

MINUTES

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

Conference Room
North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Gainesville, Florida

1:00 p.m.
Wednesday
June 4, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dean Mimms, Chair
Linda Dixon
Greg DuBois
Bob Elmore
Brian Kanely
Bill Lecher
Geoff Sample
Suraya Teeple
Shawn Woodin

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jennifer Auger
Chris Bird
John Gifford
Charles Justice
Jeff Logan
Mac McEachern

OTHERS PRESENT

Larry Barfield
Doreen Joyner-Howard
Debbie Leistner
Ruth Montgomery Roaza
John Sabatella
Myrna Widmer

STAFF PRESENT

Marlie Sanderson
Thomas Hill
Michael Escalante

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dean Mimms, City of Gainesville Chief of Comprehensive Planning, called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Mimms asked everyone to introduce themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Chair Mimms asked the TAC to approve the agenda.

ACTION: Bill Lecher moved to approve the meeting agenda. Brian Kanely seconded; motion passed unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

ACTION: Doreen Joyner-Howard moved to approve the March 26, 2003 minutes. Bill Lecher seconded; motion passed unanimously.

IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Marlie Sanderson, MTPO Director of Transportation Planning, announced that the next MTPO meeting is scheduled for June 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the Jack Durrance Auditorium. He said that the next TAC meeting is scheduled for July 16.

V. EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION DECISION MAKING (ETDM)

Mr. Sanderson stated that the TAC requested that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) provide a presentation on its ETDM program.

Mr. Larry Barfield, FDOT Environmental Process Compliance Administrator, and Ms. Ruth Montgomery Roaza, URS Corporation GIS Project Manager, discussed the ETDM program and answered questions.

VI. US 441 (SW 13TH STREET) RESURFACING PROJECT

Mr. Thomas Hill, MTPO Senior Planner, stated that FDOT staff has submitted US 441 resurfacing design plans. He reported the Design Team's recommendations.

Ms. Doreen Joyner-Howard, FDOT District 2 Transportation Planner, discussed the US 441 resurfacing design plans and answered questions.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the US 441 resurfacing design plans with the following conditions:

- 1. a decorative hard surface treatment will replace the grass strip located between the roadway curb and the sidewalk;**
- 2. incorporate trees and/or tree wells into the pedestrian pavement design wherever possible;**
- 3. have sidewalks placed at the outer edge of the right-of-way; and**
- 4. incorporate the City of Gainesville Land Development Code Appendix A. Section 7 Special Area Plan for Southwest 13th Street to the maximum extent feasible.**

Bill Lecher seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VII. STATE ROAD (SR) 222 (NE 39TH AVENUE) RESURFACING PROJECT

Mr. Hill stated that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) staff has submitted SR 222 resurfacing design plans. He discussed some photos of the project area, the resurfacing design plans and answered questions.

ACTION: Bill Lecher moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the State Road 222 resurfacing design plans. Linda Dixon seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VIII. W 13TH STREET SIGNAGE AND MAST ARM PROJECT

Mr. Sanderson stated that the City of Gainesville Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) requested discussion of the W 13th Street signage and mast arm project. He discussed the CRA concerns.

Ms. Joyner-Howard discussed the W 13th Street signage and mast arm project and answered questions.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO revise its Urban Design Policy Manual:

- 1. to retain the existing signage system used by the City and County; and**
- 2. incorporate a street sign review checklist that design team members will consider during plan review and discussions. This checklist will be applied on a project by project basis where intersection design is a consideration and include the following topics:**
 - A. double-sided signs;**
 - B. signage color scheme;**
 - C. signage illumination;**
 - D. correct facility name and commemorative identification;**
 - E. sign position on main mast arm or as separate mast arm;**
 - F. continuity of signage design with surrounding area; and**
 - G. adaptation of street signs to accommodate unusual intersection geometry,**

such that no proposed design items or additional design items are overlooked.

Bill Lecher seconded; motion passed unanimously.

IX. US 441 BICYCLE SAFETY PROJECT

Mr. Hill stated that FDOT staff has submitted US 441 Bicycle Safety Project design plans. He and Mr. Sanderson discussed the US 441 Bicycle Safety Project design plans and answered questions.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO:

- 1. approve the US 441 Bicycle Safety Project design plans that include a five-foot bike lane and two-foot rumble strip; and**
- 2. request that FDOT reduce the number of roadway signs located along the corridor, where possible, for aesthetic purposes.**

Linda Dixon seconded; motion passed unanimously.

X. FISCAL YEARS 2003/2004-2007/2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Mr. Sanderson stated that the TIP is the most important document that is approved annually by the MTPO. He said that the TIP is a staged implementation program of transportation projects consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with adopted comprehensive plans of Alachua County and the City of Gainesville. He added that, in order for Federal transportation funds to be spent in the Gainesville Metropolitan Area, they must be approved by the MTPO and included in this report. He noted that this year's document authorizes about \$28 million in Federal funds for projects within the Gainesville Metropolitan Area over the next three year period.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the Fiscal Years 2003/04 - 2007/08 TIP. Bill Lecher seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Joyner-Howard noted that FDOT has some editorial comments on the TIP which it would provide to MTPO staff.

XI. PROPOSED STATE ROAD 24 (ARCHER ROAD) AMENDMENT

Mr. Sanderson stated that the MTPO, at its meeting on April 10, discussed amending its long range transportation plan to include the four-laning of State Road 24 (Archer Road) west of Tower Road to the MTPO's planning boundary (near SW 91st Street). During this discussion, the MTPO approved a motion to:

“conduct a public hearing at its June meeting to consider four-laning Archer Road from Tower Road to the Gainesville Metropolitan Area boundary near SW 91st Street.”

Mr. Hill discussed the crash data in this corridor and answered questions. He noted that the estimated cost of four-laning Archer Road between:

1. Tower Road and SW 91st Street, 1.44 miles, is about \$4 million; and
2. SW 91st Street and the City of Archer, 5.94 miles, is about \$14 million.

ACTION: Bill Lecher moved to recommend that the MTPO amend its long range transportation plan to include the construction of a four-lane divided roadway on portions of State Road 24 (Archer Road), from SW 75th Street (Tower Road) west to SW 91st Street. Bob Elmore seconded.

SUBSTITUTE ACTION:

Linda Dixon moved to recommend that the MTPO:

- 1. not amend its long range transportation plan at this time, but consider four-laning Archer Road as part of its Year 2025 Long Range Transportation Plan update; and**
- 2. rank the four-laning of Archer Road no higher than priority #9 if the MTPO chooses to amend its long range transportation plan.**

Doreen Joyner-Howard seconded.

2ND SUBSTITUTE ACTION:

Greg DuBois moved to recommend that the MTPO not amend its long range transportation plan at this time. Brian Kanely seconded; motion passed 7 to 2.

**XII. YEAR 2025 TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE-
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) PACKAGE**

Mr. Sanderson stated that the MTPO is required to update its long range transportation plan by February 2006. He said that this plan update process takes about two years to complete. He added that the MTPO needs to contract with a consultant to work on this plan update so that they are ready to begin work on January 1, 2004.

Mr Sanderson and Mr. Hill discussed the plan update timeline, consultant selection process, scope of work and consultant contract.

ACTION: Bill Lecher moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the Year 2025 Transportation Plan Update- Request for Proposal Package. Brian Kanely seconded; motion passed unanimously.

XIII. ARCHER ROAD/SW 16TH AVENUE CHARRETTE

Mr. Sanderson stated that, each year, the MTPO, City of Gainesville and Alachua County each contribute \$5,000 to fund charrettes approved by the MTPO. He reviewed the previous

charrettes that have been conducted by the MTPO so far. He reported that the MTPO, at its April 10 meeting, discussed which charrette to conduct next. He said that during this discussion, the MTPO approved the following motion to:

“select as the next charrette the Archer Road/SW 16th Avenue area with the understanding that this charrette:

- 1. will be coordinated with the SW 13th Street Charrette;*
- 2. will have a study area that includes the SW 24th Avenue extension to Archer Road and SE 4th Avenue because of its link to the Plan East Gainesville Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project;*
- 3. will be scheduled after the MTPO receives its allocation from the City and County in October; and*
- 4. may include the University of Florida, Shands Hospital and the Florida Department of Transportation as funding partners.”*

He discussed the draft scope of services and answered questions.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the Archer Road / SW 16th Avenue Charrette Scope of Services. Bill Lecher seconded motion passed unanimously.

XIV. MTPO PLANNING BOUNDARY AND VOTING MEMBERS

Mr. Sanderson stated that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) received a letter from the Governor requesting that FDOT consult with representatives of newly urbanized areas and existing MPOs prior to requesting boundary maps and membership apportionment plans. He said that FDOT staff would like to have a decision from the Gainesville MTPO regarding extending the MTPO boundary countywide reflected in its recommendation to the Governor. He also reported that the MTPO, at its April 10 meeting, tabled discussion on this issue and requested additional information. He discussed the revised “MTPO Planning Area Boundary and Voting Membership Report,” reviewed the TAC’s prior recommendation and answered questions.

ACTION: Bill Lecher moved to that the TAC maintain its recommendation that the MTPO approve Alternative 2 consisting of:

- 1. the metropolitan area only as the planning jurisdiction;**
- 2. voting membership of Mayor and six Commissioners from the City of Gainesville and the five Alachua County Commissioners; and**

3. a non-voting representative from:

- A. Florida Department of Transportation;**
- B. Rural Advisor; and**
- C. University of Florida,**

with a caveat regarding a determination as to whether the University of Florida could be a voting member of the MTPO.

Brian Kanely seconded; motion passed unanimously.

XV. CENSUS 2000 URBAN BOUNDARY AND FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION MAPS

Mr. Sanderson discussed proposed Census 2000 Urban Boundary and Functional Classification Maps. He said that the boundaries on these maps will be used to update the functional classification of roads in this area. He added that this information will be used to identify where federal-aid urban funds can be spent. He reported the TAC Subcommittee's recommendation.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the proposed Census 2000 Urban Boundary and Functional Classification Maps. Bill Lecher seconded; motion passed unanimously.

XVI. DESIGN PLAN PERCENTAGE REVIEWS

Mr. Sanderson stated that FDOT staff has requested discussion of the design plan review process. He discussed the Design Team's design plan review procedure recommendations.

Ms. Joyner-Howard discussed FDOT's concern regarding the design plan review process and answered questions.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO revise its Urban Design Policy Manual project review procedures to include the following:

- 1. in October or November, the Design Team will review FDOT's Tentative Work Program and selects projects to review at the scoping stage;**
- 2. Design Team's initial review at the scoping stage;**
- 3. Design Team's second review at 30 percent design plans; and**
- 4. Design Team's third review at 60 percent design plans.**

Bill Lecher seconded; motion passed unanimously.

X. INFORMATION ITEMS

There was no discussion of the information items.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Date

Dean Mimms, Chair