

MINUTES

GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MTPO)
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

Gainesville Regional Utilities General Purpose Room
301 SE 4th Avenue
Gainesville, Florida

2:00 p.m.
Wednesday
January 24, 2007

MEMBERS PRESENT

Bill Lecher, Chair
Dean Mimms, Vice Chair
Dekova Batey
Linda Dixon
Steve Dopp
Kathy Fanning
Ron Fuller
John Gifford
Steve Githens
Jesus Gomez
Brian Kanely
Kristen Nowicki
Karen Taulbee

MEMBERS ABSENT

Michelle Danisofzky

OTHERS PRESENT

Doreen Joyner-Howard
Doug Robinson

STAFF PRESENT

Michael Escalante

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Bill Lecher, Alachua County Design/Contract Manager, called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Lecher introduced himself and asked others to introduce themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Mr. Sanderson asked for approval of the meeting agenda.

ACTION: Steve Dopp moved to approve the meeting agenda. Ron Fuller seconded; motion passed unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

Chair Lecher asked for approval of the November 29, 2006 TAC meeting minutes.

ACTION: Dean Mimms moved to approve the November 29, 2006 TAC meeting minutes. Steve Dopp seconded; motion passed unanimously.

IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Michael Escalante, AICP, MTPO Senior Planner, announced that the next MTPO meeting is scheduled for February 8th at 1:30 p.m. in the Jack Durrance Auditorium. He said that the TAC's next meeting is scheduled for February 28th.

V. SW 20TH AVENUE- FDOT CORRIDOR STUDY

Mr. Escalante stated that the Alachua County Public Works Department is requesting that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) suspend its SW 20th Avenue Corridor Study. Until the MTPO Urban Village Subcommittee Final Report is completed.

Chair Lecher discussed the status of the Urban Village study and answered questions.

ACTION: Linda Dixon moved to recommend that the MTPO send a letter to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District 2 Secretary requesting that additional work on the SW 20th Avenue Corridor Study [FIN #2113353] be suspended until the MTPO's Urban Village Subcommittee forwards its final report and recommendations to the MTPO (around April or May 2007). Dean Mimms seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VI. MTPO MAST ARM POLICY- PROPOSED REVISIONS

Mr. Escalante stated that the MTPO, at its December meeting, referred development of exceptions of the Mast Arm Policy to the TAC. He discussed proposed revisions Policy 7.2.1 of the *MTPO Urban Design Policy Manual* and answered questions.

ACTION: Dean Mimms moved to approve and forward to the MTPO's Design Team the following changes to Policy 7.2.1 of the *MTPO Urban Design Policy Manual* for review and recommendation:

"FDOT staff shall install mast arms with All new signals within Alachua County shall be mast arms with horizontal signal heads on all FDOT projects from this date forward. This policy was approved on March 9, 1995. Exceptions to this policy may be granted if all three of the following conditions are met:

- the intersection is located in unincorporated Alachua County and outside the Gainesville Urbanized Area;
- one of the intersecting roads and/or approaches has not been built to an urban, four-lane cross-section; and
- the intersection must satisfy the Manual Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) warrant number seven crash experience.

Linda Dixon seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VII. BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) FEASIBILITY STUDY- DRAFT SCOPE OF SERVICES

Mr. Escalante stated that the Regional Transit System (RTS) submitted a draft BRT Scope of Services the MTPO in December. He said that the MTPO referred the BRT Scope of Services to its Advisory Committees for review and comment. He discussed MTPO staff comments and answered questions.

Mr. Jesus Gomez, RTS Director, and Mr. Doug Robinson, RTS Chief Transit Planner, discussed the BRT Scope of Services and answered questions.

Ms. Linda Dixon, University of Florida Facilities Planning and Construction Management Assistant Director, noted that the Campus Master Plan could be used to identify potential corridors for BRT. She said that UF has travel data on its students and employees. She suggested consideration of park-n-ride and dedicated lanes in the scope of services.

ACTION: Linda Dixon moved to forward to the MTPO the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Feasibility Study- Draft Scope of Services Exhibit 1 review comments, amended to include, where appropriate, consideration of:

1. **the Campus Master Plan to identify potential corridors for BRT;**
2. **park-n-ride facilities; and**
3. **dedicated transit/high occupant vehicle (HOV) lanes.**

Steve Githens seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VIII. COMMITTEE OFFICERS ELECTION

Mr. Escalante stated that its time for Committee Officer elections. He said that Bill Lecher is the TAC Chair and Dean Mimms is the Vice Chair.

ACTION: Dean Mimms moved to nominate Doug Robinson as TAC Vice Chair. Steve Githens seconded; motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Linda Dixon moved to close nominations and appoint Doug Robinson as TAC Vice Chair. Steve Dopp seconded; motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Dean Mimms moved to reappoint Bill Lecher as TAC Chair. Steve Dopp seconded; motion passed unanimously.

XII. INFORMATION ITEMS

There was no discussion of the information items.

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: Kristen Nowicki moved to adjourn the meeting. John Gifford seconded; motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Date

Doug Robinson, Vice Chair

EXHIBIT 1

DRAFT BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) SCOPE OF SERVICES MTPO STAFF MODIFICATION RECOMMENDATIONS

MTPO Staff has reviewed the draft Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Scope of Services and makes the following recommendations:

I. Project Objective

Include language from the MTPO Plan East Gainesville (PEG) Final Report:

“The cornerstone of the recommended transportation plan for Plan East Gainesville is to establish a Bus Rapid Transit service that unifies East Gainesville with downtown and the Archer Road corridor as part of an integrated regional system.”

Consider including “using BRT to guide development/redevelopment to East Gainesville.”

Refer to the Gainesville Metropolitan Area 2025 Transportation Plan, not 2020 on line 11.

II. Previous Work

Refer to the Gainesville Metropolitan Area 2025 Transportation Plan, not 2020 on line 1.

Work Plan Task Descriptions- Task 3

Include as a third paragraph a PEG reference:

“The potential corridors for BRT consideration shall include the following Plan East Gainesville facilities:

- Archer Road- from Tower Road to SW 13th Street;
- Depot Avenue corridor- from SW 13th Street to Waldo Road;
- State Road 20/Hawthorne Road- from Waldo Road to SE 43rd Street; and
- Waldo Road- from Depot Avenue corridor to Airport industrial park.”

Work Plan Task Descriptions- Task 4

Include in the criteria screening process on line 4 reference to an element:

“appropriate density to support Bus Rapid Transit”