



April 15, 2016

GAMPO Board Members

Subject: March 2016 PL Funds Review Committee Meeting

Dear GAMPO Members:

The Department would like to first thank you for the successful execution of the inaugural PL Funds Review Committee Meeting that was held on March 31, 2016. Your efforts as GAMPO members led to a productive implementation of the new funding policy and procedures. This letter will serve as official correspondence from the Department acknowledging and highlighting the results of the March 31, 2016 meeting.

Prior to the meeting, the Department received application requests from four MPOs: Athens, Gainesville-Hall, Hinesville, and Savannah. Listed below are the application summaries, cost summaries, and the voting results.

- **Athens MPO:** Requested \$350,000 (\$280,000 Federal; \$70,000 Local) to update the LRTP to include performance based planning & programming to accommodate for all required FHWA required elements; including goals, performance measures, and targets. The PL Funds Review Committee voted yes for approval of this application request.
- **Athens MPO:** Requested \$25,000 (\$20,000 Federal; \$5,000 Local) to purchase traffic counting equipment for member counties to use within the MPO jurisdiction. The PL Funds Review Committee voted to table this application request until the next meeting in September 2016.
- **Gainesville-Hall MPO:** Requested \$100,000 (\$80,000 Federal; \$20,000 Local) to complete the Green Street Improvement Feasibility Study – Phase II. The study will focus on a larger regional approach for improving other areas with the overall goal of diverting traffic away from Green Street. The PL Funds Review Committee voted yes for approval of this application request.
- **Gainesville-Hall MPO:** Requested \$218,750 (\$175,000 Federal; \$43,750 Local in-kind match) to develop a Regional Freight Study. The study will focus on developing a micro-level freight analysis and targeted freight improvement projects within the MPO jurisdiction. The PL Funds Review Committee voted yes for approval of this application request.
- **Hinesville MPO:** Requested \$81,500 (\$65,200 Federal; \$16,300 Local) to develop a Regional Freight Plan. The freight plan will provide a policy framework and the short and long-term capital improvement projects needed to support the region's planned development potential for freight. The PL Funds Review Committee voted yes for approval of this application request.

- **Savannah MPO:** Requested \$250,000 (\$200,000 Federal; \$50,000 Local) for travel demand model improvements. The request will develop specific modeling processes and procedures to assess the impact of transportation improvements in achieving established and emerging performance measures and targets. The PL Funds Review Committee voted to table this application request until the next meeting in September 2016.
- **Savannah MPO:** Requested \$375,000 (\$300,000 Federal; \$75,000 Local) to update the initial Congestion Management Process (CMP). The request will update the initial 2003/2004 CMP via development of new congestion mitigation and demand management strategies and recommendations. The PL Funds Review Committee voted yes for approval of this application request.
- **Savannah MPO:** Requested \$150,000 (\$120,000 Federal; \$30,000 Local) to develop Transportation Demand Management Strategies. The request will continue build upon the CMP and model refinement tasks to develop transportation demand management strategies and implementation recommendations. The PL Funds Review Committee voted yes for approval of this application request.
- **Savannah MPO:** Requested \$50,000 (\$40,000 Federal; \$10,000 Local) to develop socio-economic data. The request will supply information that is essential to the development of the travel demand model for the purposes of updating the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). The PL Funds Review Committee voted yes for approval of this application request.

Of the nine applications submitted by the four MPOs, seven were selected for approval by the PL Funds Review Committee. The seven projects selected totaled an allotment amount of \$1,060,200.00 in supplemental PL Funds and \$285,050.00 in total Local matches. For the two applications requests that were tabled until the September meeting, the GAMPO board members will continue further discussion and communication on the items prior to the next September meeting to determine how to best address the tabled items.

The MPOs that received supplement PL Funds allotments must follow all standard FHWA procurement procedures. Additionally, the MPOs that received supplement PL Funds allotments will need to work with their respective GDOT transportation planner to execute the contract process.

The overall implementation for the new PL Funds process was successful; however, the Department has provided approaches to improve the next meeting. First, the Department will develop frequently asked questions (FAQs) on its website as a new resource for MPOs in order to provide quick answers to commonly asked questions. Secondly, the Department recommends placing a time limit on each application that will be discussed. The previous meeting came close to reaching the two hour maximum meeting time cap; therefore, we want to ensure all application requests are properly discussed and vetted within the appropriate meeting timeframe.

The MPOs that were allotted supplemental PL Funds will need to provide progress status updates at the next meeting in September. This will enable the PL Funds Review Committee to thoroughly track completion progress, dollar amounts spent, and provide an effective oversight measure.

We look forward to continue working with the GAMPO members and the MPOs in this process. If you have any additional questions please feel free to contact Quinton L. Spann at 404-631-1646 or at gspann@dot.ga.gov.

Sincerely,



Cynthia L. VanDyke
State Transportation Planning Administrator

CLV:qls

cc: Andrew Edwards, FHWA
Matthew Fowler, GDOT Planning
Tom McQueen, GDOT Planning
Radney Simpson, GDOT Planning