

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

Jack Durrance Auditorium  
Alachua County Administration Building  
Gainesville, Florida

2:00 p.m.  
Thursday  
September 13, 2001

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Barrow, Chair  
Mayor Tom Bussing  
Mike Byerly  
Fred Cantrell  
Chuck Chestnut IV  
Pegeen Hanrahan  
Robert Hutchinson  
Rodney Long  
Dave Newport  
Warren Nielsen  
Aage Schroder

MEMBERS ABSENT

Penny Wheat

OTHERS PRESENT

See Exhibit 1

STAFF PRESENT

Marlie Sanderson  
Gerry Dedenbach  
Lynn Franson-Godfrey  
Andrea Vogler

CALL TO ORDER

Chair John Barrow called the meeting to order at 2:09 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Marlie Sanderson, MTPO Director of Transportation Planning, requested that the MTPO add two items to their regular agenda:

1. a City Commission request to make an announcement about the 2001 Greenways and Trails Acquisition Program; and
2. consideration to appoint additional members to the Plan East Gainesville Consultant Evaluation Team.

He noted that the meeting must adjourn around 4:00 p.m. so that MTPO Plan East Gainesville Subcommittee members can meet at 5:00 p.m. Therefore, he requested that the MTPO amend the meeting agenda to add these two items as the first and second regular agenda items to insure that the MTPO has enough time to discuss these issues.

**ACTION: Commissioner Long moved to approve the consent agenda and meeting agenda as amended to add items:**

- I. 2001 Greenways and Trails Acquisition Program; and**
- II. Plan East Gainesville Consultant Evaluation Team.**

**Commissioner Newport seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

**I. 2001 GREENWAYS AND TRAILS ACQUISITION PROGRAM**

Mr. Sanderson stated that the City Commission has requested an announcement concerning grant applications that are being accepted through October 23 by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the purchase of recreational and ecologically sensitive lands. He reported that it is staff's understanding that the City Commission wanted this announcement made in case there is a project that the City or County staff should consider submitting an application for this year.

Mr. Wayne Bowers, City of Gainesville Manager, stated that he would take the lead on working with City and County staffs concerning whether there is a project that they should consider submitting an application for this year.

**It was a consensus of the MTPO that Mr. Bowers provide a status report on this grant program at the next MTPO meeting.**

**II. PLAN EAST GAINESVILLE CONSULTANT EVALUATION TEAM**

Mr. Sanderson stated that there are two potential funding partners for this project that have expressed an interest in being on the Consultant Evaluation Team- one is the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and the other is the Alliance for Economic Development. He said that staff recommends that the MTPO appoint a representative from both the FDOT and the Council for Economic Development to the Plan East Gainesville Consultant Evaluation Team.

**ACTION: Commissioner Neilsen moved to appoint a representative from both the FDOT and the Alliance for Economic Development to the Plan East Gainesville Consultant Evaluation Team. Commissioner Hutchinson seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Paul Hoffhein expressed concern that there is no east Gainesville citizen representation on the Selection Team.

Plan East Gainesville Subcommittee Chairman Rodney Long stated that the MTPO appointed a representative from "Front Porch Florida" as the citizen-at-large representative.

### III. HOGTOWN CREEK SEDIMENT PROJECT

Mr. Sanderson provided background information concerning the Hogtown Creek Sediment Project. He stated that this agenda item was discussed by the MTPO at the August meeting. He said that, unfortunately, there was not enough time to finish this discussion. He noted that, as a result, the MTPO instructed staff to schedule a special meeting as soon as possible to continue discussion of this agenda item. He added that FDOT staff is present at today's meeting to give a presentation concerning this project.

Mr. Aage Schroder, FDOT District 2 Secretary, made a presentation concerning the Hogtown Creek Sediment project and answered questions.

A member of the MTPO discussed the City of Gainesville's plans concerning Hogtown Creek. He suggested that FDOT and the City of Gainesville work together to solve the sediment problems throughout the entire Hogtown Creek basin, rather than in one small area of the creek.

The following individuals spoke concerning this agenda item:

Gary Ihas	Cindy Smith	David Welch
Jim Kimbro	Ron Thaler	Susan Wright

Ms. Alice Rankeillor, City of Gainesville Public Works Department Engineer, discussed the City of Gainesville's project to prepare a restoration plan for the Hogtown Creek watershed.

The MTPO discussed FDOT's schedule and scope concerning this project.

**ACTION: Mayor Bussing moved to:**

- 1. request that FDOT:**
  - A. delay final project approval until negotiations with the City of Gainesville are concluded;**
  - B. follow a more ecological approach in its design for the project with regards to stream restoration;**
  - C. design the project to solve flood-related problems associated with storm events of greater than five years;**
  - D. install less visible fencing than the standard steel chain link;**

- E. provide naturalistic landscaping to shield the project;**
  - F. remove right-of-way encroachments and transform these areas into green space;**
  - G. provide shared access to the creek at both State Road 26 and State Road 121 through existing development driveways and right-of-way; and**
  - H. submit the revised landscape plan for review by the Design Team;**
- 2. request that the City of Gainesville seek additional funding for amenities such as observation areas and walkways for the project; and**
  - 3. request that FDOT discontinue the Hogtown Creek sediment project, and not let the contract, because it is not consistent with the community's vision for Hogtown Creek.**

**Commissioner Byerly seconded.**

The MTPO continued to discuss the Hogtown Creek Sediment project.

**ACTION: Commissioner Hutchinson moved a substitute motion to request that FDOT:**

- 1. delay final project approval until negotiations with the City of Gainesville are concluded or until April 1, 2002, whichever is sooner;**
- 2. in cooperation with the City of Gainesville, negotiate for the removal of right-of-way encroachments and transfer these areas into greenspace;**
- 3. provide shared access to the creek at both State Road 26 and State Road 121 through existing development driveways and right-of-way;**
- 4. submit the revised landscape and trail plans for review by the Design Team and the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board; and**
- 5. provide alternative design concepts for the walls of the sediment trap.**

**Commissioner Hanrahan seconded.**

Chair Barrow requested a rollcall vote concerning the substitute motion:

	<b>City</b>	<b>County</b>
<b>Mayor Bussing</b>	<b>No</b>	
<b>Commissioner Byerly</b>		<b>No</b>
<b>Commissioner Chestnut IV</b>	<b>No</b>	
<b>Commissioner Hanrahan</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Commissioner Hutchinson</b>		<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Newport</b>		<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Nielsen</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Chair Barrow</b>	<b>Yes</b>	

**Substitute motion passed.**

#### **IV. NEXT MTPO MEETING**

Mr. Sanderson stated that the next MTPO meeting is scheduled for October 11 at 1:30 p.m.

#### **V. COMMENTS**

##### **A. MTPO MEMBERS**

There were no member comments.

##### **B. CITIZENS**

There were no citizen comments.

##### **C. CHAIR'S REPORT**

There was no Chair's report.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Barrow adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

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Date

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Warren Nielsen  
Secretary/Treasurer