December 4, 2017

The Honorable Casey Cagle  
Office of the Lieutenant Governor 
240 State Capital 
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Lt. Governor Cagle,

As Chairman of the River Valley Region Citizens Review Panel for the Transportation Investment Act, I am writing this letter pursuant to OCGA 48-8-251.

Enclosed is the update on the River Valley Region Citizens Review Panel consisting of a letter from Kelvin H. Mullins, TIA Administrator as a cover along with a copy of the Annual Project Status Report and minutes of the three meetings of the Review Panel for your review.

The committee would like to express our appreciation to GDOT personnel for the professional manner and support they have provided the River Valley Region Panel. Through their efforts, we continue to realize the benefits of the Transportation Investment Act.

Sincerely,

Charles M. “Buddy” Leger
Chairman
December 4, 2017

The Honorable David Ralston
Speaker of the House of Representatives
332 State Capital
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Speaker Ralston,

As Chairman of the River Valley Region Citizens Review Panel for the Transportation Investment Act, I am writing this letter pursuant to OCGA 48-8-251.

Enclosed is the update on the River Valley Region Citizens Review Panel consisting of a letter from Kelvin H. Mullins, TIA Administrator as a cover along with a copy of the Annual Project Status Report and minutes of the three meetings of the Review Panel for your review.

The committee would like to express our appreciation to GDOT personnel for the professional manner and support they have provided the River Valley Region Panel. Through their efforts, we continue to realize the benefits of the Transportation Investment Act.

Sincerely,

Chairman
December 1, 2017

Citizen's Review Panel (CRP) Members
Mr. C.M. "Buddy" Leger, Chairman
River Valley Special District

RE: Transportation Investment Act (TIA) of 2010

Dear Citizen's Review Panel Members:

The Georgia Department of Transportation presents the attached update through calendar year 2017 on the Transportation Investment Act of 2010 for the River Valley Special District. Also attached is a summary for the completed project in the region within the last year. This summary can be utilized in the determination of benefits by the CRP for completed projects. The Transportation Investment Act of 2010 legislation requires submittal of an annual report by the CRP to the legislators by December 15th each year.

As of this letter, four TIA projects have been completed in River Valley, seven are currently under construction, and 11 are in preconstruction. Unfortunately, and as anticipated last year, revenue collections in the region have failed to meet projections. The latest revenue collections for River Valley are 17.1% less than originally anticipated. The Department has taken a number of steps to mitigate this revenue shortfall, and will continue to implement cost saving strategies wherever feasible. As a result, all TIA projects will be delivered.

We are closely coordinating with all local governments to ensure successful delivery of the program. The Department remains committed to the people of River Valley for showing Georgia how to take an active role in its transportation future.

This update is provided to you for your information. Please let me know if you need further information regarding the TIA 2010 Program.

Sincerely,

TIA Administrator

cc: Diana Pope, Georgia State Finance and Investment Commission
    Patti Cullen, River Valley Regional Commission
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Nov 29, 2017 - 1 - 6:31:04 AM
Completed Project Report

River Valley

Project: SR 1/US 27 Widening
Project ID: RC08-000068
GDOT ID: PI-422235-

**Project Description**
The project widened a segment of US 27/SR 1 completing a continuous four-lane route from CR 153/Carnegie Vilulah RD to the Cuthbert Bypass.

**Project Benefit**
The project's key benefit was to drivers an alternative north-south route to I-75 and enhance the corridor between Columbus and Florida. The community surrounding the project has already seen more travelers utilizing the route and supporting local businesses.

**Schedule Information**
NTP Date: 08/22/2017
Completion Date: 01/25/2017

**Budget/Cost Information**
Original Budget: $31,742,135
Projected Final Cost: $30,712,301

**Project Delivery**
GDOT- OPD let
Project construction managed by GDOT

**Project Photo**

Construction

After
Completed Project Report

River Valley

Project: SR 1/US 27 Bridge Replacement
Project ID: RC08-000065
GDOT ID: PI-431530-

Project Description
The project replaced a bridge on SR 1/US 27 over the Georgia/Alabama Railroad.

Project Benefit
The project replaced an aging bridge and improved a key connectivity link over the Georgia/Alabama Railroad line in central Randolph County.

Schedule Information
NTP Date: 08/22/2013
Completion Date: 01/25/2017

Budget / Cost Information
Original Budget: $813,177
Projected Final Cost: $995,630

Project Delivery
GDOT- OPD let
Project construction managed by GDOT

Project Photo

[Images of construction and after photos]
Call to Order and Welcome
Presentation of Minutes from December 6, 2016
Revenue Collections and Cash Flow of Projects
Update on Current Projects and Answers
Questions and Answers
Adjourn
Chair Buddy Leger called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked for approval of the December 6, 2016 minutes. Motion was made by Todd Schuster to approve the minutes as written; Jerry Carney seconded the motion. The motion carried as presented.

Kelvin Mullins, TIA Coordinator, welcomed everyone to the meeting. He said we were two years into Band 2 and five years into the TIA program. He said there was a lot of work going on in the River Valley region. Several projects were beginning to finish up like the South Georgia Tech Parkway and Custer Road in Muscogee County.

Kelvin discussed the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goals and the small business program as it relates to the TIA projects. He said overall the TIA projects were averaging 10%. GDOT is trying to reach out to small businesses when they can.

Mr. Mullins stated that Sanders Griffith had resigned from the Citizens Review Panel. He said the Speaker of the House had appointed Mr. Griffith and he has 45 days to appoint another person in his place.

Mr. Mullins thanked Mr. Carney for assistance with working with Crisp County and the contract language issues with the bridge over Lake Blackshear. Mr. Carney formally thanked the Crisp County Power Commission and the Crisp County Board of Commissioners for their assistance in resolving the matter.

Kelvin stated that $189 million had been collected in the River Valley Region, with approximately $142 million going to the approved investment project list and $47 million going to the local jurisdictions. He said Commissioner McMurry was 100% behind seeing that the projects are constructed as approved by the voters. He said the Commissioner demonstrated this by putting in $20 million in the Harris County SR 1/HWY 27 project after the federal funds were deleted.
Kelvin reported that two regions, Middle Georgia and Southern Georgia, were beginning to organize to place a regional TSPLOST on the ballot. Middle Georgia is looking at November of 2017 and Southern Georgia in May 2018. Mr. Schuster asked when the River Valley region should begin to explore TIA version II. Rick Jones stated that the real issue is that the revenue projections that were used in the beginning were off target and it will be difficult to sell to the public. Everyone was in general agreement that TIA had been good for the region as a whole. Kelvin suggested that the region start at least two years out in order to have a longer time to develop the project list.

Kenneth Franks highlighted several of the projects. He reiterated that federal funds would not be used on SR1/HWY 27; however, GDOT will provide the $20 million to complete the project. This will allow the project to move at a faster rate and hopefully be ready for bid in 2021. He said GDOT held a public informational meeting on a new DDI conversion at 1-185 and Buena Vista Road in April. Most of the citizens present were in support of the project. He said the following projects are scheduled for letting in 2017:

- Harris County- SR 103 passing lanes- July, 2017
- Taylor County- Bridge Replacement at Bickley Road and Patsiliga Creek- July, 2017
- Macon County- SR 225 passing lanes- later in 2017
- Macon County- bridge work on SR 128 over Whitewater Creek- January, 2018
- Muscogee/Harris- SR 219 passing lanes- July, 2018
- Crisp County- US 280 widening from Crisp County to SR 300 Connector- May, 2020

Mr. Franks said there would be a Public Information Open House on Tuesday May 16, 2017 on the Cusseta and Cusseta Road Improvements. The project is scheduled for letting in the Fall of 2021.

He said GDOT had planned a ribbon cutting ceremony for the SR 1/US 27 project in Randolph County but the ceremony was postponed. This project has been completed. The US 41 passing lanes and traffic signals in Dooly County have been completed. The South Georgia Tech Parkway improvements are approximately 50% complete. The US 27/I Custer Road Interchange in Muscogee County at Fort Benning is approximately 60% complete.

The District Line Road Improvements in Sumter County are in the preliminary design phase. Hopefully in May, the contractor will be mobilizing for the bridge reconstruction over Lake Blackshear. Mr. Franks did say that GDOT would need to acquire some R-0-W near Georgia Veteran's State Park for the US 280 widening from the Crisp County line to SR 300 connector. Mr. Carney requested that GDOT minimize the footprint if at all possible. He also thanked GDOT for the flashing light at the state park.

Rick Jones, Planning Director for the City of Columbus, said all of the Columbus projects were on schedule. He said there was still a small problem with the Columbus River Walk but that they thought they had it worked out. He said the transit system was a real success story. The city will be reviewing the new routes in one year to tweak them as needed. The pedestrian bridge over Victory Drive should be completed in October of 2017 and this would complete the South Lumpkin Trail. The initial estimates
on the intersection improvements along Buena Vista Road came in high. The city is reviewing them to see how they can be lowered. He said the original objective was to get a bridge over the railroad tracks and they were working to see that this objective is met. City personnel are meeting with residents and businesses on the Cusseta and Old Cusseta Road improvements. There is a historic church in the project area that in the past had not been amenable to relocating but now may be. The proposed improvements will open this area up for redevelopment.

Mr. Leger asked if anyone had any questions. Mr. Jimmy Davis introduced himself as a new Macon County Commissioner and said he was just trying to get-up to speed on what was going on in the region.

Mr. Carney moved that the meeting be adjourned; Mr. Schuster seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.
MEETING OF THE RIVER VALLEY REGION CITIZENS REVIEW PANEL

For the Transportation Investment Act (TIA)

River Valley Regional Commission
Conference Room
710 Front Avenue, Suite A
Columbus, Georgia 31901
September 13, 2017
10:30 a.m.

Agenda

Call to Order and Welcome  Buddy Leger, Chairman
Presentation of Minutes from April 25, 2017  Anthony Murray, Secretary
Overview of Program and Revenue Collections  Kelvin Mullins, State TIA Administrator
Update on Current Projects  Kenneth Franks, TIA Regional Coordinator
Update on City of Columbus TIA Projects  Rick Jones, Planning Director City of Columbus
Questions and Answers  Board Members
Questions and Answers  Members of the Public
Adjourn
MEETING OF THE RIVER VALLEY REGION CITIZENS REVIEW PANEL

For the Transportation Investment Act (TIA)

River Valley Regional Commission
Conference Room
710 Front Avenue, Suite A
Columbus, Georgia 31901
September 13, 2017
10:30 a.m.

Agenda

Call to Order and Welcome                 Buddy Leger, Chairman
Presentation of Minutes from April 25, 2017       Anthony Murray, Secretary
Overview of Program and Revenue Collections    Kelvin Mullins, State TIA Administrator
Update on Current Projects                   Kenneth Franks, TIA Regional Coordinator
Update on City of Columbus TIA Projects       Rick Jones, Planning Director
Questions and Answers                        Board Members
Questions and Answers                        Members of the Public
Adjourn
River Valley Citizens Review Panel

Meeting Minutes September 13, 2017

River Valley Regional Commission
710 Front Avenue, Suite A
Columbus, GA 31901

Panel Attendees: Buddy Leger, Chair; Jerry Carney, Vice-Chair; Todd Schuster; and Joseph Brannan

Others Present: Kelvin Mullins, GDOT; Kenneth Franks, GDOT; Shrujal Amin, GDOT; Rick Jones, Planning Director City of Columbus; Patti Cullen, RVRC; and Commissioner Randy Howard (Sumter County)

Chair Buddy Leger called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and asked for approval of the April 25, 2017 minutes. Motion was made by Todd Schuster to approve the minutes as written; Jerry Carney seconded the motion. The motion carried as presented.

Chair Leger introduced the new member, Joseph Brannan, to the group and asked him to tell a little bit about himself. Everyone welcomed Mr. Brannan to the Citizens Review Panel.

Kelvin Mullins, TIA Coordinator, welcomed everyone to the meeting and said that he was glad everyone could attend after hurricane Irma. He introduced himself and the other GDOT staff and explained their roles for the benefit of Mr. Brannan. Mr. Mullins referred everyone to the handout which is attached and made a part of these minutes. He said $635,041,957 have been collected in TIA funds throughout the three regions. The River Valley region has collected $208,046,333 with $156,034,750 going toward the approved project list and $52,011,583 going to local governments in the form of discretionary funding. He said we were 17.0% under the forecast of revenues but that this has been consistent since we started. The program originally planned for 2% inflation but that was deleted in the beginning due to low inflation and to make-up some of the difference on projects' budgets. GDOT staff will be meeting with the risk assessment team to look at the budgets for the remaining five years left under TIA in October.

Kelvin informed the Panel that Middle and Southern Georgia Regional Commission areas were on track to vote on regional TSPLOSTs in May of 2018. Middle Georgia has already prepared their project list and Southern Georgia is working on theirs. It was noted that one county is preparing for a single county vote in December 2017. The Attorney General's office has said that the single county would still be subject to the regional vote as well. Mr. Carney asked when should the River Valley region begin to work on another TSPLOST for the region; Kelvin said at least by 2020.

Kelvin also stated that he and others are invited to speak about TIA and its successes at several meetings. He said he would be presenting with Rick Jones at the upcoming Georgia Planning Association
conference in September and that he and Shrujal would be traveling to Washington D.C. to present to the Construction Management Association and to accept two National awards.

Kenneth Franks highlighted the status of the projects in each Band:

**Band One (CY2013 -2015):**
- Randolph County- SR1/US 27 widening- completed
- Randolph County -SR1/US 27 bridge replacement- completed
- Talbot County- Pobiddy Road resurfacing projects- completed
- Dooly County- US 41 passing lanes- 99% complete
- Sumter County- improvements to the South Georgia Tech Parkway- 75% complete
- Muscogee County- US 27/Custer Road interchange- 73% complete, contractor hoping to finish this year
- Muscogee County- South Lumpkin Multi-Use Trail- completed, except for bridge over Victory Drive
- Muscogee County- Columbus Riverwalk- underway
- Muscogee County- intercity express bus- on-going

**Band Two (CY 2016-2019):**
- Crisp County - Bridge over Lake Blackshear - is underway (9% invoiced), contractor hopes to have piles in the ground by the end of the year
- Harris County- SR 103 passing lanes- pre-construction conference September 2017
- Taylor County- Bridge Replacement at Bickley Road and Patsiliga Creek- re-bid November 2017
- Macon County- SR 224 passing lanes- have acquired the R-0-W -Spring 2018 letting
- Macon County- replace bridge on SR 128 over Whitewater Creek- June 2018 letting
- Muscogee/Harris- SR 219 passing lanes- July 2018 letting
- Muscogee County- Intersection Improvements along Buena Vista Road (Spider Web Network)- have been able to complete some early acquisition
- Muscogee County- Buena Vista Road Interchange - 100% TIA funds but will require approval from FHWA because of the interchange at 1-185
- Sumter County- District Line Road- September 2018 letting

**Band 3 Projects (CY 2020-2022):**
- Harris County- SR1/US27 widening- $40,000,000 project- state and TIA funds only- the alignment is being changed because federal funds are no longer involved- may be able to go to construction before the scheduled date of 2022
- Harris County- SR 1/US 27 passing lanes- will be ready to go before band 3 project schedule, TIA staff will monitor market conditions and cash flow to see if it will be advantageous to bid early
- Muscogee County- Cusseta and Old Cusseta Road Improvements - Public Information Open House was held at the end August (good turnout)
- Crisp County- US 280 widening - preliminary plan stage, working with DNR - would like to have ready for construction as the Lake Blackshear Bridge is finishing-up
- Macon County- widening of East Railroad street - was moved from Band 1 to Band 3 at the request of the local government

Rick Jones, Planning Director for the City of Columbus, said the bridge across Victory Drive connecting the South Lumpkin Trail should be in place by the middle of November. The bridge is on order and will be set in one piece. He said the Riverwalk at Bibb Mill is underway. There was discussion about having a ribbon cutting for each of these projects once they are completed. Mr. Franks thanked the City of Columbus for their assistance with the public outreach meeting held on the Cusseta and Cusseta Road Improvements project.

Mr. Carney asked if we could include pictures on our final report (letter) each year. Kelvin said the law spells out what is required in each report. Mr. Carney stated he just wanted the people in Atlanta to know about the good work that is being done through the TIA legislation. The report is due on December 15, 2017. The cut-off date for the numbers included in the report is November 30th.

The next meeting date was set for November 30, 2017 at the SGTC Cordele campus at 10:30 a.m. If this facility is not available we will look at holding the meeting at the SGTC Americus campus. Mr. Leger reminded everyone that the officers would need to be elected in November.

Mr. Carney moved that the meeting be adjourned; Mr. Schuster seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.
MEETING OF THE RIVER VALLEY REGION CITIZENS REVIEW PANEL
For the Transportation Investment Act (TIA)
South Georgia Technical College
402 North Midway Road
Cordele, GA 31015
Room A26
November 30, 2017
10:30 AM

Agenda

Call to Order and Welcome          Buddy Leger, Chairman
Presentation of Minutes from September 13, 2017 meeting Anthony Murray, Secretary
Review of Revenue Collections and Cash Flow of Projects Kelvin Mullins, State TIA Administrator
Update of Overall Program (Year End Report) Kelvin Mullins, State TIA Administrator
Update on Current Projects          Kenneth Franks, TIA Regional Coordinator
Update on City of Columbus TIA Projects Lynda Temples, Principal Transportation Planner, City of Columbus
Election of Officers             Buddy Leger, Chairman
Questions and Answers           Board Members
Questions and Answers           Members of the Public
Adjourn
Chair Buddy Leger called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and asked for approval of the September 13, 2017 minutes. Motion was made by Todd Schuster to approve the minutes as written; Jerry Carney seconded the motion. The motion carried as presented.

Chair Leger turned the meeting over to Kelvin Mullins, TIA Coordinator. Mr. Mullins welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mr. Mullins stated that they like to give a PowerPoint presentation for the end of the year meeting. He said $658,837,182 have been collected in TIA funds throughout the three regions, as of September 2017. The River Valley region has collected $215,627,629 with $161,720,722 going toward the approved project list and $53,906,907 going to local governments in the form of discretionary funding (these are all rounded amounts). He said we were approximately 17.0% under the forecast of revenues but that this has been consistent since we started. The program originally planned for 2% inflation but that was deleted in the beginning due to low inflation and to make-up some of the difference on projects’ budgets. GDOT staff met with the risk assessment team to look at the budgets quarterly. He showed a slide of the River Valley forecasted cash flow that basically had flat projects or no growth. He said the slide represented the worst-case scenario.

Mr. Mullins said that River Valley had 23 projects on the approved investment list totaling $380,828,512. Eight projects are in construction and four projects have been completed. As of November 20, 2017, $84,773,513 has been spent. He also showed the progress of TIA projects in the Heart of Georgia Altamaha Region and the Central Savannah River Area Region.

Kelvin informed the Panel that Middle and Southern Georgia Regional Commission areas were on track to vote on regional TSPLOSTs in May of 2018. Middle Georgia has already prepared their project list and Southern Georgia is working on theirs. He said nine counties had single county TSPLOST referendums on
the ballot in November and seven (7) of those passed. In Athens/Clark County the projects were 80% pedestrian. Both Putnam and Ware Counties passed single county TSPLOSTs. These counties will also be part of the regional vote in May. Mr. Mullins said the Attorney General's office has written a letter stating if the region votes in favor of the tax both pennies will be collected.

Kenneth Franks then presented a status report on the TIA projects:

**2017 Projects:**
- Randolph County-SR1/US 27 widening- completed in 2017
- Randolph County-SR1/US 27 bridge replacement- completed in 2017
- Sumter County-improvements to the South Georgia Tech Parkway- slated to be complete in the Spring of 2018
- Muscogee County-US 27/Custer Road interchange- expected to be completed in January or February 2018
- Crisp County-Bridge over Lake Blackshear-project is on schedule, contractor is driving piles, expected completion May 2019
- Harris County-SR 103 Passing Lanes- a letting was held in July of this year, the contractor has just gotten started, completion expected in July 2019
- Taylor County-Bickley Bridge-Culvert -received a good bid in November, there will be a two to three-month delay in starting construction

**2018 Projects:**
- Macon County-replace bridge on SR 128 over Whitewater Creek ($5.5M)- June 2018 letting, TIA and State funds
- Macon County-SR 224 passing lanes ($6.9M)- Project to let in June
- Muscogee/Harris-SR 219 passing lanes ($17.7M)- July 2018 letting
- Sumter County-District Line Road ($10M)- September 2018 letting
- Harris County-SR 1/US 27 northbound passing lanes ($2.9M)- November 2018 letting, this was a Band Three project that was moved to Band Two

**Other TIA Projects:**
- Muscogee County-Intersection Improvements along Buena Vista Road (Spider Web Network)-will create a grade separation at Norfolk Southern and Buena Vista Road ($40M) - 2019 letting is being let by the locals
- Muscogee County-Buena Vista Road Interchange- New DDt conversion at 1-185 ($48M) 100% TIA funds but will require approval from FHWA because of the interchange at 1-185
- Muscogee County-Cusseta and Old Cusseta Road Improvements- Widening and intersection improvements ($58M)- new interchange
- Harris County-SR1/US27 widening from Muscogee to Cataula ($40M)- this is the last TIA project scheduled to be let.
- Crisp County- SR 30/ US 280 widening ($32.9M)- from Lake Blackshear to SR 300 Connector preliminary plan stage, working with DNR and the National Park Service- would like to have ready for construction as the Lake Blackshear Bridge is finishing-up
- Macon County- widening of East Railroad street ($200K)- minor roadway project was moved from Band 1 to Band 3 at the request of the local government

Mr. Mullins said the Required Annual Reports had been mailed to each of the members last week. These three reports are required to be sent to the Lt. Governor and Speaker of the House by December 15, 2017. The first report shows TIA funds only and covers the period from December 1, 2016 to November 15, 2017. The second report is a status report of all the TIA projects as of November 27, 2017. The third report is the 2017 River Valley Annual Project Status Report. All the completed projects have been reviewed and the intent of the projects have been met. Kelvin said the CRP Chairman will need to submit these reports and provide a cover letter stating that the Citizens Review Panel agrees that the projects meet the original intent and have been delivered on time.

Lynda Temples, Principal Transportation Planner for the City of Columbus, gave an overview of the Columbus projects. She said Riverwalk at Bibb Mill is underway and should be completed by the Fall of 2018. There are some last-minute easements needed at City Mills and that portion of the project should be under construction after the first of the year. The South Lumpkin Trail is complete, however there have been a few problems with AT&T, which has delayed the bridge across Victory Drive from being installed. The project should be completed in the Spring of 2018 and a grand opening will be done shortly afterward. She said Connectics was evaluating a few bus routes for METRA to see if they are still needed; this should be complete by the July 2018. Lynda said right-of-way acquisition is underway for the Spider Web project. Twenty-nine parcels are needed, seven parcels have been acquired, two are pending and one is in condemnation. This project should be let in November 2018.

Mr. Carney asked when should the River Valley region begin to work on another TSPLOST for the region; Kelvin said at least by 2020. Mr. Carney stated we need to do a better job in planning for the projects. Kelvin stated that 30% of the projects must be in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Mr. Leger said it was time to elect officers. Todd Schuster made a motion for Buddy Leger to remain Chair and Anthony Murray, Secretary. Jerry Carney seconded the motion. The motion passed without further discussion.

Kelvin informed the committee members that he had taken a new job within the Department. He will be the Local Grants Administrator. He will be an Assistant to Mike Dover, the Assistant to the Commissioner. An appointment for his position should be made after the first of the year. Everyone wished him well in his new position.

Mr. Carney moved that the meeting be adjourned; Mr. Schuster seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.