

MINUTES
TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING
February 22, 2023

Ms. Jessica Bird called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m. Handouts were distributed to include: (1) Agenda; (2) Minutes of the October 26, 2022 meeting; (3) 2023 Meeting Schedule; (4) Byron Safety Improvement Master Plan; (5) 2022 Accident Report; and (6) WRATS Project Status Report.

ATTENDEES

Jessica Bird	Dan Rhodes	Ben Pierce	David Hale
Greg Boike	Danny Davis	Jackie Williams*	Mitchell Lloyd*
Olivia Lewis*	Vivian Canizares*		

*participated via Zoom

According to Ms. Jessica Bird, a quorum was not present to approve the October 26, 2022 meeting minutes. She said she would place the minutes on the agenda for the next meeting in April.

2023 WRATS Meeting Schedule

Ms. Jessica Bird announced that this committee will continue to meet at Warner Robins City Hall and the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) will meet across the street at the City Hall Annex. She stated that all of the PC meetings will be held in the Health Sciences Building at Central Georgia Technical College (CGTC).

Recommendation to amend MOU for WRATS

According to Ms. Jessica Bird, the retirement of Mr. Bill Mulkey left the MPO without a director. She explained that paragraph IV of the MOU needs to be amended to update the city department name. Ms. Bird also explained that language needs to be added that the Mayor of Warner Robins may appoint an Interim MPO Director if the Building and Inspections Department Director position becomes vacant.

Ms. Jessica Bird said the committee could not make a formal recommendation to the PC because a quorum was not present.

Approval of PM1/Safety Performance Targets for 2023

Ms. Jessica Bird reminded those in attendance that the Policy Committee decided to have PM1/Safety performance targets updated annually through an administrative modification by

MPO staff. She said she emailed the administrative modification in December 2022; however, FHWA would like the targets to be presented at the TCC and PC meetings before an administrative modification is completed. According to Ms. Bird, the 2023 targets for PM1/Safety are due by February 27. She explained that FHWA is going to allow the MPO to keep its original meeting schedule and the administrative modification will be completed after the PC meeting on March 14, provided everyone is comfortable with supporting GDOT's targets.

Mr. Greg Boike with the Middle Georgia Regional Commission commented that we all recognize that this is a bad trend as far as increasing targets. He further explained that we support GDOT's targets in the hopes of moving toward lower ones in the future.

Ms. Bird explained that the serious injury definition had not been uniform before 2021 and that is why the related performance measure targets are so much higher than in recent years.

Carbon Reduction Strategies

Mr. Mitchell Lloyd with ICF used a PowerPoint presentation to share information on GDOT Carbon Reduction Strategy (CRS). Mr. Lloyd explained what the purpose of the strategy is and how it fits in with the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). The eligible activities, the strategy documentation, and the project schedule were also introduced.

Mr. Dan Rhoades of the 21st Century Partnership and Mr. Greg Boike asked how CRS might be related to the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition. Mr. Boike explained that the EPA is considering lowering the threshold for PM2.5 and stated emissions reduction strategies tied to technology would be more effective than things like transportation mode shift.

Byron Transportation Master Plan

Mr. Ben Pierce with GWES presented the City of Byron's Safety Improvement Master Plan project using a map with eight highlighted areas of interest. Mr. Pierce explained that the City of Byron is looking for committee feedback with regard to how the project could be completed and with what funding source. He said one idea is to have the MPO apply on behalf of the City of Byron for Special PL funds through GAMPO in September.

Ms. Jessica Bird announced that the MPO will be applying for Special PL funds at the same September meeting to hire a consultant to complete the 2050 MTP Update. The 2050 MTP Update is a federally required transportation planning document with a deadline of October 21, 2025. Ms. Bird asked Mr. Pierce if the Safety Improvement Master Plan could be Byron's component of the 2050 MTP Update. Because Mr. Pierce did not know, she said she would try to get more clarification regarding the scope and specifics of the MTP Update.

Mr. Greg Boike questioned the competitiveness of Byron's project when compared to the 2050 MTP Update. A short discussion occurred pertaining to the residential nature of some areas of concern and if GDOT has been made aware of issues on state routes.

Draft FY 2024 UPWP Discussion

According to Ms. Jessica Bird, the federal PL and Y410 allocations for the FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) are \$233,792.61 and \$5,465.61, respectively. Ms. Bird said the proposed budget with PL and Y410 funds together is \$99,125. She stated that the document has already been submitted to the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). She is still addressing FHWA's comments and has not received comments from GDOT, yet. Ms. Bird announced that once all comments have been addressed she will email the draft document to committees for review and post it on the MPO website. She said many tasks and sub-elements remain the same including Complete Streets work using Y410 funds and priorities include development of the FY 2024-2027 TIP and discussions and planning regarding the completion of the 2050 MTP Update. An unfunded section will also be added to include Byron's Safety Improvement Master Plan and the 2050 MTP Update. All meeting dates, discussions, and activities performed will be documented in this section until the Special PL funds are applied for and approved or denied. Ms. Bird asked committee members to please submit comments and concerns to her before action is taken on the document at the April and May round of meetings.

2022 Accident Report

Ms. Jessica Bird explained that this report was created by compiling accident data for Byron, Centerville, Perry, Warner Robins and Houston County. She mentioned that certain intersections are usually near the top of the list although the exact ranking changes from year to year. Ms. Bird said the total number decreased by 64 accidents from 2021.

WRATS Project Status Report

According to Ms. Jessica Bird, Mr. Harland Smith, GDOT District 3 Planning and Programming Liaison, could not participate in the meeting but did provide a project report for committee members.

No committee members had comments or questions about the report during the meeting, but Ms. Jessica Bird said she would forward any she received to Mr. Smith.

There being no further business, Ms. Jessica Bird adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.