

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Chair –

Vice Chair – Maurice Ungaro

Secretary – Martin Sas

FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA

140 Stonewall Avenue West, Suite 100

Fayetteville, GA 30214

FAYETTE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Meeting Agenda

September 13, 2022 at 2:00 PM

Special Meeting Location

Peachtree City – City Hall

151 Willowbend Road

Peachtree City, GA 30269

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1. Welcome and Introductions – Mayor Learnard welcomed everyone to Peachtree City and recognized the special guests to the meeting, including Mr. Dennis McEntire – GDOT District 3 Board Member, Tyler Peek – GDOT District 3 Engineer, Daniel Trevorrow – GDOT District 3 Traffic Engineer, Adam Smith – GDOT 3 Preconstruction Engineer, and GA State Representative Josh Bonner (District 72).
 2. Call to Order – Maurice Ungaro
 3. Ascertainment of Quorum – Maurice confirmed there was a quorum with the following members in attendance:
 - a. Chris Hindman
 - b. Maurice Ungaro
 - c. Phil Mallon
 - d. Debbie Bell
 - e. Vanessa Tigert
 - f. JT Rabun
 - g. Jim Qualls
 - h. Caitlin Storc
 - i. Martin Sas
 - j. Gary Farr (proxy for Kris Purkey)
 4. Approval of Agenda – Marty Sas made a motion to approve the agenda. The motioned was seconded by Chris Hindman. The motion was approved unanimously.
 5. Approval of August Meeting Minutes – Phil Mallon made a motion to approve the August 2022 minutes. The motioned was seconded by Vanessa Tigert. The motion was approved unanimously.
 6. Report of Committee Members
 - a. Brooks – Maurice Ungaro
 - i. Brooks added two speed cushions. One on Hwy 85C south of the Fire Station and the second on W. Mcintosh near the old cemetery. Brooks also added 8-inch domes along the gore striping along intersection

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with W. McIntosh. This was done to reduce cars cutting through the gore area. Maurice sees an improvement.

- ii. Radar speed sign reports shows a reduction in speed with most vehicles below 35 mph on Hwy 85C.
 - iii. There have been zero crashes at the intersection of Morgan Mill Road and Hwy 85C (April 15 through September) since the LED lighted stop signs have been installed.
- b. Fayette County – Phil Mallon
- i. The intersection of Veterans Parkway and Eastin Road was converted to an all-way stop on September 7, 2022. Fayette County used FDOT-style rumble strips which are smaller and quieter than the GDOT standard.
 - ii. ARC released draft project recommendations from the 2021 TIP solicitation. Additional funding is recommended for both the SR 279 realignment project and the multi-jurisdictional resurfacing project.
 - iii. The last TCC meeting was heavily focused on the IJJA and IRA funding opportunities. All are encouraged to visit the ARC webpage to learn about NOFOs. Some active programs include *Charging and Fueling Infrastructure* and FEMA's *Building resilient Infrastructure and Communities*.
 - iv. Fayette County and the Cities continue the negotiation process to award design services for the multi-jurisdictional resurfacing contract (PI 001117812).
 - v. Fayette elected not to submit a bridge grant application, but we are submitting for the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A). Thanks to all for support of the Safety Action Plan grant. Fayette is working to finalize this week.
- c. Fayetteville – Chris Hindman
- i. The City has hired a contractor to rate their streets and sidewalks with PCI scores. The work includes checking sidewalks for ADA compliance.
 - ii. The City has two DRIs – Trilith and the datacenter. Both are just starting.
- d. Peachtree City – Jim Qualls - no report beyond new business
- e. Tyrone – no representatives present
- f. Woolsey – Caitlin Storck - no report
- g. Other Members –
- i. Maurice Ungaro provided an article on Safe Routes to School – *How About Schools on Safe Routes?* By Charles Marohn (Strong Towns). A problem across the Country is Board of Education land ownership and independent decisions about school placement that cause problems

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for local governments with respect to transportation and related issues. Maurice stated the BOE should have a seat on the Transportation Committee.

- ii. Maurice Ungaro received an inquiry from a citizen on Ebenezer Church Road about the bridge replacement project. Their car is bottoming out on the driveway and it is too steep. Tyler Peek said GDOT will look at it.

7. Public Comment

Randy Ognio – Agrees the BOE should be on the Committee to facilitate coordination. Randy also requested an update on the SR 74 & I-85 Interchange project.

Keith Larson – This past June, Keith participated in an ARC charette for the Regional Safety Strategy document. It focused on pedestrian crossings but didn't incorporate Complete Streets principles. ARC's task force encourages a vision zero goal and that will be a scoring criteria for future projects, as well as equity and other factors. Fayette County has three underserved communities – the Kenwood neighborhood(s), an area within PTC, and areas along Banks Road. These areas may be good candidates for implementation grants. Fayette County need to recoup our gasoline tax dollars back to Fayette by getting IJA and similar grants.

Representative Josh Bonner – Constituents area seeking a speed limit reduction on SR 54 (along the area recently annexed area) – how can that get changed? Daniel Trevor (GDOT) explained some criteria GDOT considers for traffic safety. Once GDOT completes an assessment and engineering study they can provide recommendations. Tyler Peek said GDOT will do a study at the request of a local government. Board Member Dennis McEntire asked if public input is considered. Peachtree City Police Chief Jan Moon said it is mostly based on the 85 percentile speed.

Randy Ognio asked about the double roundabout on SR 92 and the high number of crashes, especially with trucks, because of the double lanes. Daniel said the roundabouts were designed so trucks would have to go into other lanes or the truck apron. The roundabout size was limited to due adjacent properties and R/W impacts. Tyler Peek said additional signs have been used in other locations warning cars to give extra space to trucks. Catlin Storc agreed and said they could be helpful here. Officer Gary reported 65 reported crashes since January 2021. Debbie Bell noted a driver can't do 25 mph within the roundabout, per the speed advisory signs.

8. Unfinished Business - None

9. New Business

- a. GDOT Project Updates – Adam Smith

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Projects in Preliminary Engineering Phase (PE)

Intersection of SR 54 & SR 74 – ROW is underway. GDOT anticipates a Spring 2023 construction let.

Coastline CSX Bridge Replacement – ROW complete except for the RR parcel. This project will have an offsite detour. Construction funding is in FY 2024.

McDonough Road (formerly SR 920) Bridge Replacement at Flint River – GDOT is proposing an offsite detour. Construction funding is in FY 2025. Phil Mallon said this was part of GDOT's local bridge program and the only commitment from Fayette County is a contribution for R/W acquisition.

Fayette County Resurfacing Project – Phil Mallon said the project is in the procurement stage and behind schedule. The local governments are negotiating fees with the Consultant.

Realignment of SR 279 – This is a local let project with ROW in FY 2024 and CST in FY 2026, although both are likely to be pushed back.

SR 85 Widening from Price Road to Grady Avenue – The concept is approved. GDOT may federalize the project, which might change logical termini. Phil Mallon requested follow-up on the traffic study for commercial entrances. The project will provide curb & gutter sections with 5 ft sidewalks.

SR 85 Widening from SR 279 to Roberts Drive in Clayton (District 7) – This project will widen SR 85 widening 4 to 6 lanes, although no widening in Fayette. It has a Spring 2023 let schedule.

Partial Cloverleaf at I-85 and SR 74. ROW is authorized and 23 of 55 parcels have been acquired. Fairburn is the sponsor. They did not have a BFI included in scope and that was a delay. The project has a Fall 2023 let date. Rep. Bonner asked what Fayette can do to help expedite the schedule. Tyler Peek said the project is about halfway through ROW, so there is not much to do to accelerate the process. GDOT will check on the current CST cost estimate (date) and the available funding. In January 2022, the CSTO estimate was \$45 million.

SR 85 Bridge over Whitewater Creek – The CST contract for this project was recently awarded GDOT did not yet have a CST schedule (Tyler said 18 months is typical). The project includes an on-site detour. Phil Mallon and Adam Smith said they are still working on details for a stamped concrete finish. Maurice Ungaro asked if the bridge will be for a 4-lane section? GDOT said no. They won't design an oversized bridge unless a widening project is programmed.

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Intersection Improvement at Hwy 85C and SR 85 – This location is being evaluated signal or roundabout. Tyler Peek said GDOT might be able to help with funding. Fayette County is revising the ICE.

b. GDOT Discussion Topics - Tyler

- *Implementation of no right-on-red from SR 74 SB to SR 54 WB*
- *SR 54 West from SR 74 to Coweta County*
 - i. *Traffic Signal Synchronization, access management, new capacity*

This has been asked about several times in the past. The SB lane off SR 74 is a yield movement, not tied to the signal. It could be prohibited with an added traffic signal but that is at cost and time, doesn't make sense now with the DLT project pending next spring.

The Displaced Left Turn (DLT) project will include optimizing the signals along SR 54 from Willowbend to Sams Club in Coweta. That is one system, and it is currently synchronized. The challenge is balance of throughput with side street traffic. The DLT allows better allocation of green time for all directions.

Randy Ognio – can GDOT look at partial grade separation for WB travel lane? Tyler – that would be an ARC study for new capacity. Grade separation may take businesses. Is that tolerable? Jim Qualls – the frequency of signals results in staggered traffic. Need to hold continuous green to allow the flow of traffic. Mayor Learnard – how can we evidence / proof the timing? JT Rabun - can simulations be shared with the group? Jim Qualls – there are eight lights between Willowbend and Line Creek. Adam Smith said other routes need to be looked at. SR 54 is about maxed out with capacity and signals. Tyler Peek asked if no left turns are an option? That would require PTC political support. Keith Larson said Coweta needs new capacity north to I-85. Tyler Peek said planning in this region begins with ARC.

- *Huddleston Road dual left turn lanes*

Dave Borkowski (Peachtree City) provided data to GDOT and Daniel Trevorowis looking at the location. Other options may include stopping traffic from crossing SR 54 from Best Buy to Huddleston.

- *Status of GDOT R/W mowing and trash pick-up contract*

GDOT mows the State Routes three times and interstates four times per year. Next mowing in Fayette should be in late September or early October. Trash pickup is done after mowing with a few days lag. There are no plans to change this level of service.

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- *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law / IIJA opportunities*

Tyler Peek shared District 3's perspective – there are a lot of direct recipient grant opportunities (i.e., the funding is available directly to the communities). GDOT is working on electrical charging plan along interstates, which will include evaluating hurricane evacuation routes. Other opportunities include carbon reduction via signal optimization to reduce tailpipe emissions. The formula money is helping to offset inflation impacts. GDOT's focus is on keeping projects federally eligible.

Other – Mayor Laggis – notice a lot of land clearing along the interstates? Tyler Peek this is part of a state-wide initiative to reestablish the clear zone along the travel lanes. Clearing also reduces litter from ice & wind storms.

Tyler Peek said the new Ebenezer Church Road Bridge should be complete in mid November. The widening project along SR 54 east of Fayetteville should be complete in late fall (2022).

10. At 3:42 Vanessa Tigert made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Chris Hindman and was approved unanimously.

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Transportation Committee Membership

Position	Member	Contact Information
1. Brooks representative	Maurice Ungaro <i>Manager, Town of Brooks</i>	mungaro@brooksga.com 770-719-7666
2. Fayetteville representative	Chris Hindman <i>Director, Public Services</i>	chindman@fayetteville-ga.gov
3. Peachtree City representative	Jim Qualls <i>Citizen, Peachtree City</i>	ptcqualls@gmail.com
4. Tyrone representative	Jaimi Tapp <i>Citizen, Town of Tyrone</i>	jaimitiger@gmail.com
5. Woolsey representative	Caitlin Storc <i>Citizen, Town of Woolsey</i>	caitlin.storc@gmail.com
6. Sheriff's Office representative	Sgt. Kris Purkey <i>Fayette County Sheriff's Office</i>	kpurkey@fayettecountyga.gov 770-461-6353
7. Fayette Citizen Representative 1	Martin Sas <i>Citizen, Fayette County</i>	mkrs@mac.com
8. Fayette Citizen Representative 2	J.T. Rabun <i>Citizen, Fayette County</i>	jtrabun@yahoo.com
9. County staff	Phil Mallon <i>Director, Public Works</i>	pmallon@fayettecountyga.gov 770-320-6009
10. County staff	Deborah Bell <i>Director, Planning & Zoning</i>	dbell@fayettecountyga.gov 770-320-6041
11. County staff	Vanessa Tigert <i>Director, Water System</i>	vtigert@fayettecountyga.gov