

Submitted By: Transit Department
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Project Classification: Economic Prosperity
Project Focus: Basic Facilities & Infrastructure
Project Type: Other - Transit Bus and Bus Related Facilities

Previously Submitted and Rejected:

Continuation Project: Yes - TSPLOST 2018 03-Bus Stop & Transfer Facilities Improvement Project

Project Total Cost: \$ 5,749,000

Total Operating Cost: \$ 430,000

Project Description: Decentralized Transfer Facilities

The Transit department service options identified during the Athens Transit Feasibility Study require the addition of decentralized transfer facilities that would allow routes to integrate with the existing system without returning to the Multi-Modal Center (MMTC) during service. These transit related improvements will be evaluated for their specific needs and have one or a combination of the following provided: installation of signage (static and/or electronic predictive arrival), concrete pad, seating, covered shelter over the paved pad, landscaping, lighting, route information, bicycle rack, trash can, bus pull-off, restroom facilities, bus/customer parking and other related bus stop improvements, as deemed appropriate by location.

Bus Stop Facilities Improvement Program.

Proposed improvements for bus and bus facilities, and other transit related improvements will be evaluated for their specific needs. Bus stop locations have one or a combination of the following provided: installation of signage (static and/or electronic predictive arrival), a concrete pad, seating, covered shelter over the paved pad, landscaping, lighting, route information, bicycle rack, trash can, bus pull-off, and other related bus stop improvements.

Decentralized Transfer Facilities, and Bus Stops / Bus Stop Facilities funding may be used as local match funding for state and/or federal grants to expand the Bus Stop and Bus Stop Facilities program, if grant funding becomes available.

Project Mission Statement/Goals & Objectives: ACC Transit is committed to improving and enhancing Public Transit services throughout Athens-Clarke County by improving transit facilities and expanding transit services into all areas of the community. This project is envisioned to improve the

customer's experience when using ACC Transit as well as help to facilitate improvements to the community's overall transportation system by providing more mobility options to all citizens; help to reduce traffic congestion, improve air quality and our quality of life with the construction of decentralized transfer facilities and improvement to bus stop facilities. The decentralized transfer facility locations and bus stop improvement locations will be determined and evaluated for specific needs, and have one or a combination of the following provided: appropriate signage, paved pad, seating, shelters, landscaping, route information, bicycle rack, lighting and bus pull-off, which will allow traffic to have a clear lane while the bus is loading and unloading or completely off the public roadway. These improvements will serve to enhance the pedestrian infrastructure, making the riding, walking or cycling public transit user more comfortable, and improve the marketability of transit through enhancing existing ridership and reaching out to new customers. Additionally, the funding may also be used as match state and/or federal grants to acquire additional transit bus / bus stop related facilities and equipment, thereby increasing the value of the local SPLOST dollar.

The project goals are envisioned to:

- a) provide for design, acquisition and construction of a minimum of three decentralized transfer facilities,
- b) reduce barriers and improve accessibility to transit users, exceed customer expectations about riding public transit and position transit services as the mobility option of choice
- c) improve all bus stop facilities with the appropriate level of amenities commensurate with ridership by location
- d) provide shelter to the customers at high volume bus stops
- e) encourage the use of alternative modes of transportation, and
- f) increase transit ridership.

Projected Useful Life of Project: 50 years

To meet the Project Goals & Objectives, when should this project be completed? Improvements can be implemented throughout the duration of the SPLOST program in a tiered approach as funding becomes available.

The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building System compliance: Yes

How will this project help meet the Public Safety, Basic Facilities/Infrastructure, and/or Quality of Life needs in Athens-Clarke County? Public Transit provides individuals a safe affordable means of transportation, provides individuals a means to improve their quality of life, give back to the community, helps reduce traffic congestion and air pollution and positively influences the local economy in numerous ways. Public Transit provides individuals a means to travel to obtain goods and services, creates jobs and transportation to employment, schools, medical services and social activities. New or improved bus and bus facilities, and construction of decentralized transfer facilities provide citizens with more access to our transportation system and the community. By constructing decentralized transit facilities and improving bus stop facilities, Athens Transit will be able to provide more mobility opportunities to the citizens of Athens-Clarke County. Public Transit provides individuals a safe affordable means of transportation, provides individuals a means to improve their quality of life, give back to the community, helps reduce traffic

congestion and air pollution and positively impacts the local economy in numerous ways. Additionally, these facilities will have a positive impact on Public Safety and the Quality of Life for all Athens-Clarke County citizens.

How is this Project recommended/included in any approved ACCGOV Land Use Plan, Master Plan, Study, Service Delivery Plan, Envision Athens, etc.? The 2016 Transit Feasibility Study and the 2018 Transit Development plans

<https://www.athensclarkecounty.com/7609/Athens-Transit-Feasibility-Study>

<https://www.athensclarkecounty.com/2172/Athens-Transit-Development-Plan>

Triple Bottom Line Impacts

Positive Benefits for the Prosperity of Athens-Clarke County: Public Transportation supports a vibrant local economy and economic development. When citizens have better access to public transportation, they have access to employment, education, medical, social and retail activities. They move throughout the community, earning money, spending money, obtaining goods and services, and pay taxes. All of which serve to bolster the economy and help the overall prosperity of Athens-Clarke County.

Detrimental Impacts to the Prosperity of Athens-Clarke County: Without these Bus Stop and Bus related facilities, citizens' mobility is reduced, therefore reducing their access to employment, education, medical and retail services, and their ability to obtain goods and services.

Positive Benefits for our Citizens and Visitors: Improvements will reduce mobility barriers and improve accessibility to all transit users, citizens and visitors alike. It will improve customer experiences when waiting for and riding public transit and position transit services as the mobility option of choice, which encourages the use of alternative modes of transportation, and increases transit ridership.

Detrimental Impacts for our Citizens and Visitors: Without these improvements, citizens and visitors do not have appropriate or improved locations to access public transit services. It limits their mobility and diminishes the individual's options, attitudes, and perspectives about the conveniences of using public transit services.

Environmental Benefits, including but not limited to Positive impacts on existing Infrastructure/Systems: When citizens and visitors use public transit, they help to reduce traffic congestion and wear and tear on other public infrastructure, like roads and bridges. They reduce the need for parking, take single occupancy vehicles (SOVs) off the road, reduce air pollution and save fuel.

Detrimental Impacts for the Environment, including but not limited to Negative impacts on existing Infrastructure/Systems: None.

Positive/Negative Impacts on ACCGOV Departments, Agencies, or other Organizations, if not covered in one of the above questions: With enhanced public transit mobility options, citizens and visitor are able to access other ACC services, like parks or Leisure Services youth summer camp activities, pay bills at the water business office, get to the courthouse, other government offices, the public library, voting places health department services, and other human services organizations.

Project Costs

Detailed project capital budget costs (to be funded from SPLOST 2020 only):

Project Costs (round to thousand)	Amount
1. Land Acquisition / ROW / Easement:	\$ 1,500,000
2. Design Fees: (Min.12% of New Const.; 14% of reno,; 16% for LEED proj.)	\$ 300,000
3. Miscellaneous Fees: (Min. Minimum of 3% of Construction Costs – used for permitting, etc. Utilize minimum of 10% if land acquisition if necessary.	\$ 50,000
4. Fixtures, Furniture, and Equipment (for a facility): A detailed estimate is preferred – but dependent upon the specific project, utilize at a minimum \$15 to \$20 per square foot.	\$ 250,000
5. Construction:	\$ 2,000,000
6. Construction Contingency: (10% of the Construction line item)	\$ 200,000
7. Acquisition of Capital Equipment:	\$ 500,000
8. Testing:	\$ 60,000
9. Project Management: (4% of the total budget line items above)	\$ 195,000
10. Project Contingency: (10% of the total budget line items above)	\$ 506,000
11. Public Art: Calculated at 1% of the Construction line item.	\$ 20,000
12. Other 1:	\$ -
13. Other 2:	\$ -
Project Subtotal:	\$ 5,581,000
14. Program Management (3% of Project Subtotal):	\$ 168,000
SPLOST 2020 Project Total:	\$ 5,749,000

Operating Cost

Total Annual Net Operating Costs when Project is complete:

Only identify additional or net operating costs to be paid by ACCGOV. Identify the additional or net costs needed above ACCGOV's current operating budget to operate the requested project and any additional project related revenues that would be generated. Provide budget costs for each identified category below.

Operating Costs (round to thousand)	Estimated Impact for Annual Operating Expenditures
TOTAL PROJECTED REVENUES FROM PROJECT	-
PROJECTED EXPENDITURES	
1. Personnel Costs: from Appendix A	206,000
2. Annual Utilities:	
• Gas:	5,000
• Electrical:	150,000
• Water:	5,000
• Sewer:	3,000
• Phone:	3,000
• Solid Waste Collection:	3,000
• Other:	-
3. Operating Supplies:	30,000
4. Equipment Maintenance:	10,000
5. Facility Maintenance:	15,000
6. Fuel:	-
7. Other:	-
8. Other:	-
9. Other:	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	430,000
NET OPERATING COSTS OF PROJECT:	\$ 430,000

Project Financing

Is the proposed Project to receive funding from source(s) other than SPLOST 2020? No, but matching funds from GDOT are frequently available provided ACCGov has funds such as these to use as the match.

Describe the current commitments for the other sources funding this project: The current TSPLOST project is receiving FTA grant funding. There is a potential of additional Federal grant capital funding becoming available which could reduce the overall cost of this project. However, staff is unable to predict when and how much that might be.

New Staffing

Position	Title	Hourly Rate	# of Hours /wk	# of Positions	Total Annual Expense
Full Time	Transit Facilities Maintenance Worker			2	\$86,000
Full Time	Transit Information Specialist			3	\$120,000

Transit Facilities Maintenance Worker – These personnel are needed to clean and maintain the remote transfer facilities multiple time daily and dump trash cans the bus stops and bus shelters throughout the community daily.

Transit Information Specialist – As facilities are constructed, staff will be needed to provide transit riders customer information, sell bus passes and monitor on-site activities at the remote transfer facilities daily.

Project Site

Will the proposed Project require any land, whether existing sites, new site, easements, or Rights of Way? Yes

Will the proposed Project be on a site currently owned by ACCGOV? Unsure

Approximately how many acres is available or will be needed for the new facility or Park?

Project Location/Address (Existing or Proposed):

The 2018 Transit Development plan noted three areas where remote transfer facilities could be located, one on the Eastside of town, one in the area west of Alps and Atlanta, and one on the southside of town. No specific sites have been identified. Bus Stops and shelters would be located throughout the community along current routes and /or in areas where new transit services are offered.

Will the Project require fee simple additional land acquisition? Unsure

Will the Project require Rights-of-Way or Easement acquisition? Unsure

Site Criteria and Standards

Current Property Owner (if applicable): Unsure

Minimum acreage necessary for Project.

Topography:

Estimated cost per acre: