



Transportation & Air Quality Committee

Charlotte Nash, Chairman

Thursday, January 11, 2018

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

ARC Harry West Room

Members Present:

Commissioner Charlotte Nash, Chair
Commissioner Buzz Ahrens
Commissioner Romona Jackson Jones
Commissioner Eric Maxwell
Commissioner Dave Carmichael
Commissioner June Wood
Commissioner Mike Boyce
Mr. Kerry Armstrong
Mayor Clark Boddie
Mayor Eric Dial
Mayor Rochelle Robinson
Mr. Jim Durrett
Ms. Cindy Van Dyke
Ms. Liane Levetan
Mr. Mark Mathews
Mr. Rich McDonald
Ms. Martha Martin
Mr. Mike Houchard

Members Absent:

Mayor Kasim Reed
Commissioner Donald Hawbaker
CEO Michael Thurmond
Commissioner Jeff Turner
Commissioner Pat Graham
Commissioner Marcelo Banes
Commissioner Kevin Little
Commissioner Oz Nesbitt
Mayor Nancy Harris
Commissioner Todd Levent
Mr. Mark Burkhalter
Ms. Donna Sheldon
Commissioner John Eaves
Commissioner Al Smith

Attendees:

Henry Green, GDOT
Mila Bradley, MARTA
Tavores Edwards, Coweta County

1. Welcome/Acceptance of November 9, 2017 TAQC Meeting Summary / Public Comment period¹

Chairman Nash called the meeting to order. She explained that there would be two calls for public comment, one for the general comment and one for comment on TIP Amendment #4. Chairman Nash asked for public comment. There was none.

¹ A 10-minute period for public comments is designated at the beginning of each regular TAQC meeting. Each commenter must sign up before 10:30 AM on the meeting date. Each speaker will be limited to two minutes. If the comment period expires before all citizens have an opportunity to address the Committee, citizens will be invited to provide their comments in writing.



Chairman Nash asked for comment on the TIP amendment #4. Maria Roell, ARC, provided a brief summary of the public comment process for 2017 TIP Amendment #4. Ms. Roell noted that no one signed up to provide comments.

Chairman Nash asked for the number of comments received by ARC since the solicitation. Ms. Roell stated that she did not have the actual number but comments have been submitted. John Orr, ARC, stated that comments have come in and are mostly supportive however, ARC has received comments from the public expressing that they are not in favor of the Douglas County Public Transit project.

Mr. Orr stated that there will be two TIP amendments requiring action, one for projects that require conformity modeling which will take place in May. Douglas County Transit will be a May action item. Mr. Orr elaborated on “conformity.”

Chairman Nash recessed public comment due to several TAQC members who hadn’t arrived and stated that she would reconvene later. Chairman Nash reconvened public comment after discussion on TIP amendment. There were no requests for comment.

2. FIRST READ – Issue Summary and DRAFT Resolution for TIP Amendment #4

Jean Hee Barrett, ARC, provided the committee with an overview of the TIP Amendment #4 process. Ms. Barrett directed the committee to the online location of information on the solicitation process on ARC’s website. She highlighted some of the components of TIP Amendment #4 which included projects not requiring conformity modeling.

Ms. Barrett gave an overview of the solicitation process and ARC’s coordination and interaction with state and local sponsors and presented figures on recommended funding allocations. Ms. Barrett also highlighted examples of new and existing projects that are a part of TIP Amendment #4. She stated that the amendment included requests submitted by GDOT for PE funds on four MMIP projects which ARC has recommended be funded and summarized other general financial changes proposed under amendment.

Chairman Nash asked for questions regarding the recommended TIP projects. Cindy Van Dyke, GDOT, expressed appreciation for consideration of funding for MMIP projects.

Ms. Barrett provided information on next steps in the Amendment #4 process and noted public comment closes on January 16th.

Ms. Barrett discussed TIP Amendment #5 which contained the transit expansion projects and TSPLOST projects for conformity modeling and coding. She provided a timeline for public comment and public hearing on Amendment #5.



Mr. Orr, ARC, thanked local staff for assistance in providing information as requested by ARC staff during the TIP solicitation process.

3. FIRST READ – Issue Summary and DRAFT Resolution Adopting USDOT-Required Safety Targets

David Haynes, ARC provided an overview of the resolution supporting GDOT safety targets. Mr. Haynes explained that while adopting GDOT targets ARC will continue to look at establishing more detailed regional targets. He also proposed that language be incorporated into the RTP documents with Amendment #5 that links funding projects with state performance targets.

Several questions came from members of the committee regarding projecting fatalities and target shortfalls. Mr. Haynes explained the methodology used to make the projections for 2018. Mr. Orr reiterated that the methodology was a nationally adopted process. Discussion ensued about the targets and whether there are ramifications for not meeting the projected targets.

4. Legislative Update

Scott Haggard, ARC, provided an overview of current legislative activity. Mr. Haggard stated that the House Transit Commission of Governance and Funding met in October at ARC and legislation may be introduced based on information from that meeting. He stated that legislative topics include options for additional revenue sources for transit expansion funding and steeper penalties for distracted driving.

Mr. Haggard announced that ARC's Legislative Breakfast will be held on January 31st and the topic of discussion will be regional challenges moving forward. Commissioner Houchard commented on the invitation. Mr. Hooker stated that Rep. Tanner has expressed interest in speaking before the ARC Board and more information will come on that event.

5. Other and Committee Introduced Topics

None.

6. Announcement

Mike Alexander, ARC, announced Cain Williamson has transitioned to a two-year role as liaison with MARTA/City of Atlanta on the More MARTA project, and David Haynes is now on a detail assignment with the Federal Transit Association for 6 months.

Commissioner Ahrens asked whether these new roles would impact staff's ability to support to locals in working on TSPLOST. Mr. Alexander responded that ARC Management is working on filling the gaps left by position changes.

Mr. Orr introduced the new activity summary presented with the agenda. He also informed the committee that there will be two (2) action items up for vote on next month's TAQC Agenda.



Atlanta Regional Commission

Paulding County Commissioner Carmichael announced a groundbreaking ceremony on SR92 at the Douglas County line on January 20th to celebrate the completion of the roadway project.

There being no other business, Chairman Nash adjourned the meeting.

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