

DRI COMMITTEE

Minutes

January 9, 2002

Georgia Regional Transportation Authority
245 Peachtree Center Avenue, NE, Suite 900
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-1223

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ken Thigpen, Chair
Andrella Baylis
Tim Connolly
Eric Hovdesven
Shi Shailendra
John Sibley
Michael Tyler
Richard Tucker

*A quorum was present.

All notice having been duly given, the DRI Committee of the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority was held at the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority office, 245 Peachtree Center Avenue, Suite 900, Atlanta, Georgia.

Mr. Thigpen called the meeting to order at 9:45 AM.

MINUTES:

Motion was made by Mr. Tyler and seconded by Mr. Shailendra to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2001 meeting. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

DRI REPORT

Update of DRI Policy:

Mr. Haddad identified January 14 as the date for the new DRI Policy to take effect. Several educational meetings have taken place in December, 2001, and the last meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 11, 2002. The series of meetings were directed towards the local governments that will be handling the cases. The first case under the new policy could occur in February or March.

Mr. Haddad recommended that GRTA hire a consultant to assist the staff in reviewing the DRI cases to provide the technical, traffic engineering and transit review, and to give the staff a recommendation.

Dr. Ross stated that in a recent meeting with the Governor's office, she has requested an additional \$250,000 in funds to support the additional cost for the DRI policy. The RFP has been completed and the proposals are due within the next few weeks.

Formal Action: It was moved by Mr. Shailendra and seconded by Mr. Tyler to authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and execute the contract for DRI Support Services. The motion was approved unanimously.

The following DRI's were reviewed under GRTA's Interim Policy:

Omni Hotel Expansion – AT101601-1a – Fulton County
Villages of Hamilton – HE-091001-1a – Henry County
Abbotts Bridge Tract – FN-100501-1a – North Fulton County

Walker Concrete Plant Facility – CL-110501-1a – Clayton County
Gwinnett Partners U.S. 41 Development – CO-100501-1a – Cobb County

Omni Hotel Expansion – Fulton County – AT101601-1a

Expansion of the Omni Hotel involving construction of a 28 floor, 600-room addition to the existing hotel with two levels of underground parking. Located in the city of Atlanta contiguous to the existing Omni Hotel. ARC found it to be in the best interest of the state.

Formal Action: It was moved by Mr. Shailendra and seconded by Ms. Baylis, with respect to the Omni Hotel Expansion – AT101601-1a – Fulton County: Pursuant to GRTA's Interim Policy, state and federal funds required to create land transportation services and access to the development shall not be prohibited in connection with GRTA's review of this DRI since the ARC has made a finding that the DRI is in the best interest of the State of Georgia. The motion was approved unanimously.

Villages of Hamilton– Henry County – HE-091001-1a

A mixed-use development with 500 residential units, 100,000 square feet of shopping center space located on 162 acres. Located on the south side of State highway 81 east of the city of Hampton in Henry County. ARC found it to be in the best interest of the state.

Formal Action: It was moved by Mr. Tyler and seconded by Ms. Baylis, with respect to the Villages of Hamilton – HE-091001-1a: Pursuant to GRTA's Interim Policy, state and federal funds required to create land transportation services and access to the development shall not be prohibited in connection with GRTA's review of this DRI since the ARC has made a finding that the DRI is in the best interest of the State of Georgia.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Abbott's Bridge Tract – FN-100501-1a – North Fulton County

A 65 detached residential unit, 316 attached residential units, and 45,000 square feet of commercial development on 50.52 acres. Located on the south side of Abbott's Bridge Road and the west side of Medlock Bridge Road. ARC found it to be in the best interest of the state.

Formal Action: It was moved by Mr. Shailendra and seconded by Ms. Baylis, with respect to the Abbott's Bridge Tract – FN-100501-1a: Pursuant to GRTA's Interim Policy, state and federal funds required to create land transportation services and access to the development shall not be prohibited in connection with GRTA's review of this DRI since the ARC has made a finding that the DRI is in the best interest of the State of Georgia. The motion was approved with one abstention (Michael Tyler).

Walker Concrete Plant Facility – CL-110501-1a – Clayton County

A 12.59 acre tract of land on the west side of Old Morrow Road to the north of the northern corporate boundary of the City of Jonesboro in Clayton County.

Formal Action: It was moved by Ms. Baylis and seconded by Mr. Tyler, with respect to the Walker Concrete Plant Facility – CL-110501-1a:

Whereas, the Atlanta Regional (ARC) has made a finding that the DRI is not in the best interest of the State of Georgia; and

Whereas, pursuant to GRTA's Interim Policy, GRTA relies on the traffic and air quality information supplied by the ARC; and

Whereas, the information provided by the ARC does not identify state or federal funds required to create land transportation services or access to the DRI; and

Whereas GRTA has concerns about the potential conflict of the DRI with the proposed Atlanta to Macon rail line and encourages staff and the various governments to make every effort to resolve the conflicts; and

Now therefore, the GRTA DRI Committee makes the following recommendation:

Pursuant to GRTA's Interim Policy, state and federal funds required to create land transportation services and access to the development shall not be prohibited in connection with GRTA's review of this DRI. The motion was approved with one abstention (Shi Shailendra).

Gwinnett Partners U.S.41 Development – CO-100501-1a – Cobb County

650 apartments, 248 attached townhouses, 44,000 square feet of retail space and 37,500 square feet of office space on 130+ acres. Located in Cobb County on the southwest side of US 41.

Formal Action: It was moved by Mr. Shailendra and seconded by Ms. Baylis, with respect to the Gwinnett Partners U.S.41 Development – CO-100501-1a – Cobb County: Pursuant to GRTA's Interim Policy, state and federal funds required to create land transportation services and access to the development shall not be prohibited in connection with GRTA's review of this DRI since the ARC has made a finding that the DRI is in the best interest of the State of Georgia. The motion was approved with one abstention (Tim Connolly).

ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 am.

APPROVED:

Ken Thigpen
Chairman

Date

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Recording Secretary

Kirk R. Fjelstul
Chief Counsel