a continuous flashing red light at the SR 54/Veterans Parkway intersection. A sheriff was dispatched and a master reset done on the signal.

The signal at Jimmy Mayfield/Helen Sams was also checked and it was determined that cars were not pulling up far enough to trigger the signal.

d. **Peachtree City** – The following information was provided by Mr. Madden:

The SPLOST team will be meeting next week to discuss candidate projects for the City's list.

e. **Tyrone** – The following information was provided by Mrs. Tapp and Mr. Scott Langford:

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The roundabout for the Arrowood/Spencer/Palmetto intersection is in early design. Preliminary studies are underway at Senoia/Crabapple/Rockwood and Senoia/Palmetto/Tyrone. Mr. Langford said survey work is underway along Tyrone Road (for a path) and the Town is investigating options for a path connection between Sandy Creek High School and the Town. Mr. Larson added that a path intersection crossing had been approved in PTC. He also noted that several crossings were submitted to GDOT but only two were approved. Mr. Langford ended by saying that the Thompson road project had not been forgotten but there were no updates for that project at the moment.

f. **Woolsey** – No report.

g. **Other Members** – No report.

### 6. Public Comment

Mr. Keith Larson mentioned that he received a message from Karen Whittaker with grant guidance for RAYS and other programs. Keith will forward the information to the Committee. He believes our local governments could be competitive since the grants support multimodal transportation.

Mr. Larson also noted that during the recent State of the City address, Mayor Learnard proposed a Council of Mayors meeting.

### 7. Unfinished Business

#### a. Continued discussion of truck routes / no truck routes

Mr. Ungaro stated that he felt it will be easier to tell the trucks what roads they could be on versus what roads they could not go on. He asked if the BOC had any recommendations to the committee.

Mr. Mallon said the BOC directed staff and the County Attorney to look at options for managing truck routes across the County. During the BOC meeting, Attorney Dennis Davenport suggested highlighting specific truck routes and making all others no truck routes. Mr. Mallon also relayed a suggestion from Mr. Bryan Keller of the EMD Department that provided a broad definition of “delivery” as any drop-off or pick-up within the County, regardless of the street. Mr. Ungaro said he supported a policy with a blanket type approach. He also asked if GDOT had any specific policy on the topic to which Mr. Mallon stated that he reached out and the only clarification he got was for the county to inform them when a decision had been made. He said he was going to reach out again to find out if any other counties in District 3 had done anything like this in the past.

Mr. Mallon noted that if many of the trucks on Hampton (west) have a destination in Fayette, an ordinance may not change truck volume people are

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seeing and concerned about. He also asked the committee if the restriction was for all kinds of truck classification or just 18-wheelers. There was general agreement that the focus is 18-wheelers. Mr. Ungaro said 18-wheeler counts were up 5-fold in the Woolsey area.

Mrs. Tapp asked who was going to be responsible for enforcement to which Mr. Ungaro replied that the Sheriff's department had been asked and they agreed to do it if that was what the committee wanted. He also asked what the recommendation to proceed was. Mr. Mallon stated that there was no direction from the BOC other than approval for staff and the County Attorney to consider the issue. Mr. Ungaro suggested that the committee check with neighboring counties and review existing ordinances close to our locale. He also mentioned that members check MUNICODE.

Mr. Keith Larson said Peachtree City's truck ordinance was last updated in 2000, and we should review the CTP for guidance on a Hwy 85C designation.

Mr. Cajen expressed that he felt the committee should have a promotional drive where they published the route(s) we'd like truckers to take, rather than prohibiting travel on some roads. He felt that would be easier to achieve than an ordinance. Several members of the committee agreed with his 'carrot instead of stick' idea. Mrs. Tapp offered to get input from the Chamber.

### **8. New Business**

#### **a. Update of County SPLOST projects**

Mr. Mallon provided a handout summary of County transportation projects (see attached). The Ebenezer Church @ Whitewater Creek Bridge replacement was under construction. The Redwine, Bernhard & Peachtree Parkway roundabout project is in the ROW phase. Asphalt is being placed at the Brogdon & New Hope roundabout project. The ICE analysis for SR 85 and Hwy 85C recommends a signal. Mr. Larson asked if a pedestrian crossing will be placed at the signal to which Mr. Mallon answered that he will check but suspects one will be required.

Mr. Mallon also updated the Committee on the pedestrian bridge over SR 54 at Piedmont hospital. He mentioned that bids were received last May/June but approval to award was not received from GDOT until late fall. The winning bid is asking for an additional \$184,000 to account for recent inflation in material and labor costs. A resolution has not been reached.

#### **b. Outreach / public education opportunities for 2023 SPLOST referendum**

Mr. Ungaro said that everything needed to be ready. He also mentioned that the last SPLOST was championed by the Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Tapp said she will bring it up at the next chamber of commerce meeting. Mr. Larson noted the lack of visibility on projects already completed and suggested some

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kind of status report be given to the citizen to help the new SPLOST. Mr. Ungaro suggested that public information officers work on that to get the word out. Mr. Mallon said the County's SPLOST webpage provides this information but does not get a lot of views.

Mrs. Tapp mentioned that a marketing plan had to be developed. Mr. Madden agreed and mentioned that it needed to be highlighted to the citizen that not only their dollars counted but everyone who came into the county as well counted. Mr. Cajen suggested going into the communities and attending function to educate and provide facts about the SPLOST. He also mentioned that we need to get numbers of counties in the state that participated in the SPLOST program versus those that don't and provide that information to the citizens. Mr. Mallon suggested a team be put together to address these items.

Mr. Larson highlighted that there was a 10% increase in new people in the community and they should be considered as new voters that could be reached. Mr. Ungaro asked what was needed for the next transportation committee meeting to which Mr. Mallon replied that a list of names of people leading the charge in each jurisdiction should be available. He also mentioned that a list of possible outreach events should also be identified. Mrs. Tapp added that who will champion and speak at these events should also be identified. Mr. Ungaro finished by adding that handout should be prepared that will be handed to citizens with graphic showing the work that has been done and plans for the future. He also mentioned that if anyone had anything new, it should be shared with the group.

There was agreement to target outreach in the late summer or early fall for a November vote and that the outreach should be heavy in social media. Key questions include: what have we done; why is another SPLOST needed; and what are we promising.

**9. Adjournment**

Mr. Madden made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:58 PM. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mallon and it passed unanimously.