

Executive Director's Monthly Report – May 2022

- **Council Meeting Time** - We took a poll on the preferred Council meeting time. It was a very split vote, but the majority indicated keeping the schedule at 6:30PM for dinner and 7:00PM for the official meeting, so that is what we will go with.
- **Brownfield Assessment Grant** – We are excited to announce that SWGRC was notified that we were a successful applicant for the Brownfield Assessment Grant! This was the third application cycle that we had participated in and we are very excited to finally get started on this project. At this stage, we are still awaiting contract documents. We are assuming that our award is for the amount we submitted in the application (\$485,000 over three years - \$82,500 for SWGRC staff and \$402,500 for contractual expenses) but we will verify that amount when we receive the contract documents. ***Kudos to Barbara, her team and the consulting firm for a job well done and a successful application!!***
- **RLF CARES Program** – We currently have disbursed ten microloans totaling \$385,000, or 77% of the \$500,000 fund. We have one loan application currently under review but are waiting on additional information from the applicant before we can take to the RLF Loan Board. This funding will close on June 30. After that period ends, we will not be able to draw funds for new loans, but will be able to make new loans as revolving funds (repaid loans, interest, fees, etc.) become available.
- **Annual Work Program and Grant Writing/Administration** – Please review the updated FY22 Work Program & Activities in your packet.
- **GDOT Regional Transit Development Plan Assistance Program** – We are continuing to work with GDOT and AECOM on the Regional Rural Transit Plan and have been providing information to them and having regular meetings. Our first Project Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting was held Tuesday, April 26. Stakeholder interviews are currently being conducted. The public meeting virtual forum is expected to go live in late May and will stay open for a couple of weeks. I will keep you informed so that you may visit the virtual forum and provide input.
- **FY23 Budget Proposal** - The FY23 Budget proposal will be reviewed with the Executive Committee Monday, May 23, along with the Targeted Fund Balance Policy and Work Program. On Tuesday, following the Executive Committee meeting, the recommended Budget, Fund Balance Policy and Work Program will be emailed to all Council members and posted on our website as part of the Council package. Copies will also be available at the full Council meeting. As required in our Bylaws, the budget will be tabled for 30 days and voted on at the June meeting. This will give everyone plenty of time to review and ask any questions.
- **FY22 Annual Performance Review of the Regional Commission and the Executive Director** – The performance review form will also be reviewed with the Executive Committee Monday, May 23. Following the recommendation of the Executive Committee, this form will also be emailed to all Council Members and posted on our website. There will also be copies available at the full Council meeting. The form is basically the same that it has been the last couple of years except the format is a little different. Last year several Council members did not realize there were actually two sections to fill out – one for the SWGRC, as an entity, and another for the Executive Director; therefore, many members didn't fill out the Executive Director side. This year, the survey questions are the same but there is one page for the SWGRC and a

second page for the Executive Director. Hopefully, we will get more responses with this format. These forms will need to be filled out and returned to Heather by July 15 so that we can tally results and prepare a report for the full Council meeting in July. These results are also required to be reported to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs by July 30.

- **GARC Annual Conference** – The GARC Annual Conference is scheduled for Nov 2-4 at the King & Prince Hotel on St. Simons Island. SWGRC will pay conference registration fees for any Council member that would like to attend. If you are a “non-public” or “additional” Council member (not a City or County elected official), SWGRC will cover the cost of your lodging. If you are a City or County elected official, we are assuming the City or County will pay for your travel; if this is not the case, please see me!! This is a great conference at a really nice location....I hope you will consider attending! We will pass along conference registration forms as they become available.

Meetings Attended:

- May 2 GARC Economic Development Conference (Lake Lanier Islands)
- May 10 – Regional TDP Meeting w/ GDOT & AECOM
- May 18 – GDOT Regional TDP Stakeholders’ Interview

Upcoming Meetings to note:

- May 19 – DCA Regional Roundtable
- June 1 - Regional TDP Meeting w/ GDOT & AECOM
- June 6 – One Georgia Webinar
- June 20 – GARC Transportation Group Meeting
- Nov 2-4 – GARC Annual Conference, St. Simons Island

If you have any questions, please feel free to email or call me at your convenience! Thank you for your support!!

Suzanne