

GRIFFIN-SPALDING AREA TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
AFTER AGENDA
September 25, 2013
1:30 p.m.

Meeting Room (#108), Spalding County Annex, 119 East Solomon Street, Griffin

Members Present: Doug Hollberg presided over the meeting. Brant Keller, William P. Wilson, Jr., Chad Jacobs, Dick Morrow, Anthony Dukes, Bruce Ballard, Jamie Clark for Chief Kenny West, Michelle Cannon, Donald Britt for Dwayne Jones, Samuel Gardner, Bonnie Pfrogner, Neal Bonds, Tim Crane, Rocky Kenway, Ex-Officio, County Clerk Ricky Clark was present to record the minutes.

Also in attendance were: Tim Crane-Spalding County Public Works Director, Cecil Kenway-Spalding County Water Superintendent, Bill Rountree & Jack Reed of GDOT, Jerry Arkin & George Granade of UGA Griffin Campus, Kenyata Smiley & Nathan Soldat of ARC, Jennifer Baptiste & Aronda Smith of Three Rivers Regional Commission, Chip Burger & Jim Brown of URS Consulting Group, Inga Kennedy and Andrea Foard of Planners for Environmental Quality.

I. Opening (Call to Order) – Chairman Doug Hollberg

II. Minutes

Approval of the May 15, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Motion/Second by Morrow/Gardner to approve Minutes of the May 15, 2013 Meeting. Motion carried unanimously by all.

III. Old Business

A. Griffin-Spalding Airport Status Update – Dick Morrow/Robert Mohl

Commissioner Morrow briefed attendees on recent happenings within the Airport Authority. Commissioner Morrow detailed the two (2) separate fronts the Airport Authority has been diligently working on: 1.) Taking over control and operations of the existing airport & 2.) Development of a new airport. In regards to taking over control and operations of the existing airport, Mr. Morrow noted that the transition took place July 1, 2013. The Authority is currently reviewing existing agreements and is leasing employees from the City. The next step will be the development of a budget relative to the existing airport. The main objective of the Authority is to increase revenues and to lessen the amount of necessary subsidies. In regards to the development of a new airport, Commissioner Morrow reported that this project is at a standstill due to inadequate funding. Commissioner Morrow noted that approximately \$12 million dollars is required for the process of acquisitioning land. In closing, Commissioner Morrow stated that he believes a new airport is very important for economic development and the Authority will continue to work on a business plan. Contrary to recent press, Commissioner Morrow noted that the success of the Peachtree-Dekalb Airport is indicative of the strong, positive impact a local airport has on a community.

IV. New Business

A. TAQC Update – Commissioner Samuel Gardner

Transportation Planner Anthony Dukes reported that at recent TAQC meetings the main discussion has been in regards to expansion of the Hartsfield Jackson Airport. Mr. Dukes noted that they are looking to add an additional runway to further add more vibrancy to the current Hartsfield Jackson Airport. They are also looking at some additional terminal expansion work to accommodate travel. Additionally, Mr. Dukes stated that ARC is continuing to update the 2040 plan. Kenyata Smiley of ARC noted that they are looking to have everything completed by late October and call for Public Comments around December 2013.

Furthermore, Mr. Dukes stated that there has also been discussion relative to additional calls for projects by ARC sometime in 2014.

B. GDOT Project Status Report – Bill Rountree/Jack Reed

Project #	Description	Status
3	CR 360/McIntosh Road East of Brooks @ Flint River	Local Right of Way acquisition to begin in October. Targeting a September 2014 let date. Commissioner Hollberg questioned if the road would be closed during this time. Anthony Dukes advised that there will be a detour route. Mr. Wilson stated that Spalding County executed an intergovernmental agreement with Fayette County for cost sharing of this project. Commissioner Morrow recommended posting signage indicative of the project being made possible by SPLOST dollars.
8	SR 16 @ CR 496	Project is still in the June 2014 letting. Still working on final design plans, UTL submittals and lighting plans.
9	SR 362 @ CR 507/Rover Zetella Road/Moreland Road	The environmental document has been approved. ROW funding authorization is expected in mid-October. Project is on target for October 2014 letting.
10	CR 134/North Hill Street @ Cabin Creek	Project is still in Long Range. Mr. Reed questioned if locals wanted to take over the project. Mr. Dukes advised that this project has been on the books for quite some time. Commissioner Hollberg questioned if this project could be tied in with the realignment of the intersection. Mr. Wilson stated that the bridge is less than 10 tons so school buses have not been able to use for the last 5-7 years. Furthermore, Mr. Wilson

		stated that a culvert was requested and this was the last we have heard about the project. Mr. Dukes recommended leaving the project on the list. In reference to the Northside Drive/Tuskegee Avenue intersection improvement project, Mr. Keller stated that the last he heard the county had asked for a vertical alignment. Mr. Wilson stated that the county has not made any decision and have asked for cost analysis for both the Hill Street intersection and the McIntosh Road intersection. Commissioner Morrow expressed preference for a round-about.
13	Spalding County Intersection Improvement Program	Awaiting Preliminary Reassessment plans for the consultant, then can approve ROW plans, obtain local contract for ROW and issue NTP for ROW Acquisition. Mr. Reed noted that one of the challenges is that the plan doesn't meet the pdp guidelines. Projected to start around Second Quarter 2014.
15	North Hill Street; Solomon St & 5th Street Intersection Downtown Griffin-LCI	Temporarily laid out footprint. Decided to use the road diet concept. Should be finalized by the end of September for a October let date.
16	CR 508/Jordan Hill Rd N of Griffin @ Troublesome Creek Trib	Project on hold until five (5) alternate designs can be evaluated. Commissioner Gardner stated that the County was told the issue was with the Corps of Engineers and getting their approval. Mr. Reed stated that the issue is that Spalding County and Pulte Homes do not want the road closed.
17	SR 3/US 19 @ SR 16 in Griffin	Project behind schedule due to plan changes associated with MS4 compliance. Environmental updates underway in affected areas. UGA parcel still outstanding. Requesting an 8/2014 let.
	Smoak Road Bridge Replacement	Project was let in June.

C. Bicycle-Pedestrian Subcommittee update – Michelle Cannon

Ms. Cannon noted that the City signage grant is complete. They purchased 112 signs, 90 posts and 20 sharrow thermoplasts of which 69 signs have been installed in the City and County and 2 thermoplasts at the 6th Street Bridge with Bike/Car Share signs and 2 Bike in Lane signs. Ms. Cannon noted that the GBC (Georgia Bicycle Coalition) was awarded a separate grant from Georgia Bikes in which the committee opted to purchase 10 bike racks for placement around town. Additionally, Ms. Cannon noted that they are having the bike racks built locally at Swanton Welding and should be done by mid-October and have submitted reimbursement requests to GA Bikes. Furthermore, Ms. Cannon provided the following report: Team Griffin Rides (15 people) have logged 10,668 miles of which 58% was commuting, 41% was recreational and 1% was mountain. The team is 5th of 27 in the state and 5,232 of 12,838 in the Nation. Griffin has a team ready to compete in the bike to work challenge for the Atlanta Clean Air Campaign which kicks off October 1st. In excitement, Ms. Cannon noted that their team is expecting to win this year. In closing, Ms. Cannon stated that the committee is approaching their 1st year as a duly appointed subcommittee and is seeking guidance from G-SATC to move forward. Ms. Cannon will send emails and suggestions as to where/how the committee will move forward in year 2. Commissioner Morrow requested that Ms. Cannon schedule a radio interview.

D. 5311 Rural Transit Program Update – Robert Hiatt/Jennifer Baptiste

Jennifer Baptiste, Regional Mobility Manager for Three Rivers reviewed transit operations of the Spalding County 5311 Rural Program. Ms. Baptiste noted the following:

Operational Totals YTD:

Total Trips	32,238 up by 8,000 from 2012
Total Miles	203,041
Service Hours	9,659
Total Gallons	25,943

Ms. Baptiste noted that numbers show the primary utilization of the service is for transporting individuals to and from work. Furthermore, Ms. Baptiste noted that it is almost time to replace the shuttles. Spalding County has five (5) shuttles that are scheduled to be replaced for FY' 15 & 16. GDOT has gotten the prices of the vehicles drastically reduced. For three shuttle buses without lifts, the cost will be just over \$10,700 (total match \$18,854). For two shuttle buses with lifts, the cost is \$7,854. Ms. Baptiste recommended that the vehicles be replaced in 2015. After questioning from Commissioner Gardner, Ms. Baptiste noted that Three Rivers needs to know by October if the County/City will be replacing the vehicles. After questioning from Commissioner Hollberg, Ms. Baptiste noted that current vehicles will be declared surplus by GDOT.

E. Griffin-Spalding Transit Feasibility Study – Anthony Dukes/Chip Burger & URS Team

Anthony Dukes introduced Chip Burger & the URS Team, the consulting group hired to conduct the Transit Feasibility Study. Mr. Burger noted that the purpose of the study was to evaluate the feasibility of a transit system within the Griffin-Spalding service area to improve mobility for employees, residents, and visitors of the service area, relieve/prevent traffic congestion, reduce pollution and contribution to economic development. Mr. Burger noted that implementation of the study will improve access between activity centers and other destinations, facilitate trips over multiple destinations, avoid congested roadways, obtain environmental benefits and establish a new and attractive community mobility alternative. According to the scope of the Feasibility Study, they will begin to conduct initial public involvement meetings, perform review of recent area transportation initiatives, conduct stakeholder interviews, develop, evaluate, and refine conceptual transit service alternatives. At such time, he will present his findings to G-SATC, noted Mr. Burger. Commissioner Hollberg requested that Mr. Burger also speak with the Downtown Development Authority.

F. Transportation Projects for upcoming SPLOST – General Discussion

Commissioner Hollberg noted the importance of including transportation projects on the proposed 2014 SPLOST due to the failing of the T-SPLOST. Commissioner Morrow stated that projects should simply be the basics of transportation. Commissioner Gardner noted the importance of us identifying specific projects and their priority to get another SPLOST passed. Dr. Keller noted the increase cost to resurface a city street due to required milling.

After substantial discussion, the Committees' consensus was to have a list presented at the November meeting for potential projects.

G. Member Introduced Topics

Dr. Brant Keller- For this year, the City of Griffin has replaced two (2) bridges (\$420,000 & \$320,000). Additionally they have finished the culvert survey and are now making an analysis on four (4) additional bridges that need to be replaced. Dr. Keller commented that the City was very fortunate to build the Maple Drive Bridge under time even with 17 inches of rain. The City is moving forward to take care of proactive issues and preventive maintenance. Dr. Keller also commented regarding how good the LMIG program is working. In closing, Dr. Keller stated that the transportation projects for a SPLOST must be approved through the Atlanta Regional Commission to qualify for matching funds.

Bruce Ballard- Commented that the School System had several transportation issues but have since gotten everything on the right track. Commissioner Hollberg commended Dr. Jones & School System for an excellence job in getting things moving forward.

V. Public Comment

VI. Report of Transportation Planner

- A. Status Update - Current/Upcoming Studies & Projects (Griffin-Spalding Joint CTP Update)

Mr. Dukes stated that the Transit Feasibility Study is now underway and our next challenge is to endure the same process for the CTP update in which he is putting together an intergovernmental agreement for review by both the City & County attorneys. Mr. Dukes noted that the county has entered into a subgrant agreement with ARC for CTP funding.

B. Grant award from Georgia Bikes – *previously reported by Michelle Cannon.*

VII. Report of Committee Members

VIII. Announcements

The next regular meeting will be held on November 20, 2013.

IX. Adjournment

Motion/Second by Gardner/Pfrogner to adjourn at 2:47 pm. Motion carried unanimously by all.