MINUTES METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR THE GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA

John R. "Jack" Durrance Auditorium and Via Communications Media Technology Gainesville, Florida

February 22, 2021

3:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

David Arreola, Chair

Mary Alford

Charles Chestnut IV

Ken Cornell

Linda Dixon/Curtis Reynolds

Adrian Hayes-Santos

Gail Johnson

Lauren Poe

Anna Prizzia

Reina Saco

Gigi Simmons

Karen Taulbee/Greg Evans

Harvey Ward

Marihelen Wheeler

MEMBERS ABSENT OTHERS PRESENT See Exhibit A

Rural Advisor [Vacant]

STAFF PRESENT Michael Escalante Scott Koons

CALL TO ORDER

After recognizing a quorum was present in the John R. Jack' Durrance Auditorium, Chair David Arreola called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. and asked for a declaration of extraordinary circumstance in order to conduct the meeting as a hybrid meeting enabling members that are not present in-person to participate in the meeting via communications media technology.

MOTION: Commissioner Cornell moved to declare an extraordinary circumstance due to the COVID-19 pandemic and to conduct the meeting as a hybrid meeting enabling members that are not present in-person to participate in the meeting via communications media technology. Commissioner Alford seconded the motion. Mr. Koons conducted a roll call vote of the seven members present in the John R. "Jack" Durrance Auditorium.

| City Member Quorum | Yes | No | County Member Quorum | Yes | No |
|--------------------|-----|----|----------------------|-----|----|
| | | | Mary ALFORD | X | |
| | | | Ken CORNELL | X | |
| Lauren POE | X | | | | |
| | | | Anna PRIZZIA | X | |
| Reina SACO | X | | | | |
| Harvey WARD | X | | | | |
| David ARREOLA | X | | | | |
| Totals | 4 | 0 | | 3 | 0 |

Motion passed unanimously.

I. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Arreola asked for approval of the meeting agenda and consent agenda.

MOTION: Commissioner Alford moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Meeting Agenda. Commissioner Ward seconded the motion; Chair Arreola asked for and received no public comment; Mr. Koons conducted a roll call vote.

| City Member | Yes | No | County Member | Yes | No |
|---------------|-----|----|---------------------|-----|----|
| | | | Mary ALFORD | X | |
| | | | Charles CHESTNUT IV | X | |
| | | | Ken CORNELL | X | |
| Gail JOHNSON | X | | | | |
| Lauren POE | X | | | | |
| Reina SACO | X | | | | |
| | | | Anna PRIZZIA | X | |
| Gigi SIMMONS | X | | | | |
| Harvey WARD | X | | | | |
| | | | Marihelen WHEELER | X | |
| David ARREOLA | X | | | | V |
| Totals | 6 | 0 | | 5 | 0 |

Motion passed unanimously.

II. BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY BOARD - VACANT POSITIONS

Mr. Koons stated that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization needs to fill two vacant positions on the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board. He noted that the two positions have a term ending December 31, 2023. He reported that there were no applicants at this time. He noted that the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board Coordinator would be requesting Alachua County Board of Commissioners-appointment applicants not appointed by the Board of County Commissioners to complete an application to the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for appointment to the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board.

III. CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE- VACANT POSITIONS

Mr. Koons stated that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization needs to fill seven vacant positions on its Citizens Advisory Committee. He reported that two positions have a term ending December 31, 2022; and five positions have a term ending December 31, 2023. He noted that there are only four applicants at this time.

MOTION: Mayor Poe moved to:

- Reappoint Craig Brashier, Alyssa Brown, Gilbert Levy and Chris Towne to the Citizens Advisory Committee for terms ending December 31, 2023; and
- Advertise to fill vacancies.

Commissioner Ward seconded; Chair Arreola asked for and received no public comment; Mr. Koons conducted a roll call vote.

| City Member | Yes | No | County Member | Yes | No |
|---------------|-----|----|---------------------|-----|----|
| | | | Mary ALFORD | X | |
| | | | Charles CHESTNUT IV | X | |
| | | | Ken CORNELL | X | |
| Gail JOHNSON | X | | | | |
| Lauren POE | X | | | | |
| Reina SACO | X | | | | |
| | | | Anna PRIZZIA | X | |
| Gigi SIMMONS | X | | | | |
| Harvey WARD | X | | | | |
| | | | Marihelen WHEELER | X | |
| David ARREOLA | X | | | | |
| Totals | 6 | 0 | | 5 | 0 |

Motion passed unanimously.

IV. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Koons stated that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization needed to elect a Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary/Treasurer for the coming year. He identified the current officers and noted that the Chair traditionally alternates between the City Commission and Board of County Commissioners. He stated that the Bylaws do not preclude officers from serving consecutive terms.

MOTION: Commissioner Ward moved to elect Commissioner Chestnut as Chair, Commissioner Hayes-Santos as Vice-Chair and Commissioner Alford as Secretary/Treasurer.

Commissioner Cornell seconded; Mr. Koons conducted a roll call vote.

| City Member | Yes | No | County Member | Yes | No |
|---------------|-----|----|----------------------|-------|----|
| | | | Mary ALFORD | X | |
| | | | Charles CHESTNUT IV | X | |
| | | | Ken CORNELL | X | |
| Gail JOHNSON | X | | | | |
| Lauren POE | X | | | | |
| Reina SACO | X | | | | |
| | | | Anna PRIZZIA | X | |
| Gigi SIMMONS | X | | LYUS TILL STILL, IL. | | |
| Harvey WARD | X | | | L. TR | |
| | | | Marihelen WHEELER | X | |
| David ARREOLA | X | | | | |
| Totals | 6 | 0 | _ | 5 | 0 |

Motion passed unanimously.

V. FLORIDA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Mr. Koons asked the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization to appoint a second alternate representative to replace former Commissioner Robert Hutchinson to the Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council for 2021. He noted that currently Commissioner Ward serves as the voting representative and Commissioner Wheeler serves as the first alternate representative.

MOTION: Commissioner Cornell moved to appoint Commissioner Alford as the second alternate representative to the Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council. Mayor Poe seconded; Mr. Koons conducted a roll call vote.

| City Member | Yes | No | County Member | Yes | No |
|---------------|--------|----|---------------------|-----|-----|
| | | | Mary ALFORD | X | |
| | - E 1' | | Charles CHESTNUT IV | X | |
| | | | Ken CORNELL | X | |
| Gail JOHNSON | X | | | | |
| Lauren POE | X | | | | 17. |
| Reina SACO | X | | | | |
| | | | Anna PRIZZIA | X | |
| Gigi SIMMONS | X | | | | |
| Harvey WARD | X | | | | |
| | | | Marihelen WHEELER | X | |
| David ARREOLA | X | | | | |
| Totals | 6 | 0 | | 5 | 0 |

Motion passed unanimously.

VI. AUDIT REVIEW COMMITTEE

Mr. Koons asked that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization appoint two members to an Audit Review Committee. He noted that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization Secretary/Treasurer traditionally chairs this committee.

MOTION: Commissioner Ward moved to appoint Commissioner Alford and Commissioner Saco to the Audit Review Committee and to have Commissioner Alford serve as Committee Chair. Commissioner Cornell seconded; Mr. Koons conducted a roll call vote.

| City Member | Yes | No | County Member | Yes | No |
|---------------|-----|----|---------------------|-----|-----|
| | | | Mary ALFORD | X | |
| | | | Charles CHESTNUT IV | X | |
| | | | Ken CORNELL | X | |
| Gail JOHNSON | X | | | | |
| Lauren POE | X | | | | .71 |
| Reina SACO | X | | | 1 | |
| | | | Anna PRIZZIA | X | |
| Gigi SIMMONS | X | | | | |
| Harvey WARD | X | | | | |
| | | | Marihelen WHEELER | X | |
| David ARREOLA | X | | | | |
| Totals | 6 | 0 | | 5 | 0 |

Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hayes-Santos joined the meeting at this time.

VII. RURAL ADVISOR SELECTION

Mr. Koons stated that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization needs to appoint a Rural Advisor due to the December 31, 2020 term expiration of Doug Jones. He reported that nominations were solicited from the municipalities within Alachua County located outside the Gainesville Metropolitan Area. Mr. Koons stated that three municipalities, Alachua, Archer and High Springs, submitted the names of individuals for consideration.

MOTION: Commissioner Simmons moved to appoint City of High Springs Mayor Gloria James as the Rural Advisor to the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization.

Commissioner Alford seconded; Mr. Koons conducted a roll call vote.

| City Member | Yes | No | County Member | Yes | No |
|---------------------|-----|----|---------------------|-----|----|
| | | | Mary ALFORD | X | |
| | | | Charles CHESTNUT IV | X | |
| | | | Ken CORNELL | | X |
| Adrian HAYES-SANTOS | X | | | | |
| Gail JOHNSON | X | | | | |
| Lauren POE | X | | | | |
| Reina SACO | X | | | | |
| | | | Anna PRIZZIA | X | |
| Gigi SIMMONS | X | | | | |
| Harvey WARD | X | | | | |
| | | | Marihelen WHEELER | X | |
| David ARREOLA | X | | | | |
| Totals | 7 | 0 | | 4 | 1 |

Motion passed with 7 Yeas votes and 0 Nay votes by the City Commission members and 4 Yeas votes and 1 Nay vote by the Board of County Commissioners members.

VIII. STATE ROAD 26 (UNIVERSITY AVENUE) PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

Mr. Koons stated that Chair Arreola requested discussion of pedestrian safety on State Road 26 (University Avenue) to be placed on the meeting agenda.

Chair Arreola noted that the State Road 26 (University Avenue) corridor was a high priority for the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for safe multimodal mobility.

James Hannigan, Florida Department of Transportation District 2 Traffic Operations Engineer, discussed planned shot-term, mid-term and long-term safety modifications to the State Road 26 (University Avenue) corridor and answered questions.

Mr. Koons noted Suzanne McGuire, Legislative Aide to State Senator Keith Perry, was present at the meeting.

Ms. McGuire stated that Senator Perry was monitoring and supporting progress concerning the provision of safety solutions to the State Road 26 (University Avenue) corridor.

Mr. Koons read an email from Cory Mayback (Exhibit 1). Exhibit 2 is an email from Ann Pasquale.

Amy Grasfeller, representing Gators Against Student Pedestrian Deaths, discussed pedestrian safety concerns on State Road 26 (University Avenue).

Mark Mulitzer, University of Florida student, discussed safety concerns along State Road 26 (University Avenue).

Chris Ferlow, President, Gainesville Citizens for Active Transportation, discussed its report concerning safety issues, and short-term, mid-term and long-term solutions for State Road 26 (University Avenue).

Kristen Young, Gainesville Citizens for Active Transportation Vice-President, discussed long-term safety solutions for State Road 26 (University Avenue).

Tim MacDonald discussed safety concerns along State Road 26 (University Avenue).

Lisa Hammer, representing Gators Against Student Pedestrian Deaths, discussed lowering the speed limit on State Road 26 (University Avenue). She added that the group would work with the Florida Department of Transportation, the City of Gainesville and the University of Florida to make the State Road 26 (University Avenue) corridor safer.

Bob Karp, member, Gainesville Citizens for Active Transportation Board, discussed lowering the speed limit on State Road 26 (University Avenue).

Kaley Kiss, Founder, Florida Not One More, discussed the pedestrian fatalities along State Road 26 (University Avenue). She noted that Florida Not One More would work with the Florida Department of Transportation, the City of Gainesville and the University of Florida to make the State Road 26 (University Avenue) corridor safe for students, faculty and Gainesville citizens at-large.

Mr. Hannigan continued to answer Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization member questions. He noted that first responders would be able to navigate the speed tables to be installed/constructed on State Road 26 (University Avenue). He discussed the speed limit reduction process and enhanced penalty zone criteria.

Mayor Poe noted the City's Complete Streets Study is scheduled to be completed within the next five months.

Commissioner Simmons departed the meeting at this time.

IX. METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

Chair Arreola stated that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization had previously referred discussion of the following transportation issues to this meeting:

- A. Regional Transit System fare structure;
- B. First-Mile and Last Mile Study;
- C. Lighted signal crossing on the State Highway System;
- D. West 13th Street as a complete street and University Avenue, South 2nd Avenue and South 4th Avenue for the University of Florida to East 25 Street; and
- E. Transportation equity in the planning process.

Mr. Koons stated that the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners requested that safety concerns on the State Highway System in addition to State Road 26 (University Avenue) be included in the discussion of safety issues.

Commissioner Ward discussed item D. West 13th Street as a Complete Street and State Road 26 (University Avenue), South 2nd Avenue and South 4th Avenue for the University of Florida to East 25 Street.

Commissioner Prizzia discussed the need for discussion of pedestrian safety concerns on the State Highway System.

Mayor Poe discussed safety needs, limited resources and the need for a transportation surtax. He suggested a countywide transportation equity workshop/town hall meeting.

Commissioner Ward discussed item C. Lighted Signal Crossing On The State Highway System, noting that enhanced lighting is being installed on State Road 24 (Waldo Road); item B. First-Mile and Last Mile Study, which he reviewed; and item A. Regional Transit System Fare Structure.

Lee Feldman, City Manager, City of Gainesville, discussed implementation of a fare-free transit structure for persons under 18-years old, 65-years old and older, and disabled persons, and bus vehicle replacement costs for the City of Gainesville Regional Transit System.

Ms. Young spoke in support of the fare-free transit structure for persons under 18-years old, 65-years old and older, and disabled persons for the City of Gainesville Regional Transit System.

MOTION: Commissioner Ward moved have a joint Alachua County-City of Gainesville-funded pilot project undertaken for a fare-free transit structure for persons under 18-years old, persons 65-years old and older, and disabled persons for the City of Gainesville Regional Transit System. Commissioner Prizzia seconded; Mr. Koons conducted a roll call vote.

| City Member | Yes | No | County Member | Yes | No |
|---------------------|-----|----|---------------------|-----|----|
| | | | Mary ALFORD | X | |
| | | | Charles CHESTNUT IV | X | |
| | | | Ken CORNELL | X | |
| Adrian HAYES-SANTOS | X | | | | |
| Gail JOHNSON | X | | | | |
| Lauren POE | X | | | | |
| Reina SACO | X | | | | |
| | | | Anna PRIZZIA | X | |
| Harvey WARD | X | | | | |
| | | | Marihelen WHEELER | X | |
| David ARREOLA | X | | | | |
| Totals | 6 | 0 | | 5 | 0 |

Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Alford discussed street lighting and transportation surtax similar to the Pinellas County tax.

Chair Arreola noted that there are more back-up materials for these items in the meeting packet.

X. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION REPORT

Mr. Koons stated that the Florida Department of Transportation District 2 staff requested an opportunity to provide a report.

Mari Schwabacher, Florida Department of Transportation District 2 Liaison, discussed the Unified Planning Work Program amendment for Federal Transit Administration Section 5305(d) funding and soft match; the metropolitan transportation planning certification process; the Work Program/Transportation Improvement Program; and the Year 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan review and answered questions.

XI. NEXT METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION MEETING

Chair Arreola announced that the next Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization meeting is scheduled for April 26, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

V. COMMENTS

A. METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION MEMBERS

A member discussed safety concerns on NW 16th Avenue and asked for a signal warrant study for the intersection at NW 16th Avenue and NW 29th Terrace.

A member stated that Alachua County staff was researching the crosswalk for the intersection at NW 16th Avenue and NW 29th Terrace.

Malissa McCreedy, Director, Gainesville Mobility Department, discussed the potential placement of a pedestrian beacon at the intersection of NW 16th Avenue and NW 29th Terrace.

B. CITIZENS

There were no citizen comments.

C. CHAIR'S REPORT

MOTION: Commissioner Cornell moved to have Alachua County and the City of Gainesville each pay one-half of the cost of the public comment vendor for Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization virtual/hybrid meetings conducted via communications media technology. Commissioner Alford seconded; Mr. Koons conducted a roll call vote.

| City Member | Yes | No | County Member | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|---------------------|-----|----|
| | | | Mary ALFORD | X | |
| | 2 | | Charles CHESTNUT IV | X | |
| The state of the s | | | Ken CORNELL | X | |
| Adrian HAYES-SANTOS | X | | | | |
| Gail JOHNSON | X | | | | |
| Lauren POE | X | | | | |
| Reina SACO | X | | | | |
| | | 4 | Anna PRIZZIA | X | |
| Harvey WARD | X | | | | |
| | | | Marihelen WHEELER | X | |
| David ARREOLA | X | | | | |
| Totals | 6 | 0 | | 5 | 0 |

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Koons thanked Chair Arreola for his leadership as Chair and presented him a plaque recognizing his service.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Date

1/27/2021

Mary Alford, Secretary/Treasure



Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization Minutes February 22, 2021

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CONSENT AGENDA METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR THE GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA

John R. "Jack" Durrance Auditorium and Via Communications Media Technology Gainesville, Florida 3:00 p.m. February 22, 2021

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Page [#]7 CA. 1 Minutes - October 23, 2020

APPROVE MINUTES

This set of Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization minutes is ready for review.

Page #15 CA. 2 Continuity of Operations Plan

APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION

This plan is reviewed each year and revisions are made as needed.

Page #17 CA. 3 Section 5305(d) Grant Application Revision and Public Transportation Grant Agreement

APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The Florida Department of Transportation has determined the actual Section 5305(d) grant award amount and provided the Public Transportation Grant Agreement.

Page *55 CA. 4 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment

APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The Unified Planning Work Program needs to be amended to account for modifications to the Section 5305(d) grant award and changes to State matching funds.

Page #69 CA. 5 Draft Fiscal Years 2021-22 to 2025-26 Five-Year

NO ACTION REQUIRED

Tentative Work Program,

Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization Comments, and Florida Department of Transportation Response

The Florida Department of Transportation has not provided a response to the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization comments on the draft Tentative Work Program.

Page *87 CA. 6 Florida Department of Transportation Fiscal Years NO ACTION REQUIRED 2020-21 to 2024-25 Adopted Work Program Amendment - Interstate 75 at State Road 121 (Williston Road) Interchange Modification Project

The Florida Department of Transportation has provided information concerning an Adopted Work Program amendment for the purchase of right-of-way for the Interstate 75 interchange modification at State Road 121 (Williston Roads).

| Page #99 | CA. 7 | Alachua Countywide Bicycle-Pedestrian Master Plan | NO ACTION REQUIRED |
|-----------|--------|---|---|
| | | Toole Design Group, Inc, has been selected to assist in develo | pment of the plan. |
| Page #101 | CA. 8 | Transportation Alternatives Program Status Report City of Gainesville Application Submission | NO ACTION REQUIRED |
| | | The Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization has su Gainesville application for pedestrian modifications at the Stat University Avenue) at State Roads 24/331 (SE 11th Street/Wa | te Roads 24/26 (East |
| Page #133 | CA. 9 | Florida Transportation Plan Policy Element and Performance Element | NO ACTION REQUIRED |
| | | The Florida Department of Transportation released the Florida Policy Element and Performance Element. | Transportation Plan |
| Page #135 | CA. 10 | Gainesville Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization Mobility Profile | NO ACTION REQUIRED |
| | | The Florida Department of Transportation has published a per profile. | formance measures mobility |
| Page #145 | CA. 11 | Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance | NO ACTION REQUIRED |
| | | The Suncoast Connector Task Force has completed its final re | port. |
| Page #153 | CA. 12 | Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council - 2021 Virtual Weekend Institute | NO ACTION REQUIRED |
| | | The Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Codates for its virtual Weekend Institute and provided application | |
| Page *161 | CA. 13 | Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council - Legislative Newsletter | NO ACTION REQUIRED |
| | | The Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Co 2021 legislative newsletter. | uncil has issued its February 13, |
| Page *175 | CA. 14 | Transportation Disadvantaged Program - Fiscal Year 2019 Planning Grant Program Agreement Resolution | 9-20 APPROVE RESOLUTION |
| | | The Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization needs resolution authorizing the Chair to sign the Transportation Dis Planning Grant Agreement. | s to annually adopt a sadvantaged Program |
| Page *181 | CA. 15 | Transportation Disadvantaged Program - Alachua County Transportation Disadvantaged Board Appointment | APPOINT MS. DICK-STANFORD |
| | | Sheryl Dick-Stanford has applied for appointment as the votin with Disabilities Representative | g Florida Agency for Persons |
| Page *185 | CA. 16 | Transportation Disadvantaged Program - Status Report | NO ACTION REQUIRED |
| | | The Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization has reconcerning this program. | equested regular status reports |

EXHIBIT 1

From:

cmayback Mike Escalante

To: Subject:

MTPO Comments

Date:

Monday, February 22, 2021 11:37:51 AM

Hello.

I am a UF Alumni and concerned Florida Citizen. I visit Gainesville regularly.

I am in strong support of changes to Gainesville roads to make them safer. I have already spoken with my elected official in the Florida House of Representatives. She is in agreement with me that action needs to be taken, and taken soon.

Thank you for your time.

Cory Mayback Maitland, Florida 407-616-8000

EXHIBIT 2

From:

Annie Pasquale

To: Subject: Mike Escalante
University of Florida Complete Streets comments for MTPO meeting today

Date:

Monday, February 22, 2021 2:20:28 PM

Good Afternoon,

My daughter and I have been friends with Sophia Lambert and her family for over 12 years. Sophia, as all attending this MTPO meeting, are likely aware, was the latest victim from UF killed on University Ave. Her death has once again highlighted the lack of safety measures for pedestrians on and around roads and sidewalks near campus and adjoining areas. Sadly, it appears, this issue has been well known and well documented.

As a parent- this is our worst nightmare. The grief Sophia's family feels as well as her friends is overwhelming. Sophia and my daughter were in Girl Scouts together and grew closer this past year as freshman at UF. We are devasted and heart broken. The world has lost a beautiful soul whose mission was simply to "do good".

Thousands of Alachua County residents have joined with parents, students, faculty, and staff from the University of Florida and Santa Fe College to form Gators Against Student Pedestrian Deaths (GASPD) to call for immediate and long term action to save lives in partnership with Gainesville Citizens for Active Transportation (GCAT) a local advocacy group for transportation safety.

Urgent action is needed to improve bike/ped safety in Gainesville. The State of Florida, City of Gainesville, Alachua County, and the University of Florida MUST work together in order to make progress. The most dangerous roads in Alachua County for ALL users are State-owned roads and the State of Florida and FDOT MUST step-up in order to make real progress on traffic safety. Current bills proposed in the Florida Legislature are narrow and do not address the issues at hand.

Redesigning University Avenue and 13th Street as "Complete Streets" is the best long-term solution to decreasing bicycle and pedestrian deaths along these corridors.

Complete Streets are defined by US DOT as streets designed and operated to enable safe use and support mobility for all users. Those include people of all ages and abilities, regardless of whether they are travelling as drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists, or public transportation riders. The concept of Complete Streets encompasses many approaches to planning, designing, and operating roadways and rights of way with all users in mind to make the transportation network safer and more efficient. Given the need for FDOT cooperation and millions of dollars of funding, this will likely take years to implement – as parents we can't help but wonder who may be next if changes don't occur more rapidly. Therefore as parents and advocates we hope to see the following:

- 1) Implement Complete Street Designs and lower speed limits to 20 mph in some areas on:
 - a) University Ave
 - b) 13th St

- 2) If needed, shift road ownership from State of Florida to City of Gainesville with funding from State, County, and UF.
- 3) Construct segregated cycle-tracks along University AVE as recommended in the 2015 traffic study.
- 4) Add additional pedestrian-scale lighting

Add bicycle facilities

Enhance pedestrian safety measures with additional and safer crosswalks and safer sidewalks, redesigning and painting roads for narrower or less lanes (road diets) and other traffic calming measures.

early. University Avenue. 13th Street, and other roads around the University of Florida are not complete streets. These corridors were designed as state highways to move motor vehicles through Gainesville as quickly and efficiently as possible. Speed limits are high and bike/ped facilities are limited despite much of the corridors traveling through urban centers filled with people traveling by bicycle and on foot.

hile we are pleased with some of the Florida Department of Transportation's recently announced safety measures including the installation of speed tables, education and awareness campaigns and reducing vehicle speeds to 25 mph on University Avenue, along with installing new signalized mid-block crosswalks for pedestrians, we feel these efforts must go farther and move faster to ensure not one more student is killed. Of concern also is that while increased policing may seem like an appropriate response, it is not a sustainable solution and tragically sometimes not an equitable one.

Thank you all for your commitment in addressing our concerns.

Sincerely,

Ann Pasquale-Wise, DNP