

MINUTES  
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
FOR THE GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA

John R. "Jack" Durrance Auditorium  
Gainesville, Florida

December 12, 2022  
5:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT  
IN PERSON

Mary Alford  
David Arreola  
Brian Austin/Greg Evans  
Ken Cornell  
Charles Chestnut IV  
Adrian Hayes-Santos, Chair  
Cynthia Moore Chestnut  
Lauren Poe  
Anna Prizzia  
Harvey Ward  
Marihelen Wheeler

MEMBERS ABSENT

Desmon Duncan-Walker  
Reina Saco

OTHERS PRESENT

See Exhibit A

STAFF PRESENT

Scott Koons  
Michael Escalante

MEMBERS PRESENT  
VIA COMMUNICATIONS  
MEDIA TECHNOLOGY

Gloria James

CALL TO ORDER - December 12, 2022

Chair Adrian Hayes-Santos called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Hayes-Santos asked for approval of the meeting agenda and consent agenda.

**MOTION: Commissioner Ward moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Meeting Agenda.  
Commissioner Moore Chestnut seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.**

II. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION - TENTATIVE FIVE-YEAR WORK  
PROGRAM 2023-24 TO 2027-28

Scott Koons, Executive Director, stated that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization received the draft Tentative Work Program on December 1, 2022. Brian Austin, Florida Department of Transportation District 2, Transportation Planner, made a presentation concerning the Tentative Work Program and answered questions.

Mr. Austin reviewed major projects within Alachua County. He noted that Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization comments on the draft Tentative Five-Year Work Program 2023-24 to 2027-28 are due to the Florida Department of Transportation by January 10, 2023.

A member asked whether there would be maintenance of fishing capability for the State Road 26 at Hatchet Creek Bridge Repair Project [2077612].

Mr. Austin stated that he would find report back to the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization concerning maintenance of fishing capability at Hatchet Creek Bridge. He continued review of the major projects within Alachua County.

Chair Hayes-Santos asked about advancing the State Road 26 (West University Avenue) Lighting Project [2076583].

Linda Dixon, University of Florida, Planning Director, spoke in support of the advancement of the State Road 26 (West University Avenue) Lighting Project [2076583]. She also discussed:

- Florida Department of Transportation comments on the U.S. Highway 441/State Road 25 (SW 13th Street) at State Road 24 (Archer Road) Traffic Signal Update Project [4358911]; and
- Federal Transportation Alternative Program applications for multi-use paths on State Road 26 (West University Avenue) and U.S. Highway 441/State Road 25 (SW 13th Street).

Margaret and William Howell discussed their concerns with the roadway conditions along NW 23rd Avenue.

Chris Dawson, Alachua County Transportation Planning Manager, discussed the NW 23rd Avenue reconstruction project, including offstreet bicycle/pedestrian paths to be undertaken by the County. He noted that NW 83rd Street modifications are not part of this project. He also stated that bus pullouts were not feasible along the NW 23rd Avenue corridor.

**MOTION: Commissioner Arreola moved to authorize the Chair to send a letter to the Florida Department of Transportation District 2 Secretary requesting that the Florida Department of Transportation advance the State Road 26 (West University Avenue) Lighting Project [2076583]. Commissioner Prizzia seconded.**

**FRIENDLY AMENDMENT:**

**Commissioner Arreola requested outreach to student groups and community advisory boards informing them that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization is requesting that Florida Department of Transportation advance the State Road 26 (West University Avenue) Lighting Project [2076583]. Commissioner Prizzia accepted the amendment.**

Chair Hayes-Santos asked if the motion included the staff recommendation.

**FRIENDLY AMENDMENT:**

**Commissioner Arreola and Commissioner Prizzia concurred that the motion included the staff comment recommendations.**

**MOTION AS AMENDED:**

**Commissioner Arreola moved to authorize the Chair to send a letter to:**

- 1. Student groups and community advisory boards informing them that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization is requesting that Florida Department of Transportation advance the State Road 26 (West University Avenue) Lighting Project [2076583];**
- 2. The Florida Department of Transportation District 2 Secretary requesting that the Florida Department of Transportation:**
  - A. Advance the State Road 26 (West University Avenue) Lighting Project [2076583];**
  - B. Consider funding the following projects in the Tentative Work Program and involve the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization in the scoping of the following projects:**
    - 1) Priority 1 - West University Avenue (State Road 26) Enhanced Pedestrian Crossing Installations at NW 16th Street, NW 17th Street and NW 19th Street;**
    - 2) Priority 2 - East University Avenue (State Road 26) Pedestrian-Oriented Intersection Design at Waldo Road (State Roads 26, 331) intersection;**
    - 3) Priority 3 - Fund the U.S. 441 (SW 13th Street) Road Safety Audit, State Road 26 (University Avenue) Road Safety Audit and State Road 26 (West University Avenue) Multimodal Corridor Study recommendations;**
    - 4) Priority 4 - NW 34th Street (State Road 121) 2-Lane Divided Continuous Left Turnlane installation from NW 16th Avenue to U.S. 441 as described in the Year 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan funded with State Highway System funds;**
    - 5) Priority 5 - U.S. Highway 441 (SW 13th Street) at State Road 24 (Archer Road) Intersection Removal of Sliplanes; and**
    - 6) Priority 6 - U.S. Highway 441 (SW 13th Street) at State Road 24 (Archer Road) Intersection Traffic Signal Update Project [4358911] consideration of the removal of the sliplanes in scoping and design of the traffic signal update once it is back in the Five-Year Work Program period.**

**Commissioner Prizzia seconded, motion passed unanimously.**

**III. 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 named 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 Charles Chestnut IV moved to elect Commissioner Alford as Chair, Commissioner Moore Chestnut as Vice-Chair and Commissioner Wheeler as Secretary/Treasurer. Commissioner Cornell seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

**IV. AUDIT REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Mr. Koons requested that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization appoint two members to an Audit Review Committee. He noted that traditionally the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization Secretary/Treasurer serves as chair of this committee.

**MOTION: Commissioner Moore Chestnut moved to appoint Commissioner Wheeler and Commissioner-Elect Willits to the Audit Review Committee and to have Commissioner Wheeler serve as Committee Chair. Commissioner Ward seconded; motion passed 9 to 1.**

#### XI. FLORIDA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Mr. Koons requested that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization appoint a voting representative and two alternate representatives to the Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council for 2023. He noted that currently Commissioner Saco serves as the voting representative and Commissioner Wheeler and Commissioner Duncan-Walker serve as the alternate representatives.

**MOTION: Commissioner Prizzia moved to appoint Commissioner Alford as the voting representative and Commissioner-Elect Eastman as the primary alternate and Commissioner Duncan-Walker as the secondary alternate representatives to the Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council. Commissioner Wheeler seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

#### IV. NEXT METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION MEETING

Mr. Koons stated that its next scheduled meeting is February 27, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

A member requested that the 2023 Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization meeting schedule be revised to not schedule meetings on second or fourth Mondays of a month.

**MOTION: Commissioner Prizzia moved to request staff to look into revising the 2023 Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization meeting schedule to first or third Mondays of a month. Commissioner Ward seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

#### VII. COMMENTS

##### A. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION REPORT

There was no report.

##### B. PUBLIC

Harrison Scoville, Regional Transit System Advisory Board Chair, discussed transit driver shortage concerns and supported Commissioner Wheeler's proposal to have transit driver testing available for persons with limited English proficiency.

##### C. METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION MEMBERS

A member discussed the hiring of persons with limited English proficiency and the provision of assistance for the written test to address the transit and school bus driver shortage.

A member discussed the status of the Eastside Gainesville Sports Complex and traffic calming on State Road 24 (Waldo Road).

**MOTION: Commissioner Moore Chestnut moved to request a letter be sent by the Chair to State Representative Yvonne Hayes-Hinson to intervene with the Florida Department of Transportation concerning traffic calming on State Road 24 (Waldo Road). Commissioner Wheeler seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

A member discussed safety concerns in the NW 16th Avenue and NW 34th Street corridors and the NW 16th Avenue midblock pedestrian crossing.

A member stated that upgrading to a pedestrian-actuated signal crossing is being evaluated.

A member discussed Federal Transit Administration 5311 funding availability for transit needs outside the Regional Transit System fixed route service area.

Chair Hayes-Santos noted that the Federal Transit Administration 5311 funding is local match dependent.

Jesus Gomez, Regional Transit System Director, discussed Federal Transit Administration 5311 funded service and answered questions. He noted that this funding requires a local match. He also discussed the driver shortage and testing requirements. He noted that the drivers need basic English proficiency. He said that the testing is in English.

A member discussed immigrant inclusion in the workforce.

#### D. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Koons noted that this was the last meeting for Mayor Poe, Commissioner Arreola and Commissioner Hayes-Santos. He also presented a plaque to Chair Hayes-Santos for his service as Chair of the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for 2022.

A member noted accomplishments of the departing members.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

2/6/23  
Date

Marihelen Wheeler  
Marihelen Wheeler, Secretary/Treasurer

## EXHIBIT A

### Interested Citizens

Margaret Howell  
William Howell  
Harrison Scoville

### Alachua County

Corbin Hanson\*  
Alan Yeatter  
Chris Dawson

### City of Gainesville

Cynthia Curry\*  
Jesus Gomez  
Deborah Leistner\*

### Florida Department of Transportation

Brian Austin  
James Driggers

\* Via communications media technology  
# Provided written comments

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**CONSENT AGENDA  
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
FOR THE GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA**

**John R. “Jack” Durrance Auditorium  
Alachua County Administration Building  
Gainesville, Florida**

**5:00 p.m.  
December 12, 2022**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

- |                 |   |   |
|-----------------|---|---|
| <b>Page #7</b>  | <b>CA. 1 Minutes - October 24, 2022</b>   | <b>APPROVE MINUTES</b>                        |
|                 | <u>This set of Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization minutes is ready for review.</u>   |   |
| <b>Page #13</b> | <b>CA. 2 Safety Performance Measures and Targets</b>  | <b>APPROVE STAFF<br/>RECOMMENDATION</b>       |
|                 | <u>The Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization needs to set safety performance measures and targets.</u>  |   |
| <b>Page #17</b> | <b>CA. 3 Citizens Advisory Committee -</b>  | <b>REAPPOINT MS. BULLOCK</b>                  |
|                 | <u>Nelle Bullock has reapplied for appointment to the Citizens Advisory Committee.</u>  |   |
| <b>Page #21</b> | <b>CA. 4 Passenger Rail Update -</b>  | <b>FOR INFORMATION ONLY</b>                   |
|                 | <u>At its October 24, 2022 meeting, the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization requested information concerning a passenger rail demand study.</u> |   |
| <b>Page #45</b> | <b>CA. 5 Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization<br/>Advisory Council - 2023 Weekend Institute</b>   | <b>FOR INFORMATION ONLY</b>                   |
|                 | <u>The Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council will be scheduling its 2023 Weekend Institute.</u>   |   |
| <b>Page #47</b> | <b>CA. 6 Transportation Disadvantaged Program -<br/>Resolution of Appreciation</b>  | <b>APPROVE RESOLUTION<br/>OF APPRECIATION</b> |
|                 | <u>Jeffrey Aboumrad served as the Central Florida Community Action Agency representative since August 2014.</u>   |   |

The Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization has requested regular status reports concerning this program.



## **EXHIBIT 1**

### **Safety Performance Measures and Targets**

#### **Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area Approved December 12, 2022**

<b>Safety Topic</b>	<b>Performance Measure</b>	<b>Target</b>
1	Fatalities	Zero
2	Serious Injuries	Zero
3	Non-Motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries	Zero
4	Fatalities Per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Travelled	Zero
5	Serious Injuries Per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Travelled	Zero