



Douglas County CTP Meeting

June 26, 2007

Project Advisory Team

Minutes

Inga Kennedy Public Involvement Coordinator who introduced Douglas County Department of Transportation staff, the Wilbur Smith consulting team and Project Advisory Team (PAT) members in attendance opened the first meeting of the Douglas County Comprehensive Plan. Attendees were provided an agenda, a list of suggested perspectives for the PAT membership and a PAT framework. The first agenda item was a discussion of the purpose and role of the PAT, and the suggested perspectives. The list of perspectives provided included the following:

- Douglas County DOT
- City Douglasville
- City Austell
- City of Villa Rica
- GDOT
- ARC
- GRTA
- TPB
- ITS
- TDM
- Douglas County Greenway Trails Alliance
- Douglas County Planning
- Douglas/Douglasville Development Authority
- Douglas County Chamber of Commerce
- Douglasville Police Department
- Douglas County Sheriff
- Douglas County EMS
- Douglas County Fire Department
- Wellstar Hospital
- Douglas County School Board
- Special Populations (Environmental Justice, Physically Challenged)
- Senior Citizens
- Citizens Advocacy
- Water Board
- Paulding County
- Cobb County



Ms. Kennedy asked attendees to review the list and suggest additional perspectives that should be added. Suggestions included:

- Business Groups
- Utility companies
- Chattahoochee Hill Country

Ms. Kennedy discussed the framework of the PAT and their roles/and responsibilities on the project including:

- Representing their organization relative to county-wide transportation issues
- Sharing information with their organizations
- Encouraging public participation in the process

It was suggested that a web site link to all of the PAT organizations as well as others, be developed to assist in encouraging increased participation in the process and keeping the public informed.

Meeting attendees were also asked to suggest a day and time of the month that is acceptable for future PAT meetings. After some discussion, the consensus among attendees was the fourth Tuesday of every other month at 3:00 pm. The dates for the PAT meetings are as follows:

- August 28th 2007
- October 23rd 2007
- December 4th 2007
- February 26th 2008
- April 22nd 2008
- June 24th 2008

Next Ms. Kennedy gave a brief overview of the Public Involvement Plan, which includes two public hearings, six community visioning workshops, newsletters, roving displays, a project web site, speakers bureau opportunities and focused outreach to the elderly, low income, environmental justice and physically challenged populations. The Public Involvement Plan will also be provided to each PAT member.

Ms, Kennedy turned the meeting over to Project Manager, Dan Drake (Wilbur Smith Associates) who discussed the inventory needs for the CTP. He acknowledged that some data has been collected for GIS compilation and that team members had met with



met with GDOT. Mr. Drake asked attendees to suggest other studies that would be helpful in CTP process. Suggestions received included:

- Chapel Hill Rd. Transportation Plan
- Bike-Pedestrian Plan
- Downtown Douglasville Study
- North-South study
- Presley Mill Corridor Study
- Highway 92 LCI
- Comprehensive Plan Douglasville 2004
- Lee Rd. Study
- State Route 6 Corridor Study
- Transit Feasibility Study
- GA Truck Study
- I-20 HOV Lanes
- Highway 92 Plan
- Countywide Curb Safety Plan
- Sub area Traffic Studies for Schools
- TPB-Evaluation
- Paulding and Cobb CTP
- Austell Rd. LCI
- Demographic data from Greystone
- Joint Transportation State Study

Attendees were requested to email any additional project suggestions to Dan Drake or Inga Kennedy to make a final list.

Mr. Drake returned the meeting to Ms. Kennedy to discuss potential goals. Four potential goals were displayed:

- Enhanced mobility for all travelers
- Preserve & Protect neighborhoods
- Preserve the environment
- Promote economic development

Attendees were asked to provide input on the goal statements and consensus was reached on the following:

Enhanced mobility for all travelers:

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- Priority and Balance-transportation projects with political & public support (implemental)
- Enhanced “Safety” and mobility for all travelers
- Multi modal

Preserve & Protect neighborhoods:

- Protect existing neighborhoods & implement consistent land use
- Comprehensive land use plans
- Preserve existing but implement the recommendations for future land use plans
- Land use plans higher intensity locations

Preserve the environment:

- Connectivity to greenways
- Preserving natural environment is an obstacle to build the system
- Water quality
- Regional air quality constraints

The question was asked about how much emphasis should be placed on environmental issues and the following responses were provided:

- Douglas county has many natural resources worth preserving but this also may prevent needed new development projects
- Air quality problems
- Preservation of water basin
- Greenway trails as a method of transportation

Promote economic development:

- Economic development is part of priority & balance
- Focus on blighted areas to spawn new developments
- Use transportation plan to promote economic development

The meeting was closed by Ms. Kennedy who thanked everyone for attending and asked if there were any other questions. She also urged everyone to use the comment forms which can be sent my mail, phone or fax.