

MINUTES
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION
FOR THE GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA

John R. "Jack" Durrance Auditorium
Gainesville, Florida

February 6, 2023
3:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT
IN PERSON

Mary Alford, Chair
Brian Austin/Greg Evans
Ed Book
Charles Chestnut IV
Linda Dixon/Curtis Reynolds
Desmon Duncan-Walker
Bryan Eastman
Cynthia Moore Chestnut
Anna Prizzia
Reina Saco
Harvey Ward
Marihelen Wheeler
Casey Willits

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ken Cornell

OTHERS PRESENT

See Exhibit A

STAFF PRESENT

Scott Koons
Michael Escalante

MEMBERS PRESENT
VIA COMMUNICATIONS
MEDIA TECHNOLOGY

Gloria James

CALL TO ORDER - February 6, 2023

Chair Mary Alford called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Alford 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. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENT - FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5310 OPERATING SMALL URBAN GRANT - CITY OF GAINESVILLE REGIONAL TRANSIT SYSTEM OPERATING FOR FIXED ROUTE (452499-1)

Scott Koons, Executive Director, stated that the Florida Department of Transportation is requesting that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization amend its Transportation Improvement Program to add a Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 grant award for the Regional Transit System. He discussed the project and answered questions.

Jesus Gomez, Regional Transit System Director, discussed the Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 Operating Small Urban Grant and answered questions.

Chris Dawson, Alachua County Transportation Planning Manager, discussed the proposals for extension of transit service hours.

MOTION: Commissioner Ward moved to approve the Transportation Improvement Program Amendment to add a Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 grant award for the Regional Transit System. Commissioner Chestnut seconded the motion. Mr. Koons conducted a roll call vote.

City Member	Yes	No	County Member	Yes	No
Ed BOOK	X				
			Charles CHESTNUT IV	X	
Desmon DUNCAN-WALKER	X				
Bryan EASTMAN	X				
Cynthia MOORE CHESTNUT	X				
			Anna PRIZZIA	X	
Reina SACO	X				
			Marihelen WHEELER	X	
Harvey WARD	X				
Casey WILLITS	X				
			Mary ALFORD	X	
Totals	7	0		4	0

Motion passed unanimously.

III. PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND TARGETS - BRIDGE AND PAVEMENT (PERFORMANCE MEASURE 2) AND SYSTEM PERFORMANCE (PERFORMANCE MEASURE 3)

Mr. Koons stated that the Florida Department of Transportation has provided its updated bridge, pavement and system performance targets. He reviewed the performance measures and targets and answered questions. He said that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization needs to set bridge, pavement and system performance measures and targets for the National Highway System.

MOTION: Commissioner Chestnut moved to:

- 1. Set Bridge, Pavement and System Performance Targets consistent with the Florida Department of Transportation Targets as shown in Exhibit 1; and**
- 2. Authorize staff to administratively modify the Transportation Improvement Program to incorporate appropriate bridge, pavement and system performance measures and targets language.**

Mayor Ward seconded the motion. Mr. Koons conducted a roll call vote.

City Member	Yes	No	County Member	Yes	No
Ed BOOK	X				
			Charles CHESTNUT IV	X	
Desmon DUNCAN-WALKER	X				
Bryan EASTMAN	X				
Cynthia MOORE CHESTNUT	X				
			Anna PRIZZIA	X	
Reina SACO	X				
			Marihelen WHEELER	X	
Harvey WARD	X				
Casey WILLITS	X				
			Mary ALFORD	X	
Totals	7	0		4	0

Motion passed unanimously.

IV. CARBON REDUCTION STRATEGY

Mr. Koons stated that the Federal Highway Administration will require the Florida Department of Transportation and the 27 metropolitan planning organizations to establish performance measures and targets for greenhouse gas emissions. He reported that once these targets are established, the Florida Department of Transportation and the 27 metropolitan planning organizations must show progress toward achieving the targets. He added that incorporating carbon reduction into long-range transportation plans is also required. He said that April Combs, Florida Department of Transportation Statewide Planning Administrator, was present via communications media technology to discuss carbon reduction strategy requirements.

Ms Combs discussed carbon reduction strategy requirements and answered questions.

Mr. Koons noted that carbon reduction strategies is a requirement for the Year 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan that needs to be approved by August 24, 2025.

Ms. Combs stated that the Florida Department of Transportation Carbon Reduction Strategies could be incorporated into long-range transportation plans by reference.

V. PASSENGER RAIL UPDATE

Mr. Koons stated that that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization received a passenger rail presentation from Florida Department of Transportation staff at its December 12, 2023 meeting. He reported that the Department posted its draft Florida Rail System Plan for public comment and that staff submitted the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization comment for consideration of restoring passenger rail service to Alachua County to the Department comment website.

Chair Alford discussed the restoration of suspended passenger rail routes due to hurricane damage.

A member discussed possible light rail service to the Parker Road area.

Mr. Dawson noted that bus rapid transit and express lanes are in the 2009 Alachua County Mobility Plan, which has an incremental implementation approach and a funding mechanism.

Mr. Gomez discussed bus rapid transit and light rail for consideration in the long-range transportation planning process and funding concerns.

Mr. Dawson discussed possible outreach to Regional Transit System for implementing 2009 Alachua County Mobility Plan projects.

A member discussed street car service report developed by consultants.

Chair Alford requested that light rail transit service be an agenda item for a future meeting.

A member discussed development in the SW 2nd Avenue corridor since there was street car service within the corridor. He noted that multimodal choice also addresses carbon reduction.

VI. NEXT METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION MEETING

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

VII. COMMENTS

A. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION REPORT

There was no report.

B. PUBLIC

There were no public comments.

C. METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION MEMBERS

A member discussed possible reunification exercise of emergency services within Alachua County.

A member asked the status of the Alachua County Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan.

Mr. Dawson discussed the status of Alachua County Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan and answered questions.

A member discussed crashes involving vulnerable populations, a NW 16th Avenue pedestrian-actuated signal crossing as well as a Kanapaha Elementary School crossing and an Alachua County Board of County Commissioners and School Board of Alachua County joint meeting to discuss crosswalks near schools.

A member discussed traffic safety concerns near parks and crosswalks near parks. She also discussed master planning for parks.

A member discussed a right-of-way transfer for the pedestrian-actuated signal crossing adjacent to Cone Park. He also noted the federal funding for the State Road 26 (University Avenue) from NW 22nd Street east to Cone Park.

D. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Alford stated that she virtually attended the January 31, 2023 Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council quarterly meeting. She and Mr. Koons noted the two Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council Weekend Institute sessions scheduled for April 15-16, 2023 and May 5-6, 2023.

Mr. Koons discussed the 2020 Census, Transportation Management Area designation and reapportionment.

Chair Alford discussed her concerns of traffic safety and congestion on State Road 24 (Archer Road) and the possibility of amending the Year 2045 Cost Feasible Plan to include the four-laning of State Road 24 (Archer Road) from SW 122nd Street (Parker Road) east to the end of the existing four-lane.

Mr. Koons reported that the four-laning of State Road 24 (Archer Road) from SW 122nd Street (Parker Road) east to the end of the existing four-lane is in the current Year 2045 Needs Plan, but is not included in the Year 2045 Cost Feasible Plan. He said that the Year 2045 Cost Feasible Plan would need to be amended to add this project. He also noted that this project would displace some projects in the current Year 2045 Cost Feasible Plan due to fiscal constraint requirements.

It was a consensus of the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization to include consideration of the Year 2045 Cost Feasible Plan to include the four-laning of State Road 24 (Archer Road) from SW 122nd Street (Parker Road) east to the end of the existing four-lane as a future agenda item.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 4:23 p.m.

4/3/23
Date

Marihelen Wheeler
Marihelen Wheeler, Secretary/Treasurer

EXHIBIT A

Interested Citizens

Alachua County

Corbin Hanson*
Alan Yeatter
Chris Dawson
Alison Moss

City of Gainesville

Cynthia Curry
Jesus Gomez
Deborah Leistner*

Florida Department of Transportation

Brian Austin
April Combs
Victoria Kutney

* Via communications media technology
Provided written comments

t:\mike\em23\mtpo\minutes\feb06min.doc



**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 6, 2023

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

- Page #7 CA. 1 Minutes - December 12, 2022 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 Certification - Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process - Kickoff FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
Each year, the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization and the Florida Department of Transportation are required by federal law and regulation to jointly certify the transportation planning process.
- Page #21 CA. 4 2020 Census Qualifying Urban Areas and Final Criteria Clarifications FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
In the December 29, 2022 Federal Register, the U.S. Census Bureau published its 2020 Census Urban Area populations. The Gainesville Urban Area is the only Census-defined urban area within Alachua County.
- Page #35 CA. 5 Florida Department of Transportation Tentative Five-Year Work Program - Florida Department of Transportation Response to Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization Comments FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
The Florida Department of Transportation has provided a response to the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization comments on the draft Tentative Work Program.

- Page #39** **CA. 6 Median Modifications -** **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
State Road 222 (NW 39th Avenue) at
U.S. Highway 441/State Road 25 (NW 13th Street)

The Florida Department of Transportation has advertised a public meeting for this intersection modification project.

- Page #43** **CA. 7 City of Gainesville Corridor Walks** **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

The City of Gainesville conducted a three-day field study Corridor Walks as part of a University Avenue and West 13th Street project, development and environment study.

- Page #59** **CA. 8 Transit Ridership Status Report** **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

The Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization requested ridership reports to monitor ridership recovery amidst the Covid-19 pandemic.

- Page #69** **CA. 9 Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization** **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
Advisory Council - 2023 Weekend Institute Update

The Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council will be conducting its Weekend Institute in April 2023 and May 2023.

- Page #71** **CA. 10 Transportation Disadvantaged Program -** **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
Status Report

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

Exhibit 1

Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area Bridge and Pavement and System Performance Measures and Targets Set February 6, 2023

Bridge Target

Bridge Performance Measure	2023 Target	2025 Target
Percent of the National Highway System bridges classified as in Good condition by deck area	50.0 percent	50.0 percent
Percent of the National Highway System bridges classified as in Poor condition by deck area	10.0 percent	10.0 percent

Note - Florida Department of Transportation-maintained National Highway System facilities include both Interstate system and non-Interstate system facilities.

Pavement Target

Pavement Performance Measure	2023 Target	2025 Target
Percent of National Highway System Interstate pavements in Good condition	60.0 percent	60.0 percent
Percent of National Highway System Interstate pavements in Poor condition	5.0 percent	5.0 percent
Percent of National Highway System non-Interstate pavements in Good condition	40.0 percent	40.0 percent
Percent of National Highway System non-Interstate pavements in Poor condition	5.0 percent	5.0 percent

System Performance Target

Performance Measure	2023 Target	2025 Target
Percent of person-miles travelled on the Interstate system that are reliable	75.0 percent	70.0 percent
Percent of person-miles travelled on the non-Interstate National Highway System that are reliable	50.0 percent	50.0 percent
Truck (freight) travel time reliability index	1.75	2.00

Note - Florida is an Air Quality-attainment state and federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality measures do not apply.