

**MACON-BIBB COUNTY PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION**  
200 CHERRY ST., SUITE 300, MACON, GEORGIA 31201

**MATS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING - MINUTES SUMMARY (APPROVED)**

**Meeting Description:** MATS Citizens Advisory Committee – *Regular Meeting* **Date:** 01.08.20  
**Time:** 6:00PM **Location:** Macon-Bibb County P & Z Commission, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room

		Absent / Present
NAME	REPRESENTING	
James P. Thomas	Macon-Bibb Planning & Zoning Commission	Present
Mike Greenwald	Macon-Bibb Planning & Zoning Commission	Present
Gregory L. Brown	Macon-Bibb Planning & Zoning Commission	Present
Ken North	Macon-Bibb Planning & Zoning Commission	Present
Elizabeth Hardin	CAC/Commission District 1	Absent
Vacant	CAC/Commission District 2	-----
Arthur Hubbard	CAC/Commission District 3	Present
Bob Komlo	CAC/Commission District 4	Present
John Swint	CAC/Commission District 5	Present
Donald L. Druitt	CAC/Commission District 6	Present
Shelvy Neal	CAC/Commission District 7	Absent
Antonio Lewis-Ross	CAC/Commission District 8	Present
Lee Martin	CAC/Commission District 9	Present
Timothy D. Ingram	CAC/Jones County Representative ( <i>Dist. 4</i> )	Absent
John Ricketson	CAC/Monroe County Representative ( <i>Dist. 3</i> )	Present
Norman Brown	CAC/AARP Volunteer	Absent
Michael Brown	CAC/Bike-Pedestrian Representative	Absent
Anthony Jackson	CAC/Board of Education Transportation Division	Absent
Tina Hopper	CAC/Disabled Population Representative	Absent
Ella Mumphery	CAC/Disabled Transportation User	Present
Rachel Umana	CAC/Environmental Representative	Absent
Robert “Bob” Hargrove	CAC/League of Women Voters	Present
Michael Colbert	CAC/Macon Housing Authority	Absent
Jada Robinson	CAC/Transit User	Absent
VISITORS		
Cam Oetter	Bike / Ped	
Liz Fabian	Center for Collaborative Journalism	
Nick Pizzola		
Newton Collier		
AGENDA		
<b>1</b>	Call to Order	
<b>2</b>	Election of Officers (Chair & Vice-Chair)	
<b>3</b>	Adoption of Agenda – Action Item	
<b>4</b>	Public Comment Period (5 Minutes)	
<b>5</b>	Approval of previous regular MATS CAC meeting minutes ( <i>October 9, 2019</i> ) – <i>Action Item</i>	
<b>6</b>	Amendment: Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)/Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): Bass Road Widening Project – <i>Agenda Item</i>	

7	Update/Approval of FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)– <i>Action Item</i>
8	Administrative/Modification: Adoption of GDOT Safety Performance Measures: <i>Action Item</i>
9	Review of GDOT Project Status Report – <i>Agenda Item</i>
10	Old/Unfinished Business
11	New Business
12	Next meeting dates
13	Adjourn

MINUTES

1. **Called to Order:** 6:02PM by Dr. John Swint, CAC Chairman
2. **Election of Officers (Chair & Vice-Chair):** A motion was made and properly seconded to re-elect Dr. Swint as Chairman and elect John Ricketson as Vice-Chairman. Motion passed.
3. **Adoption of Agenda – Action Item:** A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Approved
4. **Public Comment Period (5 Minutes):** During public comment period, concerns were raised regarding the following:
  - Mr. Cam Oetter: Thanked the MATS Committee for taking time to hear comments from residents regarding speed in their neighborhoods from the October 2019 meeting. Mr. Oetter also raised the same concerns in his neighborhood. Comments were made regarding the Macon Transit Authority’s article in the newspaper for two (2) new electric buses. This was learned from “On the Table” discussions regarding transportation options and public safety. A recommendation was made to CAC members to review the Macon Action Plan (MAP) public survey that recommends improvements to the traffic plan in the urban core; Bike Walk Macon’s membership drive to help with the opportunities for cycling in Macon, GA.; and the Ocmulgee Greenway’s linear focus on bicycle and pedestrian improvements. The Rail to Trail project between Macon-Bibb County, Jones County and Baldwin County could be a huge transportation improvement benefit to the Middle Georgia region. It was also mentioned by Mr. DrUITT that a new bicycle association has been established called the Marshall Walter Taylor Bicycle Club in Macon, GA. Lee Martin mentioned that at least one (1) elected official should attend MATS CAC meetings to hear concerns from the committee and citizens.
5. **Approval of previous MATS CAC meeting minutes (October 9, 2019) – Action Item:** A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Approved
6. **Amendment: Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)/Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): Bass Road Widening Project – Agenda Item:** Mike Greenwald provided information on GDOT Project #0017121 which is the expansion of Bass Road from New Forsyth Road to Providence Boulevard. The total cost of the project is \$35,823,137.00 of which \$5,587,700.00 is the County’s match to be used for Right of Way Acquisition Phase in FY 2024. \$2,092,635.00 is obligated for Engineering in FY 2020. This project will override the current Bass Road project that’s in the Long Range Transportation Plan and will create a new phase 1 from New Forsyth Road to Providence Boulevard. Providence Boulevard will be the cut-off point between the new Phase 1 and Phase 2. CAC members requested to review conceptual drawings of the project. The CAC made a motion to recommend to the MATS TCC and Policy Committees that GDOT and FHWA install a raised landscaped median along Bass Road and to also reconsider the 5-lane

concept design. **(Motion Passed)**. After presentation and discussion of the Bass Road project, the recommended action is to approve amendments to LRTP and TIP to achieve the following:

- Add new Bass Road project approved by Macon-Bibb County and GDOT
- Update description of existing Bass Road Phase 3 in LRTP to new Phase 2 (*with appropriate project area update*)
- Remove old Bass Road Phase 1 and Phase 2 from project list
- Direct MATS staff to distribute materials for review by Interagency Coordinating Committee; and direct MATS staff to forward comments and CAC recommendations to MATS Policy Committee.

#### **Recommendations Passed**

7. **Update/Approval of FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – Action Item:** Mike Greenwald provided an overview of the UPWP funding process as it relates to the percentages allocated from the Federal, State and Local governments. It was mentioned that the FY 2021 UPWP will have a different budget than the FY 2020 UPWP for a total FY 2021 budget of \$400,499.00. The reasons for the change are due to the increase in formula allocation for FHWA and FTA 5303 funding levels; potential for additional supplemental funding from GDOT Intermodal for support of transit activities to include additional staff training, bus route restructuring and workforce accessibility (*e.g., Amazon/Kumho/Irving*). A breakdown of the FY 2021 UPWP Revised Budget by specific work task was provided that detailed line item transfers regarding FHWA and FTA work tasks. After presentation and discussion of the FY 2021 UPWP, the recommended action is to approve the FY 2021 UPWP and direct staff to submit updated FY 2021 UPWP to MATS Policy Committee for adoption at February 5, 2020 meeting. A motion was made by Druitt and properly seconded by Komlo to approve the UPWP. **Motion Passed**
8. **Administrative/Modification: Adoption of GDOT Safety Performance Measures: Action Item:** Mike Greenwald reported that GDOT adopted new safety performance measures as part of the FAST-ACT federal transportation policy. Preliminary findings indicate that the Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) adjusted values are going in the right direction based on the 5 year floating average. From 2014 – 2018, per 100 million miles of VMT the average number of deaths in the MATS area have decreased down to 1.21 from 1.26; the average number of serious injuries decreased; as well as the average number of non-motorized fatalities decreased. Macon-Bibb had a big spike in pedestrian accidents and fatalities in 2018. This was presented to the CAC for informational purposes.
9. **Review of GDOT Project Status Report – Agenda Item:** There was no report received from the *GDOT District 3 office*.
10. **Old/Unfinished Business**
  - MPO Re-Certification:** Mike Greenwald reported that the re-certification review was held in October 2019. In December 2019, GDOT submitted the certification report to FHWA with the following feedback:
    - i. MATS to be certified for next 4 years
    - ii. Recommended areas for improvement:
      1. Update online presence – In progress
      2. Update Public Participation Plan “to more specifically describe the specific steps required for initial UPWP adoption and subsequent administrative modifications.”

3. Clarify language in Public Participation Plan to describe what constitutes “significant” public comment to be brought before MATS Committees

This was presented to the CAC for informational purposes.

11. **New Business:**

- MATS CAC Vacant Positions:** A motion was made and properly seconded to declare the Disabled Population Representative position vacant. **Motion Passed.** Commission District 2 position remains vacant.
- Lee Martin (Handouts):** Lee Martin distributed handouts titled, “The Cost of an Extra Foot” and “Rule would drop climate change in project planning”. Lee also suggested that the MATS CAC support the rules & regulations of NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act), and request that the Policy Committee consider crosswalks along Gray Highway and Tom Hill Sr., Boulevard. The artistic photo of the crosswalk along Columbus Street was shown.
- Bass Road Concept Map:** A concept map of the Bass Road Project was shown that that MATS staff received from the Macon-Bibb County Engineering Department.

12. **Next meeting dates:** Proposed MATS Meeting Dates for CY 2020

<b>MATS CAC</b>	<b>MATS TCC</b>	<b>MATS Policy Committee</b>
<b>04/08/2020</b>	04/15/2020	05/06/2020
<b>07/08/2020</b>	07/15/2020	08/05/2020
<b>10/14/2020</b>	10/21/2020	11/04/2020

13. **Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:35PM