

## Memorandum

April 2, 2009

To: HAMPO Policy Committee  
Technical Coordinating Committee  
Citizens Advisory Committee  
Members of the Public

From: Metropolitan Planning Organization Staff  
Sonny Timmerman, MPO Director  
Rachel Hatcher, Transportation and Land Use Planner

RE: Public Notice for Review of Proposed Amendment to the FY2009-2012 TIP

The following pages include a proposed amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the short range transportation planning document for the Hinesville Urbanized Area, including Liberty and Long Counties. The proposed amendment includes Liberty Transit and is open for public review and comment. Comments should be provided in writing to HAMPO at 205 E Court Street, Hinesville, Georgia.

### **This review meets the program of projects requirements as established by the FTA pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 5307 (c).**

The City of Hinesville is requesting federal assistance to provide new point deviation bus service. Point deviation will be available upon advanced request for eligible passengers within three-quarters of a mile of routes. Seven buses will operate during peak service. The service links portions of the City of Hinesville, the City of Flemington, and Fort Stewart, home of the U.S. Army Third Infantry. The estimated service area is about 263 square miles and the estimated population in the area is 48,630 persons (per the 2000 Census). About 16,169 housing units and 14,564 households are located in the service area, equating to a population density of about 184 persons per square mile. The service area outside Fort Stewart includes Downtown Hinesville, the Brewton Parker College, the Liberty Regional Medical Center as well as commercial, government, medical, educational, hotel/restaurant, entertainment, and office locations. On Fort Stewart, the service area includes family housing, barracks for single soldiers, and activity centers such as the PX, the Commissary, and Winn Army Medical Center.

The City of Hinesville will be the lead agency in providing the service and the grantee. It is anticipated that the delivery of service will be contracted to a private transit operations firm, Veolia Transportation Services, Inc., which was identified in July 2008 through a competitive RFP process as the preferred proposer to contract with once the full GDOT FY09 Section 5307 grant is executed for this system.

At the present time, there is no general public transit service available on a regular schedule to these communities. Limited rural transit service provided through the Coastal Georgia Regional Development Center (RDC) is planned to begin operating within the year. This service will operate on a "request" basis and require advance notice for trips.

The City of Hinesville and the City of Flemington both have demographic characteristics that indicate a portion of their populations are in need of public transportation services. In 2005, the median household income for the City of Hinesville was \$ 33,800 (down from \$ 35,013 in 2000) compared to the State of Georgia's average of \$ 45,404. This represents an average median income less than  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the statewide average. Additionally, the prevalence of younger individuals and families within the Hinesville/Flemington/Fort Stewart community contributes to the need for additional transportation options for residents in the service area. The median residential age in Liberty County in 2005 was about 25.9 years compared with the State of Georgia's median residential age of 33.4 years. This is consistent with the demographics of the service area where a large percentage of its personnel are young soldiers and their families. Thus, a public transit service more conducive to the full spectrum of travel needs of City residents and businesses, Fort Stewart personnel, residents and businesses in the City of Flemington, and visitors to the Liberty County area is needed.

### 3.5 FY 2009-2012 Capital Improvement Justification for Liberty Transit

The Hinesville Area Transit program as of this writing is scheduled to be operational by November 2009. The 2008-2011 TIP was amended on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007 to include the programming of Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program. The 2009-2012 TIP was amended April 21, 2009 to include the programming of American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) capital transit assistance as well as changes to the use of Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program funds. The tables below show the Liberty Transit system costs.

<b>Project Name:</b> Capital Assistance Urban Transit						<b>P.I. #:</b>	
<b>Project Description:</b> American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and Section 5307 (Urban Capital) Expenses for the Liberty Transit system in Hinesville-Flemington-Fort Stewart						<b>TIP #:</b> 2008-TR1	
						<b>COUNTY:</b> Liberty	
						<b>PROJ. #:</b>	
						<b>FUND:</b> ARRA, 49 USC 5307	
						<b>GDOT DISTRICT:</b> 5	
						<b>CONG. DISTRICT:</b> 1	
<b>COMMENTS/REMARKS:</b>						<b>RDC:</b> CGRDC	
<b>\$ SOURCE</b>	<b>CAPITAL ITEM / DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>UNIT COST</b>	<b>FY 2009</b>	<b>FY 2010</b>	<b>FY 2011</b>	<b>FY 2012</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
ARRA	24-passenger Transit Bus Vehicles (9)	\$ 103,000	\$ -	\$ 927,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 927,000
ARRA	Preventive Maintenance	NA	\$ -	\$ 6,300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,300
ARRA	Bus stop signage (50)	\$ 35	\$ -	\$ 1,750	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,750
ARRA	Mobility Management (planning studies)	NA	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000
ARRA	Bus shelters (8)	NA	\$ -	\$ 80,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80,000
ARRA	Safety / Security (DriveCam cameras) (9)	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 18,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,000
ARRA	Other capital items	NA	\$ -	\$ 66,000	\$ 67,000	\$ 67,000	\$ 200,000
49 USC 5307	Preventive Maintenance	NA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,615	\$ 6,946	\$ 13,561
49 USC 5307	Mobility Management (planning studies)	NA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 80,000
49 USC 5307	Support Equipment	NA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,000
<b>TOTAL COST OF PROJECTS</b>			<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,199,050</b>	<b>\$ 114,615</b>	<b>\$ 114,946</b>	<b>\$ 1,428,611</b>
<b>FEDERAL COST</b>			<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,199,050</b>	<b>\$ 105,092</b>	<b>\$ 105,357</b>	<b>\$ 1,409,499</b>
<b>STATE COST</b>			<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 4,762</b>	<b>\$ 4,795</b>	<b>\$ 9,556</b>
<b>LOCAL COST</b>			<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 4,762</b>	<b>\$ 4,795</b>	<b>\$ 9,556</b>

<b>Project Name:</b> Operations Assistance Schedule for Public Transit  <b>Project Description:</b> Section 5307 (Urban Operating) Expenses for the Liberty Transit system in Hinesville-Flemington-FortStewart. Funding is estimated to provide for net operating costs.	P.I. #:
	TIP #: 2008-TR2
	COUNTY: Liberty
	PROJ. #:
	FUND: 49 USC 5307
	GDOT DISTRICT: 5
	CONG. DISTRICT: 1
RDC: CGRDC	

COMMENTS/REMARKS:

1. The HAMPO fiscal year 2010 begins July 1, 2009. Transit service is anticipated to begin during late 2009. This amount is pro-rated to reflect less than twelve months of operations.

2. Estimated available funds from the total small urbanized area apportionment for the State of Georgia; this amount includes federal funds not utilized by other small urbanized areas in the state. These funds will be requested by the City of Hinesville. Supplemental funding above the apportionment to the Hinesville Urbanized Area is not guaranteed.

3. Estimated operating revenue is excluded from operations cost estimates.

\$ SOURCE	DESCRIPTION		FY 2009	FY 2010 <sup>1,2</sup>	FY 2011 <sup>2</sup>	FY 2012 <sup>2</sup>	TOTAL
49 USC 5307	Operations Assistance		\$ -	\$ 866,667	\$ 1,365,000	\$ 1,433,250	\$ 3,664,917
<b>TOTAL COST OF PROJECTS <sup>3</sup></b>			\$ -	\$ 866,667	\$ 1,365,000	\$ 1,433,250	\$ 3,664,917
FEDERAL COST			\$ -	\$ 433,333	\$ 682,500	\$ 716,625	\$ 1,832,458
STATE COST			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
LOCAL COST			\$ -	\$ 433,333	\$ 682,500	\$ 716,625	\$ 1,832,458