

IN RE: TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT ACT OF 2010
(HOUSE BILL 277)

THREE RIVERS REGION

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ROUNDTABLE

MEETING NUMBER 1

TURIN TOWN HALL, TURIN, GEORGIA

ON DECEMBER 6, 2010,

COMMENCING AT THE HOUR OF 9:00 A.M.

FACILITATOR: MORRIS DILLARD

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION:

TODD LONG

PRESENT AT THE ROUNDTABLE:

RON GARRETT
LARRY WHITLOCK
BILLY HORNE
JUNE JACKSON
DENNEY ROGERS
RANDY SIMPKINS
CHARLES POPE
MIKE BERES
DOUGLAS MANGHAM
KEITH BRADY
THERON GAY

RODNEY BROOKS
PETER BANKS
JEFF LUKKEN
RICHARD WOLFE
HARVEY NORRIS
JOANNE TODD
CYNTHIA WARD
EDDIE FREEMAN
ALAN WHITE
CHAIRMAN MAURICE RAINES

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Can I have everyone's
3 attention, please. I'm Maurice Raines, Chairman of
4 Upson County Board of Commissioners, and welcome you all
5 to the roundtable this morning. This body has elected
6 me as chair. We're going to discuss that before we go
7 any further, so the DOT, who is here this morning, can
8 have a record that we have voted as a body as to which
9 way we want to go in the roundtable. First of all, I
10 want to say good morning to everyone.

11 MS. WARD: Good morning.

12 CHAIRMAN RAINES: I realize that everyone here is
13 not an elected official. We know that there are some
14 here that are acting as proxies for their leaders of the
15 community. We realize that this is a process, but I
16 want to let you know from the beginning, this is about
17 all of us. It's not about where you're from, how big
18 your city is, how small your county is. It's about us
19 as a region, as a roundtable, to work together to go in
20 the direction we want to go with transportation, with
21 the Department of Transportation.

22 We will have some discussion. GDOT will
23 facilitate and direct us if we get off course. I will
24 tell you this: If I'm going to be your presider, I'm
25 not going to be the decider. You're going to decide as

1 a board as to which way we're going to go, and I will
2 ask if you don't like the direction that the group is
3 going as a whole -- sometimes in life we don't get
4 things that go our way, but I would expect you to
5 support the direction of the roundtable. Anybody got
6 any problems with what I've said thus far?

7 (No response.)

8 CHAIRMAN RAINES: And I think if we take that
9 approach and act like grown people, we can go forward.
10 I will say, before we get started, I like to put God in
11 front of everything that we do, and I'm going to ask
12 Mayor Norris if he would lead us in a word of prayer.

13 MR. NORRIS: Shall we pray. Eternal God, our
14 Heavenly Father, we come again thanking you, Lord, for
15 all of your many blessings. Thank you, Father, for this
16 region. Thank you, Father, for these thy people.
17 Father, we're asking that you give us strength, the
18 guidance and understanding to do thine will. And Lord,
19 help us that we'll be able to serve this region as you
20 see fit. And Lord, give us everything that we stand in
21 need of. Bless everything in this country, and bless
22 this great state. In Jesus name we pray. Everyone say
23 Amen.

24 MEMBERS OF THE ROUNDTABLE: Amen.

25 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Thank you, Mayor Norris, for

1 our prayer.

2 First of all, I do want to acknowledge two
3 things. One, the mayor of Temple I saw by e-mail was
4 not going to be here, because he had grand jury. Does
5 he have a proxy here today?

6 MR. SIMPKINS: Randy Simpkins.

7 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Okay. Thank you. Mayor Arnold
8 from Thomaston has got the flu. He won't be here today.
9 Is there any other chair or mayor that is not present
10 that anyone is familiar with?

11 MR. POPE: Chairman Bill Chappell from Carroll
12 County, he couldn't be here this morning.

13 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Okay. He's a proxy, okay.

14 MR. BANKS: Chairman Jay Matthews, Lamar County,
15 he's expected to come, but he's running a little late.
16 He had some frozen pipes this morning.

17 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Okay. We'll --

18 MR. FREEMAN: Chairman Goss is not here. I'm his
19 stand-in proxy.

20 CHAIRMAN RAINES: And I will say to all proxies,
21 you are welcome to be here, in absence of your leader,
22 but you have no voting power. I want you to understand.

23 MR. BROOKS: I've got a question.

24 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Yes.

25 MR. BROOKS: I'm the chairman elect for Coweta

1 County. Mr. Poole is representing me as chairman for
2 this particular roundtable. I was going to ask the
3 board if they had any problems with that, that I would
4 have a voting right, if not have the --

5 CHAIRMAN RAINES: You wouldn't have a voice until
6 actually you're actually sworn in as chair. You will --
7 you can let us know your feelings and your input, but as
8 far as having authority to vote, you would not have that
9 authority. Y'all correct me, if I'm wrong.

10 MR. BROOKS: We have our executive administrator
11 here. Would he have the --

12 CHAIRMAN RAINES: No.

13 MR. BROOKS: -- voting right?

14 CHAIRMAN RAINES: No.

15 MR. BROOKS: Oh. Why not?

16 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Because he's not an elected
17 official.

18 MR. BROOKS: According to House Bill 277, it's
19 listed in here that I showed -- what was your name?

20 MR. HIETT: Robert Hiett.

21 MR. BROOKS: Robert Hiett. And so I'd like to
22 call that to the attention of --

23 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Y'all correct me, if I'm wrong,
24 but House Bill -- the only voting power, I understand,
25 is from roundtable elected officials unless there's

1 something there that I didn't know about and I'm not
2 aware of.

3 MR. LONG: We'll get into this whole discussion
4 about proxy in a little bit during our guidelines about
5 proxy participation, because there is a need to discuss
6 that, as well, because different districts do it
7 different ways, but the bill, basically, says
8 representatives. That's how it refers to you guys, and
9 you guys are elected officials, so you don't allow a
10 proxy for the city council meeting, you don't allow a
11 proxy for your county commissioners, right, so the way
12 that we read the bill is proxy would not be allowed to
13 vote.

14 Robert, did you want to --

15 MR. HIETT: When we had our meeting on November
16 11th, we went over that. The official -- at the two
17 official meetings of the roundtable, it was the chairman
18 and the mayor --

19 MR. ??: Right.

20 MR. HIETT: -- elected from the comms and mayors.
21 We have in our meeting minutes our roundtable elected to
22 meet monthly, and those are unofficial meetings, and at
23 those meetings they can have a proxy that can vote on
24 their behalf, but at these two official GDOT meetings,
25 unless GDOT says differently, you know, we covered it on

1 November 11th that it's the chairman or the mayor.

2 MR. LONG: Okay. That's fine.

3 CHAIRMAN RAINES: For the record, so the recorder
4 can get this, we're going to go around the table and
5 everybody state their name, and what county you're from
6 and what capacity you're representing that county, so
7 we'll start -- well, you're with the State. We'll start
8 with Ms. Jackson.

9 MS. JACKSON: I'm June Jackson, Heard County
10 commission chair.

11 MR. ROGERS: Denney Rogers, mayor of Ephesus, in
12 Heard County.

13 MR. SIMPKINS: I'm Randy Simpkins, serving as
14 proxy for Rick Ford, mayor of Temple.

15 MR. POPE: I am Charles Pope, Carroll County,
16 serving as chairman for Mr. Bill Chappell.

17 MR. BERES: Mike Beres, Pike County, mayor of
18 City of Zebulon.

19 MR. MANGHAM: Doug Mangham, Pike County, chairman
20 of county commissioners.

21 MR. BRADY: Keith Brady, mayor of Newnan, Coweta
22 County.

23 MR. GAY: Theron Gay, Administrator of Coweta
24 County.

25 MR. BROOKS: Rodney Brooks, commissioner of

1 Coweta County.

2 MR. BANKS: Peter Banks, Lamar County, mayor of
3 Barnesville.

4 MR. LUKKEN: Jeff Lukken, Troup County, mayor of
5 LaGrange.

6 MR. WOLFE: Ricky Wolfe, Chairman of Troup County
7 Commission.

8 MR. NORRIS: Harvey Norris, mayor of City of
9 Flovilla, and I'm representing Butts County, the mayors
10 in Butts County.

11 MS. TODD: Joanne Todd, vice-chairman, City of
12 Griffin, incoming chairman next -- in January.

13 MS. WARD: Cynthia Ward, Spalding County. I'm
14 mayor of City of Griffin.

15 MR. FREEMAN: Eddie Freeman, Spalding County,
16 sitting in for Chairman Eddie Goss.

17 CHAIRMAN RAINES: GDOT personnel is here. We've
18 got -- well, y'all can state your name.

19 MR. GARRETT: I'm Ron Garrett, mayor of the City
20 of Woodbury.

21 MR. LONG: Do you want to introduce these folks
22 in the crowd?

23 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Absolutely. There is some RDC
24 personnel -- I mean Three Rivers personnel, as well as,
25 I'm sure, some technical media personnel that may be

1 representing the community, so, if you would, just state
2 your name and be recognized.

3 MR. SAWYER: Bill Sawyer, county manager, Pike
4 County.

5 MR. PATTERSON: Wayne Patterson, county
6 administrator, Lamar County.

7 MR. SMITH: Grady Smith, Jacobs Engineering,
8 assisting GDOT.

9 MR. BOATWRIGHT: Lanier Boatwright, Three Rivers
10 Regional Commission.

11 MR. HIETT: Robert Hiett, Three Rivers Regional
12 Commission.

13 MS. VANDYKE: Cindy VanDyke, Georgia DOT, Office
14 of Planning.

15 MR. KASSY: Tim Kassy, Georgia DOT Planning.

16 MS. TRUDELL: Talya Trudell, Atlanta Regional
17 Commission.

18 MS. ZUYEVA: Lyubov Zuyeva, Atlanta Regional
19 Commission.

20 MS. EDENS: Jan Edens, Three Rivers Regional
21 Commission.

22 MR. EMERY: James Emery, Troup County engineer.

23 MR. TENTHER: Todd Tenther, Troup County
24 assistant manager.

25 MR. KLAHR: Michael Klahr, city engineer of

1 Newnan.

2 MR. SIMPSON: Radney Simpson, GOT Planning.

3 MR. FOWLER: Matthew Fowler, Georgia DOT
4 Planning.

5 MR. ROBERTS: Kenneth Roberts, City Manager of
6 Barnesville.

7 MR. SHIREY: Jason Shirey, City of Barnesville
8 utilities director.

9 MS. LARSON: Kimberly Larson, GDOT
10 Communications.

11 MR. SMITH: Kenny Smith, city manager of Griffin.

12 MR. DUKES: Anthony Dukes, Three Rivers Regional
13 Commission.

14 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Thank you. At this time, for
15 the record for GDOT, you elected our last unofficial
16 meeting here -- in the city hall meeting you elected me
17 as your chair for the roundtable. I would entertain a
18 motion, and if that's your desire as the roundtable to
19 keep me as your chair for the record for GDOT and a
20 second to do that, as well as the mayor of Wood -- I'm
21 sorry -- the mayor of Woodbury, Mr. Ron Garrett, as
22 vice-chair of this roundtable, so I entertain a motion
23 first for the chair and then the vice-chair.

24 MR. BANKS: So moved.

25 MR. LUKKEN: Second.

1 CHAIRMAN RAINES: I have a motion by the mayor of
2 the City of Barnesville. There is a second by the mayor
3 of the City of LaGrange. Is there other discussion?

4 (No response.)

5 CHAIRMAN RAINES: All in favor, by show of hands,
6 raise your hands. All opposed, same sign.

7 (Whereupon, the motion was approved.)

8 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Chair of the roundtable.
9 Vice-chair, Mr. Ron Garrett, City of Woodbury.

10 MR. BERES: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to entertain a
11 motion to change in our meetings the election of you
12 and Ron Garrett, because it states chairman and vice-
13 chairman of the executive committee, instead of the
14 roundtable committee.

15 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Okay. We can do that. So you
16 want to -- we want to change the minutes that --

17 MR. BERES: Correct.

18 CHAIRMAN RAINES: You want to make a change to
19 those minutes that, basically, say we're on the
20 executive -- vice-chair and chair of the executive
21 committee?

22 MR. BERES: Vice-chair and chair of the
23 roundtable.

24 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Okay. All right. We'll make
25 that notation. Is there a second to what he asked?

1 MR. WOLFE: Second.

2 CHAIRMAN RAINES: I have a second. Is there any
3 other discussion?

4 (No response.)

5 CHAIRMAN RAINES: All in favor by raising your
6 hands. All opposed, same sign. Motion carries.

7 At this time, I entertain a motion for Ron
8 Garrett of the City of Woodbury to be vice-chair of the
9 roundtable.

10 MR. ??: Approved.

11 MR. BANKS: Second.

12 CHAIRMAN RAINES: I've got a motion and a second.
13 Is there any other discussion?

14 (No response.)

15 CHAIRMAN RAINES: All in favor by raising of
16 hands. All opposed, same sign.

17 (Whereupon, the motion was approved.)

18 CHAIRMAN RAINES: So at this time, I'll turn it
19 over to Mr. Long to proceed with the meeting.

20 I will let you know we don't need an overview
21 unless -- y'all correct me if I'm wrong -- of House Bill
22 277. Anybody need a review?

23 MS. WARD: No, we don't.

24 MR. LONG: Well, we're going to skip through some
25 of some of our slides.

1 (Whereupon, Mr. Long presented an overview of
2 House Bill 277.)

3 MR. LONG: Okay. What I'm going to do now is I'm
4 step back a second. Morris Dillard is here. Morris is
5 working with us helping facilitate the discussion, and
6 he'll help us facilitate our discussion about the
7 criteria, about the election of the executive committee,
8 and, also, I'm going to let him do a little discussion
9 about how the meeting should run, which this should be
10 easy, because y'all have decided a lot of these things
11 ahead of time.

12 But Morris Dillard, for those who don't know who
13 he is, I met him, I guess prior to the 1996 Olympic
14 Games, and he was working with ACOG at the time and has
15 some history back in Atlanta, but he's been in
16 transportation for years and years, and he's very
17 well-respected, and he's going to be facilitator, so
18 I'll turn it over Morris right quick.

19 MR. DILLARD: Thanks, Todd. Let's see if -- I
20 join Todd in acknowledging that this is an incredible
21 opportunity for this region and for this state. It's
22 the first time that we've had such an opportunity to
23 generate significant dollars on top of what you're
24 already spending to make major improvements to the
25 transportation infrastructure of this state, and I'm

1 just thrilled to be a small part of it.

2 Let's see if there are any questions about House
3 Bill 277, just to make sure that everybody is on the
4 same page, with respect to that legislation.

5 THE COURT REPORTER: I'm sorry to interrupt. I'm
6 Jane Taylor; I'm the court reporter. Before y'all do
7 ask questions, can you introduce yourselves, and, if you
8 could, turn your name --

9 MR. DILLARD: Name tags.

10 THE COURT REPORTER: -- things to where I can see
11 them, that may help me, too, because I'm going to be
12 transcribing everything, so I want to be sure I have it.
13 Thank you so much. I'm so sorry for interrupting.

14 Also, Marguerita, can you do me a favor? I'm
15 sorry. Can you get everybody that's back there in the
16 back to write their names on this?

17 MR. DILLARD: We have a court reporter because
18 Todd has to report to the General Assembly.

19 The legislation, you may have noticed identifies
20 the planning director as the party that's responsible
21 for implementing this legislation and working with the
22 roundtable executive committee --

23 MR. BROOKS: I've got a question about House
24 Bill --

25 MR. DILLARD: -- on Local House Bill 277.

1 MR. BROOKS: You asked about -- on Page 20 of 38
2 of House Bill, it says each county includes a
3 chairperson, sole commissioner, mayor or chief executive
4 officer of the county governing authority and one mayor
5 elected by the mayor as provided shall, basically, have
6 a vote at the roundtable. I feel like Coweta County is
7 being denied a vote today, as a result of House Bill
8 277. I think we're violating procedure.

9 MR. LONG: Well, you have a -- you're elected
10 chairman come January, is that right?

11 MR. BROOKS: That's correct.

12 MR. LONG: Who is your chairman today?

13 MR. BROOKS: It's actually Paul Poole.

14 MR. LONG: Why is --

15 MR. BROOKS: He's appointed -- it says that you
16 could have the chief administrator or the chairman.

17 MR. LONG: No. The language, chief executive
18 officer is actually intended for those governments that
19 have joint governments, like, for instance, the mayor of
20 Athens is the chief executive officer of Athens, because
21 it's a combined unified government.

22 MR. BROOKS: It says or in the bill on the top of
23 the page, so I'm just reading the law, sir.

24 MR. LONG: But he's not the --

25 MR. BROOKS: It says or.

1 MR. LONG: The mayor is not the chief executive
2 officer of the county.

3 MR. BROOKS: It says or the chief executive.

4 MR. BRADY: He's not the chief.

5 MR. LONG: He's not the chief executive officer.

6 MR. BROOKS: Okay. Okay.

7 CHAIRMAN RAINES: I'd just like to say, on behalf
8 of the roundtable, we're not going to exclude anybody on
9 anything.

10 MR. LONG: Right.

11 CHAIRMAN RAINES: I mean, this ain't about --
12 everybody at this roundtable is going to have a voice in
13 this roundtable. I don't care how big you are, how
14 small you are, or where you come from, it is all about
15 us, and so there is nobody going to be denied the
16 opportunity to have input into where this roundtable
17 goes, and if I'm -- and if it's going to go in another
18 direction I won't be the chairperson. I believe in
19 doing things right, I believe in openness, and I believe
20 in making sure that everybody -- whether the majority
21 goes in a direction that I don't like, I'm going to
22 support the majority, so I don't want anybody to feel
23 like they're going to be excluded in any kind of way, as
24 far as direction of this roundtable.

25 MR. DILLARD: Yes, sir.

1 MR. BANKS: Lamar County and Coweta County are
2 prepared and we have not yet elected a representative,
3 and would it be in order if I contingently or on the
4 contingency of his being sworn in in January to go ahead
5 and appoint Mr. Brooks as our representative. We're
6 going to have meetings from time to time prior, I
7 assume, to January the 1st or the 3rd or whatever, and
8 I'd just like to make sure that we've got somebody
9 that's here on an official basis, and, therefore, I
10 would like to make Mr. Brooks' appointment contingent
11 upon his being appointee.

12 MR. LONG: Guys, this is going to come up around
13 the state, because we do have elections, in January. We
14 understand that. And some cities actually rotate their
15 mayors come January, so what other regions are going to
16 be doing in that case -- and I'll give you advice here
17 -- is that you -- if your -- we haven't gotten to the
18 executive committee appointments yet --

19 MR. BANKS: I understand.

20 MR. LONG: -- but when you decide who that is as
21 a roundtable, that you actually say the mayor of City X
22 is going to be the executive committee roundtable
23 member, then that takes care of the situation.

24 Does that sound reasonable to everybody?

25 MR. DILLARD: Thanks, Todd.

1 Okay, let's move into the guidelines. Those that
2 you've already dealt with, we don't need to go back over
3 them. The bill calls for two official meetings of the
4 roundtable, and it is suggested in these guidelines that
5 the Georgia Department of Transportation provide a
6 facilitator for both of those meetings, as well as for
7 the one meeting required in the bill for the executive
8 committee. We recognize that you are going to have a
9 lot of other meetings -- you've already voted to do that
10 -- and the guidelines suggest that those meetings not be
11 facilitated by anyone provided by the Georgia Department
12 of Transportation.

13 Any concerns about that? Okay.

14 MR. LONG: I've actually got a comment. Someone
15 -- Robert or maybe -- I don't know who said this earlier
16 -- that y'all may meet on a monthly basis. Is that
17 true?

18 MR. BANKS: Right.

19 CHAIRMAN RAINES: That's true.

20 MR. LONG: Well, you'll see in our next steps,
21 there's really no reason to meet on a monthly basis,
22 unless you have -- you want to just talk about how's it
23 going on project selection, etc. So the issue for us in
24 deciding whether or not to provide facilitators for that
25 is a cost issue, because it becomes an unlimited

1 resource pulling from -- you know, we right now have a
2 resource that we pay to do this facilitation. You know,
3 we -- we have staff assigned to this area, and Cindy
4 VanDyke introduced herself back there, Matthew Fowler,
5 and Radney. Those guys will be glad to work with you
6 and come to your meetings as much as, obviously, you
7 want them to or they can. We just don't know that
8 there's a need for official facilitation. That's why
9 we're making that recommendation, but we'll work with
10 anybody on how they want to do it.

11 MR. LUKKEN: Todd, we've already voted to meet in
12 Bermuda every month and we'll send you guys a bill.

13 MR. DILLARD: The facilitator will volunteer, and
14 you don't have to worry about paying the facilitator.
15 On the inside of your binders, by the way, on the inside
16 pocket, you have a list of the guidelines that were
17 mailed out when the criteria were mailed out. Okay.
18 We're going to come back to executive committee. Bullet
19 Number 4, all voting members must be physically present
20 to vote. You've already discussed that, and I believe
21 the consensus appears to be that you have to be a member
22 of the roundtable, you have to be a member of the
23 executive committee, and you have to be present in order
24 to vote. That's --

25 MR. LONG: That is a -- let me say something.

1 This whole proxy issue may be separate from this
2 discussion. You've got to decide as a group -- and I
3 think we've gone back and forth in some other regions
4 about being physically present or not. In other words,
5 if you wanted to have someone call in, if you had that
6 ability to call in and vote, that's something this group
7 needs to decide. For instance, I know folks -- Eddie
8 knows this -- in Atlanta, ARC, if you're not there,
9 present at their regular meetings, you don't get to
10 vote, but their roundtable's grappling with this whole
11 concept of maybe allowing call-ins, so the bill is very
12 silent on that matter on whether you can call in or not.
13 Now, proxy voting, I think it's kind of clear if you
14 read it over and over again. This whole issue of
15 physically present should be a discussion point as we
16 say.

17 MR. DILLARD: Any comments about that?

18 MR. BERES: Well, I'd like to entertain a motion
19 that proxy can vote for the person that is absent, with
20 the approval -- with final approval of the person.
21 Example, if I'm out, my proxy can vote and then the
22 committee contact me with the matters that were voted on
23 to see if I agree. If so, the vote stands.

24 MR. DILLARD: Well, as we stated earlier, it is
25 -- our reading of the bill is that the vote has to be

1 cast by the member of the roundtable, who is either the
2 chairman or the elected mayor from the county, or in the
3 case of the executive committee, it's those who are
4 elected to the executive committee, and that proxies are
5 not permitted to vote. That's our reading of the bill.

6 MR. BROOKS: Where is that located at?

7 MR. LONG: Well, their language is about
8 representatives. It says the representatives vote.
9 Representatives, by definition, are these elected
10 officials, so, therefore, your legal conclusion of that
11 is -- okay, in Coweta County, do y'all allow a proxy to
12 come vote for a county commissioner in a meeting?

13 MR. BROOKS: Yeah.

14 MR. LONG: You do?

15 MR. BROOKS: I mean --

16 MR. LONG: I wouldn't think you do.

17 CHAIRMAN RAINES: No.

18 MR. LONG: Does any city in here allow someone to
19 come vote in their place?

20 MS. TODD: No.

21 MR. LONG: No, of course, they don't. I can't
22 think of a single governing body in Georgia that allows
23 someone to vote. Representative Horne, nobody can vote
24 for him as a proxy in the General Assembly. If he's
25 there he's there, he's not he's not. Now, y'all do have

1 times on committee meetings you have people call in, I
2 guess -- maybe. I don't know how the General Assembly
3 works. Probably not. So, no, on General Assembly, but
4 as far as proxy goes, I don't -- I can't think of a
5 legal case in Georgia where you've allowed that.

6 CHAIRMAN RAINES: I think what you have to -- the
7 consensus has to be as leaders, the people elected you
8 to represent them as constituents, and you ought to be
9 that voice for those constituents. There are going to
10 be times that you're not going to be able to be here,
11 but, again, in openness of the roundtable, you will be
12 included on what's to come before prior to the meeting,
13 anyway, and if it's something of a magnitude that the
14 body feels that every member of the roundtable needs to
15 be here before we cast that vote, I cannot see why this
16 body couldn't wait to make that decision. I just feel
17 that you need to stick with you as an elected official
18 that represents those constituents and you should be
19 governed that way.

20 MR. LUKKEN: Mr. Chairman, we're only really
21 talking about two meetings, anyway, this one and one
22 more, right, and this group can decide if we want to
23 have proxies at an informal meeting once a month.

24 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Right.

25 MR. LUKKEN: So, I mean, it's not really a

1 nonstarter here.

2 MR. DILLARD: I think that --

3 MR. BERES: Motion withdrawn.

4 MR. DILLARD: Okay. Let's talk about the -- the
5 public meetings. These meetings are open to the public.
6 I don't think anybody has a problem with that. The
7 question is do you want to establish guidelines for the
8 public to speak at these meetings?

9 CHAIRMAN RAINES: I think all public comments
10 need to be comments, not questions, and that way, if
11 there are questions, let's say, if there's one of my
12 citizens from Upson County's got a question they need to
13 contact me at the commissioner's office, if they've got
14 a question for our mayor they need to contact our mayor
15 at our mayor's office. Now, having comments to the
16 roundtable to let somebody express how they feel about
17 the region and the direction that the region is going in
18 as a roundtable, I think that's fine. That's just me.
19 I don't know how the roundtable feels about that, but I
20 think a citizen should be able to make comments and put
21 a time limit on how long they can comment but not go
22 into questions and discussions of the roundtable,
23 because if one person is questioning the proxy or -- I
24 mean the mayor from another city, I mean, you're going
25 to have stuff all over the place. That's just my

1 opinion.

2 MR. DILLARD: Yes, ma'am.

3 MS. JACKSON: I feel this -- if we do the public
4 comments, it should be at one time, one place on the
5 agenda, and not all during the meeting.

6 MR. DILLARD: Okay. Yes.

7 MR. SIMPKINS: Randy Simpkins speaking, proxy for
8 Mayor Rick Ford of Temple. I thought the guidelines
9 that were offered had a good suggestion of having them
10 at the beginning of the meeting, having a ten-minute
11 limit, having them as comment only, as the chairman had
12 suggested, with a limit of two minutes per person, and
13 if there were comments above and beyond those ten
14 minutes that they be issued in writing, not slow down
15 the process of the meeting.

16 MR. DILLARD: Anybody disagree with that?

17 MR. LUKKEN: Let me ask: If I had my citizens
18 here in the room today, they'd have more questions than
19 comments, because this process is kind of confusing to
20 everybody, so I'm not sure why we leave out questions
21 from the public.

22 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Well, the way I see it is if
23 you can question the roundtable, then you're going to be
24 questioning twenty peers or nineteen peers or however
25 you want to look at it. He's got a different view on

1 that issue, this one's got a different view on that
2 issue, so you've got all this different discussion going
3 on when questions -- I mean, questions are important.
4 This is what I want to know. You as a leader from the
5 roundtable can actually go to that citizen or have that
6 citizen meet you and you can answer that question. I
7 don't think it's -- now, that's just me now. If that's
8 what a roundtable wants to do -- I think you eliminate a
9 lot of going in around the table. I don't know about in
10 your community, but I've got about five citizens that
11 know what to do and how to do to get some attention
12 drawn to themselves and they use meetings to do that,
13 and I'm just trying to say as a roundtable to eliminate
14 a process of questioning this or questioning that.
15 Well, Chairman Wolfe might have his view on it and the
16 mayor of Zebulon might have another view on it, so, I
17 mean, you've got -- then you've got dialogue going all
18 across the roundtable. That's just my opinion.

19 MR. DILLARD: Any other questions or comments?

20 Yes, Marguerita.

21 MS. LANCE: If we could have everyone to, please,
22 state your name before speaking, for the court reporter.

23 THE COURT REPORTER: I may not have to get them
24 to, but if they'll sign -- I'm so sorry to be so -- just
25 in order and who you are, everybody, in order around

1 here, because a lot of people have proxies and --

2 CHAIRMAN RAINES: We're in court today.

3 THE COURT REPORTER: I'm sorry. I just want to
4 have it accurate and have everybody's names spelled
5 right, so if y'all will just sign it in order all the
6 way around, that'll be great. Thank you.

7 MR. DILLARD: I might add, there are a variety of
8 ways that questions can be answered about the process by
9 the Legislature. GDOT has a great Web site, for
10 example, that has a frequently asked questions section,
11 and Ms. Todd has indicated there are a number of GDOT
12 people who are available to answer questions about the
13 process and about that.

14 MR. WHITE: Question.

15 MR. DILLARD: Yes, sir.

16 MR. WHITE: Alan White, Butts County, proxy for
17 Mitch McEwen. During this discussion, are we under
18 Robert's Rules of Order at this point? Are we operating
19 under Robert's Rules of Order right now?

20 CHAIRMAN RAINES: I would think so.

21 MR. DILLARD: No, we -- but we do suggest that
22 the meetings be run according to Robert's Rules.

23 MR. WHITE: The only reason I raised the question
24 is we've had a couple of near motions being made, and I
25 didn't know what action or --

1 MR. DILLARD: Right.

2 MR. WHITE: -- lack of action should be taken.

3 MR. DILLARD: Right. We have the ability to
4 process motions, however, because you have elected a
5 chairman.

6 MR. WHITE: Thank you.

7 MR. DILLARD: Okay. The sense I get is that
8 you'd like to set aside some time at the beginning of
9 the meeting -- we suggest about ten minutes -- and that
10 you set a time limit for each speaker and let the person
11 make comments, and when the ten minutes are up move on
12 with your business. I think you have to be concerned
13 about chewing up a lot of time with public comment. And
14 there is always the opportunity for people to submit
15 their comments and/or questions in writing and have them
16 answered. Is that okay? Can we move on to the next
17 item?

18 Okay. Let's talk about the executive committee.
19 We understand that you have decided -- Chairman, I know
20 that you have decided how to elect the members to the
21 executive committee, very important sub-committee of
22 this group. The primary function of the subcommittee is
23 to take the unconstrained list, unconstrained meaning
24 that without regard to how much money is available,
25 projects are submitted to the planning director, who

1 then works with the executive committee to turn that
2 unconstrained list into a constrained list, which means
3 projects that can be funded by the revenue that is
4 estimated to come into this region to be generated in
5 this region by the sales and use clause, so that's a
6 very important function of the executive committee.

7 The second one is is that before the executive
8 committee comes back to this roundtable with its
9 recommended constrained list, it has to conduct two
10 public meetings, two public hearings, as Todd has
11 indicated. A fair amount of time may be required.
12 There may be some of you who do not wish to be on the
13 executive committee, but you have decided how you want
14 to elect the members, as I understand that you have
15 paired the counties. Does every pair have a candidate?
16 These are the pairs. Carroll and Heard; Upson and Pike;
17 Spalding and Butts; Coweta, Lamar; Meriwether and Troup.
18 Has Carroll and Heard -- have Carroll and Heard decided
19 on their nominee?

20 MR. SIMPKINS: Yes.

21 MR. DILLARD: Okay.

22 MS. JACKSON: June Jackson, from Heard.

23 MR. DILLARD: June Jackson, okay.

24 Upson and Pike?

25 MR. BERES: Yes.

1 MR. DILLARD: And the nominee is? Is someone
2 writing these down?

3 MR. LONG: Yes, she's going to write them.

4 MR. DILLARD: That was June Jackson for Carroll
5 and Heard. And for Upson and Pike, it's Hays Arnold,
6 correct?

7 MR. BERES: Correct.

8 MR. DILLARD: What about Spalding and Butts?

9 MR. FREEMAN: We only have it as position only.

10 MR. DILLARD: Position only.

11 MR. FREEMAN: There's a new chairman coming in at
12 the first of the year.

13 MS. TODD: So --

14 MS. WARD: So I'll sit as -- I'll sit as --
15 Cynthia Ward.

16 MR. NORRIS: Cynthia Ward.

17 MR. DILLARD: Cynthia Ward --

18 MS. WARD: Uh-huh.

19 MR. DILLARD: -- is the nominee to the executive
20 committee.

21 MS. WARD: Uh-huh.

22 MR. DILLARD: Okay.

23 MR. LONG: She's not in here yet, right, is that
24 what you're saying?

25 MR. DILLARD: She's right here.

1 MS. WARD: I am, I am, uh-huh.

2 MR. FREEMAN: She's city. She's city.

3 MR. DILLARD: But she will be chairman, and
4 she'll be -- she'll be on the executive -- she is the
5 nominee to the executive committee.

6 MS. WARD: The mayor for the City of Griffin will
7 be the chair, and right now I am the mayor, and that
8 will change in January, but it will be the same, the
9 mayor.

10 MR. DILLARD: Same person.

11 MS. WARD: Uh-huh.

12 MR. DILLARD: Same person, okay.

13 MS. TODD: No, it'll --

14 MS. WARD: It won't be the same person.

15 MS. TODD: -- be the same position.

16 MS. WARD: It'll be the same position.

17 MS. TODD: The same position.

18 MR. FREEMAN: New mayor coming in.

19 MS. TODD: Mayor of Griffin.

20 MR. DILLARD: Mayor of Griffin.

21 MR. FREEMAN: Mayor of Spalding County. We have
22 a new cavalry coming in.

23 MR. DILLARD: Okay. Coweta and Lamar?

24 MR. BANKS: We're trying, but -- I tried to make
25 a motion a minute ago, and Mr. Brooks is the chairman

1 elect, so that's who the man is, but --

2 MR. DILLARD: So you're proposing the mayor of --

3 MR. LONG: No, the chairman --

4 MR. BANKS: Chairman of --

5 MR. DILLARD: Chairman of Coweta -- of Coweta.

6 Okay. Coweta, Lamar, the chairman of -- okay.

7 Meriwether, Troup?

8 MR. LUKKEN: Yes, sir. We already have Mr. Ron
9 Garrett serving as vice-chairman of the roundtable, and
10 he's from Meriwether County. I am the mayor of
11 LaGrange. I also represent Hogansville and West Point,
12 in Troup County, and I'd like to nominate Ricky Wolfe
13 our chairman. I think he'd be a good leader to take
14 care of both counties. I haven't heard from Meriwether
15 yet, if that works with Meriwether.

16 MR. GARRETT: That's fine with me.

17 MR. LUKKEN: Great, okay. Ricky Wolfe, Chairman
18 of Troup County.

19 MR. DILLARD: Okay.

20 MR. LONG: We're one region -- one pairing
21 behind.

22 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Right.

23 MR. LONG: So who are we missing, Ricky Wolfe?

24 MR. DILLARD: Meriwether, Troup.

25 MR. LONG: Ricky Wolfe is Meriwether.

1 MR. DILLARD: Mr. Chairman, I would ask that you
2 call for a vote on these nominees.

3 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Roundtable has heard the
4 nominees for the executive committee, and you see them
5 listed on the board. I entertain a motion to --

6 MR. BRADY: So moved.

7 CHAIRMAN RAINES: -- approve the nominees for the
8 executive committee.

9 MS. WARD: Second.

10 MR. BRADY: Keith Brady. So moved.

11 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Keith Brady. I have a motion
12 from Keith Brady. Do I have a second?

13 MS. WARD: Second.

14 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Cynthia Ward with the second.
15 Any other discussion from the roundtable?

16 (No response.)

17 CHAIRMAN RAINES: All in favor, by show of hands,
18 raise your hands. All opposed same sign. Motion
19 carries.

20 MR. DILLARD: Congratulations. That was easy.
21 Well, great. Okay, let's move on. Is there need for a
22 break? Okay, let's keep rolling then.

23 (Whereupon, members of the roundtable discussed
24 taking a break.)

25 MR. DILLARD: Do you want to take ten minutes?

1 Let's take ten minutes.

2 (Pause in proceedings.)

3 MR. DILLARD: The drafts and recommended criteria
4 were mailed out on the 9th of November. Are there any
5 questions?

6 MR. BERES: One question, please. Mike Beres.
7 On the criteria, are we discussing now all of this, or
8 are we going to go by each bullet individually, or is
9 this an overview of the entire criteria?

10 MR. DILLARD: We're going to do an overview of
11 the entire criteria, if you feel the need for it.

12 MR. BERES: All right.

13 MR. DILLARD: I mean, if you --

14 MR. BERES: If not, I would entertain a motion
15 that on the criteria the investment allocation targets
16 be revised. I would like the recommendation that
17 council that instead of the eight categories be reduced
18 to four stated as roads, fifty to ninety percent, and
19 that would contain roads, safety, maintenance, traffic,
20 freight and bridges; two, transit, zero to ten percent
21 -- that would include capital, operation, and
22 maintenance -- three, bike pedestrians, zero to five
23 percent; aviation, zero to five percent.

24 MR. LUKKEN: Chairman, can you restate those
25 again?

1 MR. BERES: Yes.

2 MR. DILLARD: Let me ask, before he restates his
3 recommendation, are you ready to get into that?

4 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Let me clear up one thing
5 first. I've shared this with the commissioner elect.
6 Commissioner Elect earlier stated that he felt that the
7 meeting that we had as a roundtable prior to this
8 meeting today was illegal, and I want Mr. Long and you,
9 sir, to clarify that the meeting that we had as a
10 roundtable, basically, to get to know each other and to
11 formulate which way the roundtable wanted to go is
12 cleared up and that we're not in any violation of House
13 Bill 277, that we as elected officials from each of the
14 ten counties, whether it be mayor or commission chair,
15 were not, in any way, in violation of the law, to
16 clarify, because here's what I do want to say. I do not
17 want to move forward as the chairman of this body doing
18 something improper, illegal, unethical, because, first
19 of all, my integrity is more important to me than
20 serving in a body that ain't going to go in the right
21 direction. I want that clarified, Mr. Long, if you can.
22 I do know we have a representative of the House here
23 that may can shed some light. I want to do that before
24 we proceed any further with any proceedings to make sure
25 that we're doing what we're supposed to do right.

1 MR. LONG: Essentially every regional commission
2 has had practice sessions or are going to have a
3 practice session, so this is not uncommon. In fact, the
4 practice sessions have been just to get to know each
5 other, and there have been no official actions required
6 under the bill taken, and if you elected a chairman, the
7 chairman is not required under the bill. That would
8 happen at an unofficial meeting, but the official
9 meeting, what the bill, like I said, is, basically, to
10 elect an executive committee, and then the criteria.
11 That's the first two items to be done. None of that
12 could've taken place at an unofficial meeting, so I see
13 nothing illegal or inappropriate. In fact, I would
14 encourage most regional commissions to have these
15 practice sessions around the state.

16 CHAIRMAN RAINES: We have Representative Horne
17 here. Do you see anything wrong, as a leader in the
18 House, that we may have done improper, illegal, or
19 unethical, based on just what you heard?

20 REPRESENTATIVE HORNE: Well, keep in mind two
21 things. Number one, is I'm not a learned attorney,
22 second thing is is I don't have the bill memorized, but
23 based on what I know, the answer's, no, I don't think
24 so.

25 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Okay. Thank you. With that

1 being said, we'll move forward.

2 MR. DILLARD: Okay. My question is are you ready
3 to get into the allocations, or would you like some
4 background information on the criteria?

5 MR. BRADY: Ready to move forward. I think we've
6 got all the background information we need.

7 MR. DILLARD: You're ready to move forward?

8 MR. BRADY: He's got a motion, hasn't he?

9 MR. DILLARD: Let's --

10 MR. ??: He has a motion on the floor.

11 MR. DILLARD: Let's --

12 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Let him restate the motion
13 first.

14 MR. BERES: All right. The motion is a
15 recommendation for transportation funding categories,
16 and this is combining several of the categories, instead
17 of eight, combining them to four. It states, number
18 one, roads would be fifty to ninety percent.

19 MR. DILLARD: Okay. Let's hold up there until we
20 get it on the board, please.

21 MR. LONG: That's just roadways as a general
22 category?

23 MR. BERES: Roads.

24 MR. DILLARD: Okay.

25 MR. BERES: All right. Fifty to ninety percent.

1 Transit, zero to ten percent. That would include
2 capital, operation, and maintenance.

3 MR. DILLARD: You're combining those two
4 categories for transit?

5 MR. BERES: Yes, we're combining.

6 MR. DILLARD: Okay.

7 MR. BERES: And under roads, it would combine
8 roads, safety, maintenance, traffic, freights, and
9 bridges.

10 MR. LUKKEN: So you're combining the top three
11 categories into one.

12 MR. BERES: This way you have more of an option
13 to use funding.

14 MR. LUKKEN: Sure. More flexibility.

15 MR. BERES: Broad flexibility.

16 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Okay. And what was the other
17 one?

18 MR. BERES: Number three, bike/pedestrian, zero
19 to five percent. And last, aviation, zero to five
20 percent.

21 MR. LUKKEN: And freight and logistics, what is
22 that?

23 MR. BERES: Freight and logistics were combined
24 with roads.

25 MR. LUKKEN: With one?

1 MR. BERES: Uh-huh.

2 MR. LUKKEN: So one through four are one
3 category?

4 MR. BERES: Correct.

5 CHAIRMAN RAINES: I have a motion by Mayor of
6 Zebulon. Is there a second?

7 MS. TODD: May I ask a question? Define transit.
8 Transit will include rail, is this correct?

9 MR. BERES: Yes. Transit will --

10 MS. TODD: Okay. I just wanted to clarify that
11 point.

12 MR. BERES: This is just going in and combining
13 the categories to give us more flexibility on -- instead
14 of saying we can only do X number in this.

15 MS. TODD: Right.

16 MR. BERES: If your county or city needs more
17 money in a specific area, then you would have the
18 capability of taking it.

19 MS. TODD: Okay. Very good.

20 MR. BRADY: Keith Brady. Second.

21 CHAIRMAN RAINES: I have a second by Mayor Brady.
22 Is there any other discussion from the roundtable?

23 MR. LUKKEN: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to ask the
24 DOT, why is there restrictions on there at all; what was
25 the thinking?

1 MR. LONG: All right. That's a great question.
2 Why do we have allocations of the percentages? We
3 actually have a presentation in here. You can look and
4 see quickly. But there's a lot of background
5 information about where we go, how we got to this point,
6 but the bill actually has language in it. It says that
7 the recommended criteria has to have allocation of
8 funds, so the allocation of funds is meant to be -- we
9 actually titled it target allocation ranges. This is
10 meant to be a guide to the roundtable as you start your
11 process. If you were doing a county sales tax or a city
12 sales tax, you would go into it saying, okay, I need to
13 spend probably this much percentage toward parks and
14 recreation, this much percentage to libraries, this much
15 percent to roads and bridges, this much percent to, you
16 know, some other category, so you go into it as a guide
17 to give you some guidance and acceptance.

18 Now, for areas like Three Rivers, we value roads
19 and bridges, no doubt about it, but we know also that
20 some other areas were needed in the region, so we broke
21 them out in these broad categories. In fact, we
22 combined -- from the draft criteria issued August the
23 3rd, we actually combined some categories, so if you
24 combine, like, for instance, transit, capital,
25 operation, maintenance, you know, I don't really care.

1 You know, that's fine to combine those together. Now,
2 Atlanta, that's a different story, though, Guys,
3 combining capital with operation and maintenance. It's
4 a whole different dynamic. An area like this combining
5 those is fine. I would question combining the safety
6 and traffic operations. I put a lot of value on those
7 types of projects.

8 Look in the -- y'all have got here -- this is
9 Coweta County, we're sitting here. If you drive through
10 Coweta County you notice all these little intersection
11 improvement projects that are needed, or are under
12 construction that were built in the last five years.
13 Those are projects that really sell to the public.
14 Having a category of projects that is clearly identified
15 as projects that will sell and if people can put their
16 hands around them and understand them, projects that
17 usually can deliver pretty well, because they're not the
18 biggest, long projects, but they're the projects and
19 intersection improvements, and traffic safety
20 operations. Safety sells, Guys. You know that. So
21 that's why we separated those from each other. Now, you
22 notice, though, that the range -- I don't have the
23 ranges in front of me -- for safety was fifteen --

24 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Fifteen.

25 MR. LONG: -- to fifty percent, so it's a broad

1 range. We're giving you lots and lots of flexibility.
2 So y'all are combining categories under the guise of
3 getting more flexibility. I would argue that I gave you
4 lots of flexibility as it stands, anyway. These are --
5 like I said, these are target allocation ranges. You
6 don't have to be exactly in those percentage ranges,
7 okay. So, you know, I think that's a good suggestion
8 about the transit for your region. That's fine. But
9 for safety and traffic operations, I think pulling those
10 out and telling the public that you're actually spending
11 money -- you're spending money on projects that they can
12 -- they can get their hands around, I think's important.
13 That's my opinion.

14 MR. LUKKEN: Couldn't you also say the same thing
15 to the public regardless of where it's categorized?

16 MR. LONG: You could. Now, freight and
17 logistics, there's no question, in an area like this,
18 roadway capital and freight and logistics are sort of
19 interrelated. Now, we thought this may happen in some
20 regions. Freight and logistics may be different on
21 Coastal Georgia, though. You may have some specific
22 projects around the port that are solely freight and
23 logistics. Up here your freight corridors are your
24 rolling capital corridors. They're kind one and the
25 same. Would you not agree?

1 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Yes.

2 MR. LONG: So that's why we have them separated,
3 so combining that is not too big of a deal. Now,
4 bridges and maintenance, now you've got to decide as a
5 roundtable how much money you want to put in bridges and
6 maintenance. I would not recommend having that lumped
7 in, because going into this, you know, I am a big fan of
8 taking care of what you have. If you go back to our
9 strategic plan, we say take care of what you have.
10 That's very important.

11 But remember, there are three pots of money for
12 transportation. There's this pot of money, regional
13 sales tax, if it passes; there's a regular federal aid
14 program, which has a lot of money in maintenance; and
15 then you have the third pot, which people always don't
16 think of. It's the local pot. If you add up all the
17 money toward transportation of local governments, street
18 crews, sales tax they have, it's a big dollar amount for
19 the whole state of Georgia.

20 So you have other categories to do a lot of your
21 bridge maintenance programs. You have the LMIGP
22 Program. You have the discretionary portion. Remember,
23 this criteria does not apply to the local share. See,
24 now you have the LMIGP program, you have the
25 discretionary money, you have our regular federal aid

1 program, which does a lot of maintenance. Last year we
2 put almost a third of our money in our federal aid
3 program in maintenance. Yes, that's maintaining state
4 routes, but, still, the bottom line, it's -- it's
5 important.

6 So I allowed in the drafting of recommended
7 criteria zero to ten percent for the -- for roadway and
8 bridge maintenance. That was just recognizing the
9 public, hey, listen, we do have needs, but, at the same
10 time telling the public, we know that, hey, you like
11 projects that put down new capital. And I think from a
12 salability standpoint with public acceptance, having
13 that separate I think would be important to you. And
14 you'll end up doing that. Somebody said a minute ago at
15 the very end of the day, you'll say, hey, listen, X
16 percent is going to be roadway and maintenance, but I'm
17 just -- I'm just telling you up front, I think it's good
18 to have it separated as you go into it. Remember, Guys,
19 these are just guides, but -- so that's why we did what
20 we did. I hope that explains it. Yes?

21 MR. MANGHAM: All right. In these rural
22 counties --

23 MR. LONG: Uh-huh.

24 MR. MANGHAM: And most of these are rural
25 counties. We've only got two or three big counties.

1 When you put aviation down, they don't even have an
2 airplane flying over 'em, much less an airstrip.

3 MR. LONG: Well, actually, I would say that most
4 of our comments about airports have come from rural
5 counties, not from Metro Atlanta areas. Think about
6 this, Guys. We have 103 general purpose airports in
7 this state that are severely underfunded. In fact, if
8 you look at the intermodal budget for Georgia DOT the
9 amount of money we spend toward airports, toward ports,
10 like dredging the streams, rivers, and in transit, rural
11 transit, we spent in our budget fiscal '12 is six
12 million dollars statewide. There is not enough money to
13 do the things we need. These little, small airports
14 around the state are begging for money for taxiway
15 improvements, resurfacing, putting beacons, lights up,
16 so they're begging for that money, so most of my
17 comments have come from rural counties that want money
18 for this to go toward airports.

19 MR. MANGHAM: What I'm talking about, though, is
20 like our county. All of it's private-owned airstrips.

21 MR. LONG: Yeah, but I bet there's probably more
22 than just -- there's ten counties here. How many
23 general purpose airports do we have in this region?

24 MR. MANGHAM: Yeah, but most of these ten
25 counties are rural counties.

1 MR. LUKKEN: Douglas, where are you going, what's
2 your point?

3 MR. MANGHAM: What I'm saying, leave aviation in
4 with these others.

5 MR. BERES: No, aviation is the same.

6 MR. MANGHAM: Aviation.

7 MR. BERES: Aviation is the same, zero to five
8 percent.

9 MR. LONG: You're just recommending changing
10 that, right? I think it should be separate. Zero to
11 five. I mean, you could do nothing.

12 MR. LUKKEN: It just doesn't allow -- I don't
13 know if this is your point, but it doesn't allow a small
14 county that now wants an airport to spend fifty percent
15 of their funds on the airport. The flexibility is none
16 of us have to spend any money on an airport, but if we
17 want to spend more than five percent, this still
18 restricts that small county from doing that.

19 MR. BERES: And the reason that I am offering
20 this is because this does give us more of a flexibility,
21 because we may not have any bridges that need repaired
22 in this time, within the next ten years or that we would
23 see. We may -- there may be more than ten percent of
24 what was in here that needs to be on roads and bridges.
25 If that's the case, then by combining them you have a

1 better ability to fund these projects that you actually
2 need. Same way with safety. Some areas safety is a
3 main concern and they may need to spend more of their
4 money than what is allocated here, but by combining them
5 to where all of them are lumped in under the roads --
6 the roadway or roads area, then you would have more
7 money to do what you actually need to do, whether it's
8 road improvements, road maintenance, safety.

9 MR. LONG: Why have guidelines? Why have -- I
10 mean, you need to go into it -- you need to have some
11 kind of guidance as you're going through this, because
12 it makes no sense to go into a process this important
13 blind, and what you're proposing, if you combine
14 everything together like some bridges, you, basically,
15 have no -- no guidance at all. You just go in there and
16 start willy-nilly picking projects. It gives me
17 guidance, it gives you guidance, you guidance. I think
18 it really helps to have a breakdown.

19 MR. WOLFE: Part of our --

20 MS. TODD: It does say region, right? It doesn't
21 say state projects. It says regional projects, and I
22 assume every elected official in here knows what needs
23 to be done in our region, so does that not give us more
24 of a voice if we say the criteria that we'd like it to
25 be divided into?

1 MR. LONG: Yeah, this -- Guys, this criteria
2 y'all own. You will adopt this criteria. Todd Long is
3 not about this criteria. I have finished my say in the
4 criteria by making a recommendation to you. You asked
5 me some questions. I'm now answering questions of why I
6 got to where I got. So you ultimately control this, and
7 I'll be -- I'll sit down and be quiet and y'all can
8 adopt whatever you want to. Theoretically, according to
9 the bill, you can adopt a hundred percent bicycles,
10 right? Nothing -- anything else, but we're not going to
11 do that, so --

12 MR. ??: Or recommended --

13 MR. LONG: But I'm just saying -- you asked me
14 why we did what we did. I'm telling you the answer.

15 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Anymore discussion? We have a
16 motion and a second.

17 Mr. Mayor?

18 MR. BRADY: Mr. Chairman, with all due respect to
19 our typist, I think we need to clean up that first --
20 I'd like that comma after bridges to be taken out,
21 because it sounds like bridges, comma, maintenance, when
22 actually it's just -- and the S off bridges, when it's
23 actually just bridge maintenance, right?

24 MR. ??: No.

25 MS. ??: No.

1 MR. ??: No, maintenance. It says road
2 maintenance and bridges. Well, it says maintenance
3 projects.

4 MR. ??: I'm reading it off the --

5 MR. DILLARD: It says bridge --

6 MR. ??: It says roadway and bridge maintenance.

7 MR. ??: Bridge maintenance. That's the criteria
8 here. This is my proposal.

9 MS. JACKSON: One's building roads; one's
10 maintaining roads, right?

11 MR. ??: Yeah.

12 MR. DILLARD: What are you --

13 MR. LONG: What is it?

14 MR. DILLARD: Bridge maintenance.

15 MR. BERES: Roadway, bridge maintenance.

16 MR. LONG: Like it says in the packet.

17 MR. ??: Right.

18 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Okay. I have a motion from the
19 mayor of Zebulon, I have a second by the mayor of
20 Newnan. We've had discussion. Is there anymore need
21 for any other discussion?

22 MR. WOLFE: Chairman, only one point I'd make is
23 the roadway. Todd, the point is we're trying to get as
24 much flexibility as we can.

25 MR. BERES: Correct.

1 MR. WOLFE: And the reason for that is as a
2 member of the executive committee, I have no earthly
3 idea what the needs of my total region are, and so we're
4 just trying to have as much flexibility so that we can
5 move within these parts. I think that's your --

6 MR. BERES: Correct.

7 MR. WOLFE: -- point, which is a very good point.

8 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Any other discussion?

9 (No response.)

10 CHAIRMAN RAINES: All in favor of the proposed
11 allocation target at this time? We've got a motion to
12 second it. Is there any other discussion that need
13 brought up, any changes that anybody see that need to be
14 made?

15 (No response.)

16 CHAIRMAN RAINES: If not, all in favor, raise
17 your hand by signaling you support it. Those opposed,
18 raise your hand. Motion carries. We have set our
19 program areas, as far as the allocation for those
20 different areas.

21 Back in the hands of the facilitator.

22 MR. GARRETT: Chairman Raines, I would like to
23 make another motion.

24 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Okay.

25 MR. GARRETT: I don't have a problem -- I agree

1 with the different program areas we've already set up,
2 but to give us even more flexibility, I want to make a
3 motion that we remove all percentage target ranges in
4 all these program areas and then let -- when we put our
5 final project together they will fall wherever they
6 fall, and if we decide to spend eighty percent on
7 safety, we'll do that, and decide to spent eighty
8 percent on roads and bridges, or ninety-five percent,
9 we'll do that. That way -- you know, by having these
10 percentages up here in each program area, we're limited
11 to how much money we can spend in each program area.

12 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Mayor Garrett wants to move the
13 allocations of the range amount for each part of the
14 criteria for the allocation. Anybody got a second for
15 that motion?

16 MR. LUKKEN: I'd like to make a comment on this.
17 I don't know what these percentages mean or where we're
18 going to fit them in. I do know that we all have
19 different needs that we haven't yet laid on the table.
20 I'm in favor of more flexibility, allowing us to put
21 more money into certain areas that we don't know about
22 today, and what Ron said makes sense. We may end up
23 going just like this, or any other way

24 MR. GARRETT: That's right.

25 MR. LUKKEN: -- but more flexibility gives us

1 more --

2 MR. GARRETT: That's right. It may fall just
3 like that in the end. That's right. And then we may --
4 we may not. It just depends on what this region wants.

5 MR. LUKKEN: You can keep these categories and go
6 zero to fifty on the bottom three, or zero to ninety on
7 the bottom three, whatever you -- whatever gives us the
8 most flexibility to come up with our answers.

9 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Okay. I have a motion by the
10 mayor of Woodbury.

11 Mr. Mayor of LaGrange, are you offering that as a
12 second?

13 MR. LUKKEN: Yes, I am.

14 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Okay. I have a motion and a
15 second to waive the percentages, and if these
16 percentages pan out to be what they are they are, and,
17 at this time, I open the floor for discussion.

18 MR. DILLARD: Let's keep in mind, these are
19 guidelines, which you are using, but, also, which will
20 be given to the mayors, the MPO's in the case of --

21 MR. ??: Coweta.

22 MR. DILLARD: -- Coweta and Spalding, the local
23 elected representatives. They will be submitting
24 projects to Todd, as well, for the unconstrained list,
25 so he has to have some guidelines to use to help him get

1 from the unconstrained list to the constrained list, and
2 that's what these -- that's what these allocations mean.
3 And as he said earlier, the House Bill requires that the
4 criteria include allocations. We couldn't just say,
5 you're going to have a billion dollars in Three Rivers
6 to spend, spend it the way you want to spend it. It's
7 not --

8 MR. LUKKEN: And so we won't spend it -- we won't
9 spend it the way we want to spend it?

10 MR. DILLARD: Excuse me?

11 MR. LUKKEN: Well --

12 MR. DILLARD: There have got to be some
13 guidelines. I mean, you -- at the end of the day you
14 will approve the list of projects. At the end of the
15 day this roundtable will approve the list of projects,
16 but there is a process that you have to go through -- go
17 through to get to that list of projects. That is going
18 from an unconstrained list --

19 CHAIRMAN RAINES: To a constrained list.

20 MR. DILLARD: -- to a constrained list. And the
21 projects -- by the way, the projects -- there's another
22 thing, and I guess I have myself to blame for this, and
23 I'm not going to mention who planted the seed in my ear,
24 but, in any event, some other things that you need to
25 consider is these projects can't be pulled out of your

1 back pocket. The projects have to come from existing
2 plans or studies with which he is already familiar. I
3 mean, he didn't just pull these targets out of the seat
4 of his pants. I mean, there are a host of studies that
5 you have done over a period of time that will be used to
6 generate projects that will be recommended to him for
7 the unconstrained list, and then he will rate those
8 projects using your criteria and then sit down with the
9 executive committee and convert that unconstrained list
10 to the constrained list, which will then come back to
11 you and you can accept it or reject it.

12 So, you know, to eliminate any targets, it seems
13 to me you're asking -- you're leaving him -- you're
14 leaving him with probably a little bit more power than
15 you intend to leave. I mean, it's the theory of
16 unintended consequences here. He's got to use something
17 to come up with the constrained list to recommend or to
18 work with the executive committee on. He's got to come
19 up with something. He's got to use something, and if
20 you said, you know, anything goes, then he can come up
21 with his own thing. That's kind of the other side of
22 the coin.

23 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Mayor?

24 MR. WOLFE: Sir, what happens if we take those
25 targets and we begin our work, and in the course of

1 doing our work, we then find that those targets are not
2 realistic, based on the need. Is there flexibility in
3 Todd and his organization that those could be modified,
4 changed?

5 MR. LONG: That's exactly why we titled it like
6 we did. They're investment allocation target ranges.
7 It gives you the -- we give flexibility in the ranges,
8 plus, we give you flexibility in even how we define
9 term. He's right, Guys. I mean, I may not be the
10 director of planning tomorrow, right? Who knows?
11 You're giving the director of planning position
12 unlimited authority. You remember the unconstrained
13 list is developed by who? The planning director. So if
14 you don't give me any guidance at all, if I'm an
15 advocate, say, of bikes and pedestrians, I can come back
16 to this executive committee and you get a hundred
17 percent bike and pedestrian, and there's nothing you can
18 do about it.

19 MS. TODD: In other words, you're telling us it
20 it would open it up too big?

21 MR. LONG: Yes. I'm just making a point here.
22 I'm not going to do that. Obviously, my goal is to work
23 with you to make it happen. At the end of the day, if
24 this doesn't pass, we've got nothing, right? This is
25 Plan A. There is not a Plan B to raise initial revenue.

1 MR. LUKKEN: I thought we were going for maximum
2 flexibility among our group, but, in fact, as we widen
3 those percentages, we're giving someone else the
4 flexibility to do what they want with our money. Is
5 that correct?

6 MR. LONG: That's -- indirectly, yes.

7 MR. DILLARD: That's a good way to look at it.

8 MR. LONG: Now, someone else may not be me or
9 him. Who knows?

10 MR. DILLARD: He's being modest, by the way. The
11 governor has nominated him, has reappointed him.

12 CHAIRMAN RAINES: We've got a motion and a
13 second, and are we going to move forward with the motion
14 and the second? If not, we're going to ask you to
15 withdraw your --

16 MR. LUKKEN: I'll withdraw my second.

17 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Okay. Will you withdraw your
18 motion?

19 MR. GARRETT: Well, I have a question. How can
20 we be flex -- how can we have flexibility in this
21 program when we're going to be limited on how much money
22 we spend on roadways, cap, and safety, aviation,
23 bicycles, and pedestrians? I guess I just don't
24 understand how when we submit project requests or
25 unconstrained lists to the DOT, why do we have that --

1 why don't we still have that flexibility to say, Georgia
2 DOT, this is what this region wants. So why doesn't
3 GDOT take what the region wants?

4 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Todd, I guess you --

5 MR. LONG: Well, I want y'all to answer this
6 question. I mean, this is -- I want y'all to -- you've
7 got to buy into this criteria, Guys. If I stand up here
8 and tell you exactly what I want, that's fine with me,
9 but you need to give guidance in this process to the
10 planning director. The bill is not written the way you
11 think it's written. The writers of the bill didn't
12 write it where you give the projects to GDOT and GDOT
13 does them no matter what. The project is written where
14 the director of planning is open to project suggestions
15 from the counties and cities, but, ultimately, the
16 planning director picks the projects that he gives the
17 roundtable for consideration. That's the way the bill
18 is written, so you understand that. I mean, I want to
19 be clear.

20 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Does the bill have percentages
21 in it?

22 MR. LONG: The bill calls for -- the language
23 says you -- when you submit the recommended criteria, it
24 shall have allocation of funds, which we interpret
25 allocation of funds as some breakdown by percentage.

1 I'm not sure how to interpret that, other than a
2 breakdown of percentages.

3 MR. DILLARD: By the way, that does not apply to
4 the 25 percent --

5 MR. LONG: Right.

6 MR. DILLARD: -- discretionary money.

7 MR. LONG: Right.

8 MR. DILLARD: So if you want to spend all of that
9 on bridge maintenance, I mean, that's --

10 MR. GARRETT: What if the region submits a list
11 for transit, capital, operation and maintenance, and it
12 turns out to be 75 percent? Who's going to say, no,
13 you've got to stay within zero to ten?

14 MR. LONG: If that's the ultimate -- if there's
15 enough projects on the unconstrained list that account
16 for that much percentage, at the very end of the day,
17 whatever this roundtable votes for, it still could pass,
18 because, I mean, like I said, this is allocation -- this
19 is criteria to use going in. It's a planning tool,
20 Guys. I don't think anybody in here who do your own
21 sales tax in your county or city would start without
22 some kind of guidance on which way to go. If you tell
23 me you did, I'd like to talk to you, because I don't --
24 I've not talked to anybody who's done that.

25 MR. GARRETT: So the restrict -- the allocations

1 for target ranges are not restrictions, we're not
2 restricted?

3 MR. DILLARD: That's right. That's what I've
4 been saying.

5 MR. GARRETT: If that's the case, I'll withdraw
6 my motion.

7 CHAIRMAN RAINES: The mayor of LaGrange has
8 withdrawn his, the mayor of Woodbury has withdrawn his
9 motion. Anybody on this board have a problem with those
10 two motions being withdrawn? If so, raise your hand.
11 Motion has been done away with.

12 Back in the hands of the --

13 MR. DILLARD: Okay. Let's move on to the next
14 item.

15 MR. BERES: One quick question. Mike Beres, City
16 of Zebulon. On the tiers, has the tiers been
17 eliminated, Tiers 1, 2, and 3?

18 MR. LONG: Do you have the latest version in
19 front of you?

20 MR. BERES: I don't -- I don't see those in the
21 bullets.

22 MR. LONG: The written criteria is under -- what
23 tab is that under, Guys?

24 MR. ??: Tab 8.

25 MR. LONG: Tab 8. And the answer to your

1 question is, yes, we did eliminate those, and we -- what
2 we said was, basically, hey, listen, Guys, is the
3 emphasis on deliverability? For any sales tax to pass
4 the project would have to be strategic, you have to be
5 able to deliver them, and the public has to want them,
6 right? I don't care what kind of sales tax it is. If
7 you can't meet those three tests, then you're in
8 trouble, so the tiering structure and the draft we did
9 back in August was an attempt to get that. Listen.
10 Particularly, you don't want to start some big mega
11 project that's going to be a ten, fifteen-year project
12 and you can't deliver. That's the worst thing in the
13 world that could happen over the sales tax. So you want
14 to put orange barrels on the road as quick as possible
15 as you go through the process, so we're -- we're looking
16 at projects saying, hey, listen, as you're looking to
17 consider the bigger projects, hey, look at projects that
18 can be delivered in the next five, six years. It may
19 not -- the funding may not work out where you can
20 deliver them in five or six years, but those are
21 projects that you can do that can be delivered, that are
22 far along -- you know, the bigger projects that are
23 already started, the conceptual work, the work -- some
24 work has already been done, some environmental work's
25 been done. That was the intent of that.

1 All right. Anything else on the criteria?

2 MR. GARRETT: I have a question about the guiding
3 principles under the criteria, under the guiding
4 principles, the second bullet. Projects from existing
5 plans and/or studies, for example, the DOT work program
6 MPO long-range plan and short-range program, and
7 transportation study, etc.

8 MR. LONG: Right.

9 MR. GARRETT: I have asked for DOT work projects
10 in my county, Meriwether County. They don't exist. And
11 that's true with Heard County, also. So assuming that
12 these projects have got to come from existing DOT work
13 program projects and Meriwether County and Heard County
14 don't have any, what do we do?

15 MR. LONG: All right. Let's back up a second.
16 We're speaking of -- there's a section of the bill. We
17 want projects to be vetted through some process. Now,
18 we -- we kind of put the word e-t-c on the end, etc.,
19 right, because, you know, every county, theoretically,
20 should have a county comprehensive plan. They're
21 required under the Georgia Planning Act, right? There
22 is a transportation component of that. Have y'all ever
23 done that in Meriwether County?

24 MR. GARRETT: (Nods head affirmatively.)

25 MR. LONG: So you do have something in writing?

1 MR. GARRETT: Yes.

2 MR. LONG: So I don't know what's in that plan, I
3 haven't seen it, but you've got something. I don't know
4 if it identified road projects or not. But what he's
5 speaking of is we do have some counties that don't
6 have any major road widening projects in them, right,
7 that are in our program? You may not even it in your
8 long-range plan. And there are counties across this
9 state that will not get road widening projects by the
10 roundtable vote.

11 This bill is not about equity within the region.
12 I want to make that point. This bill is about what's
13 good for the region as a whole, not spending money
14 equitably among all the counties. I'm not telling you
15 today Meriwether's not going to get anything, but my
16 point is there are going to be counties that don't get
17 things. That is why when the writers of the bill, they
18 put 25 percent of the money being redistributed by
19 formula to every city and county so that everybody did
20 get some money. That's the equitable portion of the
21 bill is the discretionary. The regional pot is supposed
22 to be projects, one -- remember that are strategic for
23 the region, two, you can deliver them, and three, the
24 public wants them, so you've got to think about that.

25 Once again, if the bill doesn't pass, what do you

1 have at the end of the day? You don't have any regional
2 money, nor do you have any discretionary money. So it
3 may be that you may want to weigh your projects, your
4 significant projects to areas where the voters live.
5 Now, Three Rivers is a very unique regional commission,
6 in that your population is spread out a little bit more
7 evenly. Some of our other areas, your friends to the
8 south, Columbus -- Columbus has a huge percentage of the
9 voters for the sales tax live in one county out of the
10 twelve or so. So guess what? Those small counties,
11 like Chattahoochee County and -- they're going to have
12 to -- they want the discretionary money, they're going
13 to have to vote for projects that are where? Where the
14 people are.

15 And the same thing is going to happen in Three
16 Rivers to a certain degree. I don't know how it's going
17 to play out in Three Rivers, but just keep that in mind.
18 This is not about Meriwether County by itself. This is
19 about the region as a whole. And of course, remember,
20 what helps the region helps Meriwether County, what
21 helps Meriwether County helps the region. You've got to
22 keep that mind set. And I think the chairman said it
23 best when he was opening up our discussion. But this is
24 an opportunity to move the needle for the whole state,
25 so we very much want it to pass in this region, and

1 whatever needs to happen to get it to pass will be
2 something this roundtable will have to come to grips
3 with. I hope that answers your question.

4 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Is there any other discussion
5 on the criteria changes, amendments that anyone wants to
6 see in the criteria that's laid out before us? This is
7 a guide of the roundtable. Anybody else got any
8 amendments or changes that they want to see made to the
9 recommended criteria --

10 MR. ??: As amended.

11 CHAIRMAN RAINES: -- as amended? We did make one
12 amendment with what the mayor of Zebulon wanted. Is
13 there anything else? If not, I entertain a motion to
14 adopt the recommended criteria for our region.

15 MR. LUKKEN: So moved. I make a motion --

16 CHAIRMAN RAINES: State your name, sir.

17 MR. LUKKEN: Jeff Lukken.

18 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Mayor of LaGrange has a motion.
19 Is there a second?

20 MS. WARD: Second.

21 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Second. Ms. Ward makes the
22 second. Is there any other discussion from the
23 roundtable? All in favor, show of hands by raising your
24 hands. All opposed, same sign. Criteria passes.

25 MR. LONG: All right. Let's talk about the next

1 step. Go from today's meeting. Of course, from
2 previous meetings you elected a chairman. We didn't get
3 through the executive committee. And you've approved
4 your criteria. Those are the first two steps of the
5 bill. Now, comes the fun, right, development of that
6 unconstrained list. We have -- we're going to be giving
7 you guidance on how to do this, but we will be
8 soliciting projects from local -- from county and city
9 officials. We'll welcome your project lists. I want to
10 mention right here back -- Lanier and Robert are back
11 here. The regional commission has been asked, along
12 with all the other regional commissions around the state
13 to help us participate in this process, and they
14 facilitated this meeting. Like District 7, they're
15 going to help us facilitate the public hearings.
16 They're going to help us facilitate a lot of activities
17 with the selections of mayors, but they're also going to
18 be helping us -- as the projects come in, we're going to
19 give you some direction, but we want you to send the
20 projects to Three Rivers. Three Rivers will make sure
21 the i's are dotted, t's are crossed on the form that you
22 do it on, and, ultimately, they'll be sending those over
23 to me. But I want to say thank you to both Lanier and
24 Robert. They've done a great job. We deal with a lot
25 of regional commissions, and I want to say not region

1 commissions are created equal. They've done a good job
2 trying to provide this group, this body with a lot of
3 information and a lot of good education, so I just want
4 to publicly thank both of y'all for doing that. I
5 appreciate it.

6 And we'll be giving you guidance in the next
7 month. I will say this. This is the second of the
8 regional commission meetings. We have twelve of them.
9 And some of them churn into sometime in January. So we
10 probably will be giving out this new guidance sometime
11 the first of the year. Is that about right, Cindy? So
12 we'll be soliciting the projects the first of the new
13 year, January, and then through April, we'll be doing
14 evaluation and using the criteria to help us with that
15 guidance. You know, basically, you guys adopted this
16 and it's just a guidance for us to go by.

17 And then, ultimately, by May of this year, we'll
18 have this unconstrained list that we deliver over to the
19 executive committee. The executive committee meets this
20 summer, and, as you know, there are two state reps.
21 We've got, you know, Representative Billy Horne, and
22 Representative Lynn Smith are both on there as a
23 nonvoting member, but they'll have to -- they'll be
24 attending a lot of the meetings this summer. And, also,
25 there'll be a Senate representative who's not been

1 named. If you want to know anything about the Senate
2 rep, Jeff Mullis, who is chair of the transportation
3 committee, out of Chickamauga, he has to appoint the
4 Senate rep, and he's been trying to do that through a
5 number of committees and trying to figure out who should
6 go where across the state, and they haven't been able to
7 get together and finalize that list yet, but you'll have
8 a Senate member, hopefully, in the next week or so.
9 Ultimately, the constrained list will be debated from
10 August 15th, all the way up to the last -- the due date
11 is October 15th, 2011.

12 Now, I do want to mention something else to you
13 right quick. It's not on this sheet, but the
14 discretionary money, there's been a lot of discussion
15 about how that's calculated. In fact, somebody asked me
16 during the break. Well, it's calculated based on
17 population and lane miles, center line lane miles,
18 including paved and dirt roads. Now, most of y'all or
19 your staff have been on our Web site. We actually put
20 together 2013 guesstimates, based on the revenue
21 projections of what that would be. If you've got a
22 problem with the population we've got listed or the
23 center line lane miles we actually have time to fix
24 that, right, because, theoretically, that money isn't
25 distributed till when? Till after the bill -- the

1 voters have voted on it, and, ultimately, the road can
2 start coming in, so we've got a year and a half, two
3 years to get that fixed. Now, one reason, Guys, some of
4 the data may be wrong is because there's a state law
5 that most cities and counties have probably never seen
6 before, but when you add a new city street or a county
7 road, you've got ninety days to notify the department of
8 that for our database purposes. There are some cities
9 and counties we haven't heard from in twenty or thirty
10 years, so we've got some old data. Ultimately, though,
11 what's going to happen is if everybody ups their
12 mileage, it really doesn't change anything in the long
13 run, right? The pot of money is the pot of money, so
14 it's going to be about the same, but, still, we want to
15 be accurate. This is the main reason we want to be
16 accurate. Not only is this money affected by the
17 program. So if this bill doesn't even pass, you're
18 still -- you're building using the exact same data, so
19 you want to get it corrected for that for sure, so I
20 encourage you to do that.

21 All right. This is my contact information. We
22 do have a Web site, and we welcome you to go to this Web
23 site, and we've got copies of maps, and pretty much
24 everything you've got in your book is on the Web site.
25 The discretionary money, I think is in book, as well.

1 Any questions you may have, we have a frequently asked
2 questions Web site. Is that in the book, FAQ's? Isn't
3 it in the back?

4 MR. ??: No.

5 MR. LONG: In the last half?

6 MR. DILLARD: Yes, it is. Yes, it is.

7 MR. LONG: Now, the campaigning for this
8 initiative -- of course, the campaigning for this really
9 can't start till the roundtable finishes their work.
10 Some of the prework campaigning can. I will say that
11 the Atlanta area is just going gangbusters with their
12 campaign efforts. They're meeting on every Friday of
13 every month and developing a big action plan. What I'm
14 going to need, ultimately, is twelve of those action
15 plans, right? We're going to need somebody to be a
16 champion here in Three Rivers that really wants to push
17 this forward and help us out. And Georgia Chamber and
18 others are going to be helping with that cause, as well,
19 but, ultimately, to get it to pass you've got to have a
20 really coordinated effort across the region to make --
21 help it pass. With that, I'm open to any questions you
22 may have for me.

23 MR. WOLFE: Todd, This is a small thing, but the
24 projections of growth look pretty rich.

25 MR. LONG: Yes.

1 MR. WOLFE: Would you agree?

2 MR. LONG: Well, I thought so. The guy who does
3 this -- the bill called for the state economist to come
4 up with projections. Before it started, I didn't know
5 we had a state economist that was officially designated
6 by the General Assembly. I know we had economists. I
7 thought they always offered their opinions, but we have
8 an official state economist, and this individual works
9 at Georgia State, in the Andrew Young School of
10 Business. This guy's name is Ken Hagney. And all the
11 official projections and stuff that come out for the
12 General Assembly and others comes out of that group, so
13 they made the projections. They're using some of the
14 same assumptions for some of their other projections
15 probably.

16 Now, he did this in a matter of weeks. Let's be
17 honest. I said, I need this by August. He threw it
18 together in a couple of weeks. He said, please, give me
19 the liberty of going back and doing a very thorough
20 projection this spring. I'll need that projection this
21 spring, so when I hand over the unconstrained list, I'll
22 also hand over the amount of money that's in reality
23 projected. So we've had several comments along those
24 lines. In today's world, it's rich, if we can use the
25 word rich. You know, six years ago, it was probably

1 underestimating, so it's kind of hard to say. He feels
2 very comfortable the economy's going to turn around.
3 But there is a low projection at first. He didn't use a
4 straight -- a straight line across. I'm not an
5 economist and don't presume to be one. Any more
6 questions?

7 MR. LUKKEN: Leave these here?

8 MR. LONG: I want to thank you and I want to tell
9 you that those are yours. Take those home. If you've
10 not read the bill -- Guys, I want to tell you, a big
11 task is on your shoulders. The bill is long, but only
12 about half of it deals with regional sales tax. You can
13 skip all the things about MARTA and everything else.
14 You can go right to the regional sales tax. Read the
15 bill to understand it. It's worded -- you've got to
16 read it about ten times to understand it. I think I've
17 read it about ten times.

18 MR. BROOKS: I've got ten copies here. If
19 anybody wants them, they're welcome to have them.

20 MS. JACKSON: Chairman, I have a question. At
21 the last meeting -- June Jackson, Heard County. At the
22 last meeting we set up a technical committee to meet.
23 Who -- who will plan those meetings and when will they
24 be?

25 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Well, I was going to bring all

1 of that up in just a second --

2 MS. JACKSON: Okay.

3 CHAIRMAN RAINES: -- on how we conduct that. One
4 thing I do want to say, first of all, to Mr. Lanier and
5 his staff for helping us spearhead this pre -- well,
6 Todd called it this practice meeting on the last time.
7 I thought that went very well and it was very helpful
8 for what we had to face today. I do want to ask this
9 body, with Mr. Lanier's approval, to appoint Robert
10 Hiett as our logistical person, as far as getting
11 e-mails out, information to the roundtable. Robert was
12 very helpful in transition of getting here today, so
13 with Mr. Lanier's blessing, which he's nodded his head
14 duly, that we appoint Robert Hiett as our logistical
15 coordinator for the roundtable, and I would entertain a
16 motion to do that.

17 MR. BERES: I'd make that motion.

18 CHAIRMAN RAINES: I have a motion by the mayor of
19 Zebulon. Is there a second?

20 MR. WOLFE: Second.

21 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Second by Mr. Wolfe. Is there
22 any other discussion from the roundtable?

23 (No response.)

24 CHAIRMAN RAINES: All in favor, raise your hand.
25 All opposed? Robert will be our logistical person.

1 Anything you need to know, as far as roundtable or
2 coordinating information to the roundtable, Robert will
3 be our guy. And then I'll try to steal one more
4 employee of Mr. Lanier. Ms. Jan did a wonderful job on
5 those minutes that we had from the practice meeting. I
6 think that was very informal to helping us today, so I
7 would like to ask with if it's his blessing that she
8 become our secretary of the roundtable. And with that,
9 I entertain a motion that Jan Eaton be our secretary of
10 the roundtable for recording minutes.

11 MR. WOLFE: So moved.

12 MR. ROGERS: Second.

13 CHAIRMAN RAINES: I have a motion by Chairman
14 Wolfe and a second by --

15 MR. ROGERS: Denney Rogers.

16 CHAIRMAN RAINES: -- Mr. Rogers. Is there any
17 other discussion from the roundtable?

18 (No response.)

19 CHAIRMAN RAINES: All in favor, raise your hand.
20 All opposed?

21 (Whereupon, the motion was approved.)

22 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Okay. With that being said,
23 Robert, I'm going to let you speak.

24 MR. HIETT: Just two things real quick: I know
25 we've been in here a long time.

1 CHAIRMAN RAINES: The resolution.

2 MR. HIETT: We've got to take care of the
3 resolution.

4 CHAIRMAN RAINES: I was going to bring that up.

5 MR. HIETT: And there is a technical committee
6 sheet that I passed out for each of y'all. If there's a
7 name by it, that's who I've been told your technical
8 committee appointment's going to be. If there's a blank
9 by it, I need to know from that city or county who their
10 person's going to be just sometime this month, e-mail,
11 fax, however you want to let me know. And then after --
12 after GDOT does our final regional criteria and I've got
13 these names, I'll be able to then coordinate the
14 meetings of the technical committee. That'll be early
15 January.

16 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Yes, sir, Mr. Mayor.

17 MR. LUKKEN: Mr. Chairman, could we talk about
18 the next informal meeting and whether or not we could
19 allow proxies during that informal meeting?

20 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Yes. I was -- and y'all tell
21 me what meeting dates you want to have. I was proposing
22 January 13th, and the reason why I said that, I tried to
23 look at calendars for meetings of mayors, chairs. Most
24 of them -- it looked like to me most mayors met either
25 Monday or Tuesday, and chairs the same thing, and the

1 13th is a Thursday, and I was going to suggest that we
2 rotate throughout the region meetings to give everybody
3 an access of being a host of meetings unless y'all want
4 Tyrone City Hall to be the official meeting place of the
5 roundtable. I know people from Butts had to drive --

6 MR. ??: Turin.

7 MS. TODD: Turin.

8 MS. WARD: Turin.

9 CHAIRMAN RAINES: I'm sorry, Turin. Excuse me.
10 If y'all want to rotate the meeting locations, I'd like
11 to hear it, or if you want this to be the official
12 meeting place, I want to hear that, as well.

13 MR. LUKKEN: How is this centrally located? It
14 seems like a good spot.

15 MS. TODD: It does.

16 CHAIRMAN RAINES: It doesn't bother me.

17 MR. BRADY: It's fine with me.

18 CHAIRMAN RAINES: I just -- I just wanted to
19 offer that as -- in the method of being fair to
20 everybody at the roundtable.

21 MR. ??: Harvey, you're one of the ones that
22 drive the furthest. What are your --

23 MR. NORRIS: I prefer it be in in Butts County,
24 but you can't have everything. I'm willing to --

25 MR. ??: We could have it in LaGrange.

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MR. LUKKEN: Forty-five minutes.

CHAIRMAN RAINES: It's about an hour from each.

MR. NORRIS: This'll work. This'll work.

CHAIRMAN RAINES: So I entertain a motion that this will be our meeting place for the roundtable.

MR. MANGHAM: You got it.

CHAIRMAN RAINES: Got a motion with the chair of Pike. A second?

MR. LUKKEN: Second.

CHAIRMAN RAINES: Second by the mayor of LaGrange. Any other discussion from the roundtable?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN RAINES: All in favor, raise your hand. All opposed, same sign. This will be our meeting location. Nine o'clock is the meeting time, and it will be January the 13th, here, at 9:00.

The next thing I would like to bring before the body is the resolution. Has anybody not had the opportunity to look at the resolution? The resolution was drawn up at our practice meeting for everybody to study, and, basically, what it says, nobody has power but the roundtable is what it, basically, says, and it gives everybody access to have input and say as to which direction we go, and the resolution just, basically, draws that out that the roundtable is the authority of

1 the region. Any questions, comments on the resolution?

2 MR. BERES: According to House Bill 277, I don't
3 think the resolution is necessary, because I think House
4 Bill 277 spells out everything that's, you know,
5 required to do that. I think by adopting this
6 resolution you're taking a chance of diluting House Bill
7 277. I think that it leaves us some legal questions.

8 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Do you see that, Todd?

9 MR. LONG: I have not read the resolution, but --

10 CHAIRMAN RAINES: It, basically, just says that
11 the roundtable has decided that executive committee
12 takes to GDOT what the roundtable wants to send to GDOT.
13 They don't have any power. The official authorization
14 of authority comes from the roundtable on the majority
15 of what it says, if that's how House Bill 277 reads.

16 MS. TODD: The essence of this the last time when
17 we had our practice meeting was the fact that the
18 executive committee had to follow the guidelines of the
19 entire roundtable.

20 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Entire roundtable, right.

21 MS. TODD: So that made all of us players instead
22 of just five people.

23 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Right, right.

24 MR. LUKKEN: Mr. Chairman, these are pretty good
25 guidelines we all decided, but these guidelines can't

1 override anything in the state statute anyway --

2 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Right.

3 MR. LUKKEN: -- so there's no chance of us having
4 a conflict. The State's action will take priority over
5 anything we put together in a resolution.

6 MR. LONG: Probably, right. I don't think
7 there's any legal ramifications here, because these are
8 all whereases. The whereases mean nothing, you know
9 that, right? They're legal terms. Therefore, it says
10 the members of the roundtable for Three Rivers authorize
11 and appoint the executive committee with all powers
12 granted by or authorized in the resolution. I'm not
13 sure that says anything, but that's okay. If you want
14 to adopt it, go right ahead.

15 CHAIRMAN RAINES: With the blessings of the
16 planning director, I entertain a motion to adopt the
17 resolution --

18 MR. LUKKEN: So moved.

19 CHAIRMAN RAINES: -- as stated by this
20 roundtable. I have a motion by the mayor of LaGrange.
21 Second?

22 MR. NORRIS: Second.

23 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Second by the chair of Troup
24 County. Any other discussion from the Board?

25 MS. TODD: I think that's Butts County.

1 MR. NORRIS: That was Mayor Norris.

2 CHAIRMAN RAINES: We'll double it then. Chair
3 and mayor of Butts. Any other discussion from the
4 roundtable?

5 (No response.)

6 CHAIRMAN RAINES: All in favor by raising your
7 hand? All opposed? Motion carries. Anything else to
8 come before the roundtable?

9 MR. LUKKEN: Proxies, proxies on the informal
10 votes.

11 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Okay. Let's have a discussion
12 then.

13 MR. LUKKEN: May I throw out a first thought?

14 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Go ahead.

15 MR. LUKKEN: While I would love to see every
16 elected official here during the informal meetings, the
17 fact is if there's one of us that can't make it, like,
18 for instance, somebody from Troup County or somebody
19 from Meriwether, I think I'd like it a whole lot better
20 to have a proxy that's here, rather than an empty seat,
21 and my proxy will be somebody who probably knows a lot
22 more about transportation than I do, anyway, so I think
23 a proxy at least during the informal meetings helps keep
24 the numbers here and keeps the flow going and makes sure
25 that each of our certain organizations are represented.

1 CHAIRMAN RAINES: I think -- and y'all correct me
2 if I'm wrong. I don't think anybody has a problem at a
3 roundtable with a proxy being as a representative for
4 that mayor of that chair. The position of this
5 roundtable was that they don't have voting power. Is
6 that not correct? Y'all correct me, if I'm wrong.

7 MR. WHITE: That's correct.

8 MS. TODD: That's right.

9 MR. ??: That's correct.

10 CHAIRMAN RAINES: So as far as if the mayor of
11 LaGrange can't make it today the proxy can come and sit
12 in for the mayor to inform the mayor as to what the
13 roundtable discussed and --

14 MR. LUKKEN: Now, are we talking about the formal
15 or the informal?

16 MR. WOLFE: Informal.

17 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Informal.

18 MR. LUKKEN: All right. So this group --

19 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Now, to take an authoritative
20 vote as far as impacting the decisions that leave this
21 roundtable, that would have to be at a formal meeting
22 and that elected official would have to be at the formal
23 meeting.

24 MR. WOLFE: So we'll take no votes at an informal
25 meeting?

1 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Not at an informal, unless
2 y'all see different.

3 MR. ??: No.

4 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Well, that's the consensus.
5 Proxy is fine at informal. All formal meetings where
6 we're going to be making decisions that affect the
7 roundtable and affect this region we want mayors and the
8 chairs to be present. Any other discussion? Now, I
9 will say on the majority vote -- and y'all can take this
10 however you want to. I just believe in unity makes us
11 go forward versus division. As your chair as presiding
12 -- not a decider but a presider -- any motion cast by
13 the roundtable, I expect those that didn't support it to
14 support the majority. It's just that simple. Majority
15 rules, and you're part of the -- you're part of the
16 table. The majority has decided that we're going this
17 direction, I would expect support, I really would,
18 because there's going to be some things that you want
19 that somebody else is not going to support but the
20 majority rules, and that way you keep harmony within the
21 roundtable, so I just want you to think about that, and
22 it's not about how big or small you are, it's about us
23 working together to move the region forward, so --

24 Mr. Wolfe?

25 MR. WOLFE: What's our requirements on the press,

1 the press?

2 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Do we have to -- well, I guess
3 it's a public meeting. We would have to notify them.

4 MR. WHITE: They've got to be notified and --

5 MR. WOLFE: They'll take care of the
6 notification?

7 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Mr. Lanier did say he would.

8 MR. ??: They were?

9 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Any other questions or comments
10 to come before the roundtable? Yes, sir?

11 MR. BERES: I'd like to thank Todd Long for his
12 dedication in doing this and setting up the meetings and
13 presiding over them. I think you did a fantastic job.
14 I thank you for that. And also -- I can't think of your
15 name, but --

16 MR. DILLARD: Morris Dillard.

17 MR. BERES: Morris Dillard. I thank you for your
18 insight. I think this is -- as far as our region, this
19 is a tremendous opportunity that we can move forward in
20 transportation and funding and it would be to our
21 advantage to do our best to get this -- get the support
22 of our voters, because we know any time you see any type
23 of tax increase on power, people, at this time, have a
24 tendency to say, no, but if they're well-educated and we
25 can present this in a positive manner, I believe this

1 will be a very bene -- of great benefit for our region.

2 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Thank you. Anyone else?

3 (No response.)

4 CHAIRMAN RAINES: If not, I want to thank all of
5 the support staff that's out there, that list of the
6 politicians, and there are some sitting here that's not
7 politicians sat in to hear us come together as a region.
8 I will say I'm excited. This was to me a little
9 informal. It will be more informal as we go. We -- I
10 think this was just a relationship building day, as far
11 as I'm concerned. I am a stickler for being on time. I
12 believe in command and order in a meeting and we will go
13 in that direction. I think that way we can -- we can go
14 forward and go in the direction that we need to go in.
15 I'm excited about being elected as your chair, and if
16 I'm not doing what you think I need to do as chair tell
17 me and remove me. I'm not -- I --

18 MR. ??: We'll just tell you first.

19 CHAIRMAN RAINES: Well, we can do that, as well.
20 I want the constructive criticism because I can take it.
21 Anybody that can't take constructive criticism is not a
22 good leader. And I will say, as your leader, if I'm
23 making everybody happy, then I'm not being a good
24 leader, so I will say that with closing. And if there's
25 nothing else to come before the roundtable, thank you

1 for being here, thank you for your participation. I'll
2 entertain a motion to adjourn.

3 MR. ??: So moved.

4 (Conclusion of proceedings.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

G E O R G I A

CARROLL COUNTY:

I hereby certify that the foregoing transcript was taken down, as stated in the caption, and the questions and the answers thereto were reduced to typewriting under my directions; that the foregoing pages 1 through 83 represent a true and correct and complete transcript of the evidence given upon said hearing, and I further certify that I am not of kin or counsel to the parties in the case; am not in the regular employ of counsel for any of said parties; nor am I in anywise interested in the result of said case.

This the 5th day of January, 2011.

Jane M. Taylor - CCR-B-1100