

MINUTES
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MTPO)
FOR THE GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA

Jack Durrance Auditorium
Alachua County Administration Building
Gainesville, Florida

7:00 p.m.
Thursday
June 7, 2001

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Tom Bussing
Mike Byerly
Fred Cantrell
Chuck Chestnut IV
Pegeen Hanrahan
Robert Hutchinson
Rodney Long
Dave Newport
Warren Nielsen
Aage Schroder
Penny Wheat

MEMBERS ABSENT

John Barrow, Chair

OTHERS PRESENT

See Exhibit 1

STAFF PRESENT

Marlie Sanderson
Gerry Dedenbach
Lynn Franson-Godfrey
Mike Escalante
Andrea Vogler

CALL TO ORDER

Due to the absence of MTPO Chair John Barrow, MTPO Vice-Chair Robert Hutchinson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Marlie Sanderson, MTPO Director of Transportation Planning, discussed staff's requested revisions to the meeting agenda and consent agenda.

A member of the MTPO asked what is the next step in the process for the six-month evaluation of ATC/Intelitran.

Ms. Lynn Franson-Godfrey, MTPO Senior Transportation Planner, stated that the evaluation will be forwarded to the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged for their review. She said that the Alachua County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board will conduct a second evaluation in October. She noted that service has improved since ATC/Intelitran started service in October, 2000. She added that the Coordinating Board is hopeful that this trend will continue.

ACTION: Commissioner Wheat moved to approve the consent agenda and meeting agenda with the addition of:

1. consent agenda item C.A.8, MTPO Budget Revisions; and
2. regular agenda item V., Fiscal Years 2001 - 2005 TIP Amendments.

Commissioner Chestnut seconded; motion passed unanimously.

II. COUNTYWIDE BICYCLE MASTER PLAN

Mr. Sanderson stated that, in December, 1999, the MTPO approved a motion to prepare a Bicycle Master Plan for the Gainesville Metropolitan Area. He said that the Alachua County Public Works Department (ACPWD) requested that the scope be expanded to include all of Alachua County. He reported that the MTPO, City of Gainesville, Alachua County and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) agreed to participate in funding this project. He noted that FDOT agreed to pay for half of the \$75,000 cost for this plan with the City, County and MTPO each paying \$12,500.

Mr. Bruce Landis, Sprinkle Consulting Inc., (SCI) Vice President, and Mr. Jonathan Paul, SCI Project Planner, discussed the proposed Countywide Bicycle Master Plan and answered questions.

Mr. George Edwards, Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board (B/PAB) Chair, discussed the feasibility of adding the designation of bikelanes on SW 34th Street, from Archer Road to University Avenue.

Mr. Aage Schroder, FDOT District 2 Secretary, discussed the feasibility of designating bikelanes on SW 34th Street.

The MTPO discussed additional bicycle/pedestrian projects not listed in the Plan.

Ms. Natalie Hannon, University of Florida (UF) Student Lobby Director, and Mr. Greg Stube, UF Student Senate President, discussed the need for pedestrian-scale lighting and shade trees along heavily traveled bicycle and pedestrian facilities near UF.

The following individuals also spoke concerning the Plan:

Wayne Bowers Linda Dixon Steve Lachnicht David Welch

ACTION: Mayor Bussing moved to:

1. approve the Countywide Bicycle Master Plan as a completed planning document; and
2. authorize staff to forward the Plan to municipalities in Alachua County requesting that they also consider adopting this Plan.

Commissioner Newport seconded; motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Commissioner Nielsen moved to request that staff consider the following projects for inclusion in the 2002 update of the Countywide Bicycle Master Plan:

1. **construction of an off-road bicycle/pedestrian trail on:**
 - A. **the north side of SW 35th Place, from SW 34th Street to SW 23rd Terrace;**
 - B. **SW 6th Street, from Depot Avenue to SW 16th Avenue; and**
 - C. **the west side of NW 83rd Street, from NW 23rd Avenue to NW 39th Avenue with potential partnering on this project with Santa Fe Community College, Gainesville Regional Utilities, Florida Power, Alachua County and FDOT; and**
2. **opportunities for bicycle/pedestrian facilities along Lakeshore Drive, from Hawthorne Road to University Avenue.**

Commissioner Newport seconded; motion passed unanimously.

A member of the MTPO discussed FDOT standards concerning ten-foot minimum travel lane width.

Mr. Schroder noted that FDOT currently does not support ten-foot travel lanes for the State highway system. He added that FDOT has not adopted new language concerning minimum travel lane width.

ACTION: Commissioner Byerly moved to refer to staff the identification of roadways eliminated from the Countywide Bicycle Master Plan because designating bikelanes along these corridors would have resulted in ten-foot travel lanes. Mayor Bussing seconded; motion passed unanimously.

A member of the MTPO discussed the UF Student Senate request concerning pedestrian scale lighting and shade trees.

ACTION: Commissioner Nielsen moved to request that the MTPO Advisory Committees and staff develop:

1. **standards for lighting along bicycle/pedestrian trails;**
2. **a list of existing and future off-road bicycle/pedestrian trails for addition of pedestrian-scale lighting;**
3. **standard cross-sections for urban and rural roadways which include bicycle/pedestrian facilities, landscaping and street furniture; and**
4. **a tree-planting master plan for existing and future bicycle/pedestrian trails to include:**

- A. **a priority list of future bicycle/pedestrian trails where planting can begin prior to construction; and**
- B. **standards for shade including:**
 - 1. **what type of trees to plant;**
 - 2. **how far apart should they be planted; and**
 - 3. **whether or not they require irrigation.**

Commissioner Newport seconded; motion passed unanimously.

III. SW 34th STREET OFF-ROAD BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN FACILITY

Mr. Sanderson stated that, at its May 10 meeting, the MTPO discussed the feasibility of constructing an off-road bicycle/pedestrian facility on SW 34th Street, from Archer Road to West University Avenue. He said that, during this discussion, the MTPO approved a motion to request that MTPO staff research the feasibility of constructing an off-road bicycle/pedestrian facility on either the east or west side of SW 34th Street from Archer Road to W University Avenue.

Mr. Gerry Dedenbach, MTPO Senior Planner, discussed the feasibility of constructing an off-road bicycle/pedestrian facility through this corridor and answered questions. He stated that such a facility might only be feasible on the eastern portion of the corridor through the use of University property.

Mr. Fred Cantrell, UF Assistant Vice President for Administrative Affairs, stated that the University is considering a "Millennium Mile" project in this corridor. He said that historical markers would be placed along the mile signifying the history of the University and the State of Florida. He noted that, currently, this is an unfunded project. He discussed the possibility of the University constructing an off-road bicycle/pedestrian trail as part of this project.

It was a consensus of the MTPO to request that University staff provide periodic status reports, as needed, to the MTPO concerning the University's proposed "Millennium Mile" Project.

The following individuals spoke concerning this agenda item:

Glen Smerage Cindy Smith

ACTION: Commissioner Hanrahan moved to authorize the Chair to send a letter to the University of Florida endorsing the "Millennium Mile" project and requesting that the University consider constructing an off-road bicycle/pedestrian trail, on the east side of SW 34th Street, as part of this project. Mayor Bussing seconded; motion passed unanimously.

IV. FISCAL YEARS 2002 - 2006 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Mr. Sanderson discussed the Fiscal Years 2002-2006 TIP and answered questions. A member of the MTPO noted that the Fiscal Years 2002-2006 TIP reflects a dramatic decrease in funding for Alachua County.

The MTPO discussed funds available from each category in the TIP.

It was a consensus of the MTPO to request a comparison of State transportation funding allocated to Alachua County versus other Florida counties.

Mr. Schroder and Ms. Joye Brown, FDOT District 2 Assistant Planning Manager, discussed State transportation funding issues and answered questions.

The MTPO noted that, previously, there was significant funding available for capacity enhancement projects. They discussed whether transit projects could be considered capacity enhancements.

Ms. Brown discussed transit and capacity enhancement projects. She explained that the MTPO would need to amend their Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), to give transit projects a higher priority, in order to receive capacity enhancement funding for the transit projects.

ACTION: Commissioner Newport moved to approve the TIP. Commissioner Chestnut seconded; motion passed unanimously.

The MTPO continued to discuss prioritization of, and State funding for, transportation projects.

ACTION: Commissioner Chestnut moved to schedule a transportation funding workshop at the August 2, 2001 meeting. Commissioner Wheat seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Vice-Chair Hutchinson requested that staff email members of the MTPO asking them to reply with questions concerning funding for transportation projects that they would like to have answered at the August 2nd meeting.

A member of the MTPO requested that FDOT include in their August presentation a discussion of where funding for transportation projects comes from and how is it allocated.

V. FISCAL YEARS 2001 - 2005 TIP AMENDMENTS

Mr. Sanderson discussed proposed amendments to the TIP concerning two UF projects.

Mr. Cantrell discussed the UF transportation projects and answered questions.

The MTPO discussed the proposed TIP amendments.

ACTION: Commissioner Long moved to approve the proposed TIP amendments to:

- 1. construct an access road to P.K. Yonge school at SW 6th Street; and**
- 2. reconfigure North/South drive for expansion of the football stadium.**

Commissioner Nielsen seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VI. STATE ROADS (SR) 26/26A ENHANCEMENT PRIORITIES

Mr. Sanderson stated that this project is currently scheduled for construction in Fiscal Year 2004/2005. He reported that, according to FDOT, there is a shortfall of FDOT funding for project enhancements such as widened sidewalks, pedestrian scale lighting, street amenities and roundabouts. He noted that FDOT has requested that the MTPO review the list of enhancements for this project and rank them in priority order. He added that FDOT will use this priority ranking to fund enhancements for this project based upon the amount of FDOT funds that are available. He concluded that, after all FDOT funds are spent, the remaining unfunded enhancements will be constructed using transportation enhancement funds.

The MTPO discussed the recommended enhancement priorities.

Ms. Brown discussed the funding and construction constraints of the SR 26/26A project.

Ms. Cindy Smith also spoke concerning this agenda item.

ACTION: Mayor Bussing moved to:

1. **rank the proposed enhancements for the SR 26/26A project as follows:**
 - A. **landscaping;**
 - B. **pedestrian-scale lighting;**
 - C. **pavers and brick-hued pedestrian crosswalks;**
 - D. **tree wells west of W 32nd Street;**
 - E. **bulb-outs at the northeast and southwest corners of the intersections at SW 34th Street and SW 2nd Avenue and University Avenue, respectively;**
 - F. **tree wells and wide sidewalks east of W 32nd Street; and**
 - G. **street furniture; and**
2. **request that FDOT amend their subcontractor's contract to develop design and cost estimates for the SR 26/26A enhancements.**

Commissioner Hanrahan seconded.

The MTPO continued to discuss prioritization of the enhancements.

SUBSTITUTE

ACTION: Commissioner Byerly moved a substitute motion to:

1. **rank the proposed enhancements for the SR 26/26A project as follows:**
 - A. **tree wells and wide sidewalks east of W 32nd Street;**
 - B. **landscaping;**
 - C. **pedestrian-scale lighting;**

- D. pavers and brick-hued pedestrian crosswalks;**
 - E. tree wells west of W 32nd Street;**
 - F. bulb-outs at the northeast and southwest corners of the intersections at SW 34th Street and SW 2nd Avenue and University Avenue, respectively; and**
 - G. street furniture; and**
- 2. request that FDOT amend their subcontractor's contract to develop design and cost estimates for the SR 26/26A enhancements.**

Commissioner Wheat seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VII. PLAN EAST GAINESVILLE SUBCOMMITTEE- STATUS REPORT

Subcommittee Chairman Rodney Long gave a status report concerning the Plan East Gainesville project.

Mr. Dedenbach gave a status report concerning the project and answered questions. He explained that FDOT has preliminarily agreed to contribute funds for this project provided that the scopes of work meet FDOT guidelines for a Project Design and Environmental (PD&E) study.

The MTPO discussed the proposed scopes of services and schedule for completion of the project.

Members of the MTPO expressed concern that the schedule does not provide adequate time for such a comprehensive study.

ACTION: Commissioner Long moved to:

- 1. approve the preliminary Special Area, Land Conservation and Transportation Plan Element scopes of work;**
- 2. authorize staff to revise the scopes of work in order to ensure their consistency with FDOT's PD&E guidelines;**
- 3. authorize the MTPO Chair and Plan East Gainesville Subcommittee Chair to send a letter to public and private entities to request their presence at a future Plan East Gainesville meeting to discuss partnerships in this project; and**
- 4 request that staff draft a request for proposals for tasks specified in the scopes of work.**

Commissioner Chestnut seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VIII. COMMENTS

A. MTPO MEMBERS

A member of the MTPO discussed the conclusions of the Lockwood Green Transportation Study.

ACTION: Commissioner Hanrahan moved to authorize the Chair to send a letter in response to issues raised in the Lockwood Green Study. Commissioner Nielsen seconded; motion passed unanimously.

B. CITIZENS

There were no citizen comments.

C. CHAIR'S REPORT

There was no Chair's report.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chair Hutchinson adjourned the meeting at 11:52 p.m.

Date

Warren Nielsen
Secretary/Treasurer

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EXHIBIT 1

OTHERS PRESENT

Wayne Bowers	Paul Hoffhein	John Sabatella
Joye Brown	Doug Hornbeck	Dave Schwartz
Maggi Davison	Reginald Jones	Glen Smerage
Sally Dickinson	Steve Lachnicht	Cindy Smith
Linda Dixon	Bruce Landis	Mark Stowe
Carmen Harris	Marge Malagodi	Greg Stube
Natalie Hannon	Chandler Otis	Willy Thelosen
Sharon Hawkey	John Paul	David Welch
Ralph Hilliard	Sergio Quintana	Fred Wright