



Legislative Bulletin - May 2011

By John Keys, GMOA Lobbyist

My efforts to promote GMOA in the state legislature during the month of April include the following:

1. Attended Transportation and Motor Vehicles Committee meetings in General Assembly as they occur, meeting with individual legislators to advance GMOA initiatives.
2. At Session's end, worked to get Legislative Discussion Panels put together for Annual Meeting to inform and involve GMOA Members on key issues at General Assembly. Three panels have been scheduled: Legislative Process and GMOA Member involvement; Privatization Opportunities for GMOA in Transportation in GA; and Outlook for GMOA's CDL Legislation.
3. Submitted testimony on behalf of GMOA regarding Atlanta Multi Modal Passenger Terminal (MMPT) planning and design to GDOT, March 30.

We sent this to GDOT: "Please allow maximum of private sector transportation interface at MMPT! Solicit input from private sector bus operators (both intercity and charter) for needed features of MMPT through GA Motorcoach Operators Association (GMOA), input into details of needs to connect public-private transportation providers to include: staging areas, bus bays and driver rest areas, etc. Thank you." See weblink below for more details on the project: www.dot.state.ga.us/informationcenter/p3/projects/mmppt/Documents/InstructionsforPublicComment-031411.pdf

4. Followed up regarding Item 3 above with contact to GDOT manager of MMPT, who is to contact GMOA when project planning begins, so GMOA input can be made.
5. Working with Representative Sheldon's staff (Transit Governance) to draft language for "privatization" to be included in legislation on this subject. Transit Governance Commission's final report is due on August 1, 2011. See previous report on this subject, including Commission's interim December 2010 preliminary report. Also assisted in putting Discussion Panel together for Annual Meeting on this subject.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 404-486-3686 or any member of the Legislative Committee chaired by **Brenda Tidwell** at Leisure Time Charters & Tours. Committee members include **Jimmy Cantrell** (Daniel's Charters & Tours), **John Garrett** (American Coach Lines of Atlanta), and **Ken Presley** (United Motorcoach Association).

*John Keys, GMOA Legislative Liaison
404-486-3686*