

MEETING SUMMARY
GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MTPO)
DESIGN TEAM

NCFRPC Conference Room
Gainesville, Florida

Tuesday, 1:30 p.m.
April 15, 2008

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u>	<u>OTHERS PRESENT</u>	<u>STAFF PRESENT</u>
Emery Swearingen, Chair Linda Dixon Jesus Gomez Susan Bridges Niemann Ha Nguyen Meg Niederhofer John Richter Gary Weed	Katy Fanning Beth Jordan Jonathan Paul Reid Rivers Karen Taulbee	Allan Penska Rachel Henry	Marlie Sanderson Michael Escalante

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Emery Swearingen, City of Gainesville Public Works Engineer, called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

Mr. Marlie Sanderson, MTPO Director of Transportation Planning, noted that a quorum was not present. He suggested beginning discussion on the Airport Access Road 60 Percent Design Plans.

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Swearingen introduced himself and requested introductions.

III. AIRPORT ACCESS ROAD

Mr. Marlie Sanderson, MTPO Director of Transportation Planning, stated that Airport Access Road 60 Percent Design Plans have been submitted to the Design Team for review and comment.

Ms. Rachel Henry, RW Armstrong Senior Engineer, and Mr. Allan Penska, Gainesville Regional Airport Director, discussed the Airport Access Road 60 Percent Design Plans and answered questions. She noted that:

1. the recommendation to have the pavement width for the curb-and-gutter cross-section be the same as the swale cross-section was considered and rejected due to project cost limitations;
2. the crosswalk would be straight across the roadway where the existing trail is located;

3. there is no landscaping in Phase 1, the design plans would attempt to save as many existing shade trees as possible and that shade trees would be considered for the Airport Access Road medians in the landscaping plans;
4. the project includes two drainage basins; and
5. the offstreet bicycle/pedestrian trail would be built in Phase 2 of the project.

Mr. Sanderson noted that the Airport Access Road Project is receiving federal funds and will need the approval of the MTPO. He recommended approval of the Airport Access Road 60 Percent Design Plans.

ACTION: Meg Niederhofer moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the Gainesville Regional Airport Entrance Road 60 Percent Design Plans. John Richter seconded; motion passed 7 to 1.

II. AGENDA APPROVAL

Chair Swearingen requested action on the meeting agenda.

Ms. Meg Niederhofer, Gainesville City Arborist, requested discussion of the landscaping for the Alachua County N. Main Street Resurfacing Project.

Mr. Sanderson noted that there was a N. Main Street agenda item and that her concerns could be discussed as part of that item.

ACTION: Jesus Gomez moved to approve the remaining meeting agenda. Gary Weed seconded; motion passed unanimously.

IV. DEPOT AVENUE CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENT PLANS

Chair Swearingen stated that the City has requested review comments from the Design Team. He discussed previous plans presented to the Design Team. He discussed the Depot Avenue Reconstruction Section 3 Construction Document 60 Percent Plans and answered questions. He noted that these plans may be modified to bifurcate the project at SE 2nd Street in order to address soil cleanup.

ACTION: Linda Dixon moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the Depot Avenue Reconstruction Section 3 Construction Document 60 Percent Plans, with the trees on the north side being retained or mitigated between SE 3rd Street and SE 7th Street. Jesus Gomez seconded; motion passed unanimously.

V. MTPO URBAN DESIGN POLICY MANUAL

A. FDOT MAST ARM POLICY

Chair Swearingen stated that the new FDOT mast arms policy is in conflict with the MTPO mast arms policy. He said that the City has received notification from FDOT. He said that FDOT has concerns regarding the expense for maintaining the paint on mast arms.

Mr Sanderson discussed the FDOT District 2's new policy on painting mast arms. He said that FDOT requires a maintenance agreement in order for painted mast arms to be installed.

B. PEDESTRIAN POLICY

Mr. Sanderson stated that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has informed the City of Gainesville that several State Road resurfacing projects would be done without colorized-textured crosswalks. He said that FDOT requested maintenance agreements with the City and County. He noted that the MTPO policy is that colorized-textured crosswalks are installed with resurfacing projects.

Chair Swearingen stated that the City has sent a letter to FDOT informing a preference for the installation of brick crosswalks.

C. PROPOSED REVISIONS

Chair Swearingen stated that he has reviewed the manual to address consistencies with the City's policies. He discussed proposed revisions and answered questions. He said that he would work with Ms. Susan Bridges Nieman regarding proposed revisions. He noted that he preferred the MTPO Urban Design Manual criteria be used as guidelines rather than mandates.

VI. MAIN STREET PROJECT FOLLOW-UP

Chair Swearingen discussed the Main Street project bus bay and intersection landscaping issues from the March Design Team meeting. He said that the Main Street bulbouts would be sodded. He noted that the City and County have signed maintenance agreements with FDOT for Main Street from Williston Road to N 8th Avenue.

Ms. Niederhofer discussed the County's N Main Street Resurfacing Project. She suggested placing tree wells along the corridor.

Ms. Ha Nguyen, Alachua County Design & Contract Manager, discussed the County's N Main Street Resurfacing Project and answered questions. She noted that the County does not have all the cost estimates for items included in the MTPO recommendations.

Mr. Sanderson suggested deferring this topic until the next Design Team meeting so that the County could have the necessary cost estimates and research the City Arborist's concerns.

It was a consensus to defer this agenda item until the next Design Team meeting.

VII. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Mr. Sanderson stated that the MTPO meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 29th and the next Design Team meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 20th.

VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS

There was no discussion of the information items.

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: John Richter moved to adjourn the meeting. Jesus Gomez seconded; motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 3:21 p.m.