

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
March 28, 2007

MEMBERS PRESENT

MEMBERS ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT

STAFF PRESENT

Doug Robinson, Vice Chair
Dekova Batey
Michelle Danisofzky
Linda Dixon
John Gifford
Steve Githens
Brian Kanely
Jonathan Paul
John Sabatella
Karen Taulbee

Kathy Fanning
Ron Fuller
Scott Koons
Dean Mimms

Doreen Joyner-Howard

Marlie Sanderson
Michael Escalante

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Doug Robinson, Regional Transit System Chief Transit Planner, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Vice Chair Robinson introduced himself and asked others to introduce themselves.

II. TAC CHAIR ELECTION

Mr. Marlie Sanderson, MTPO Director of Transportation Planning, stated that the TAC needed to elect a new Chair.

ACTION: Steve Githens moved to nominate Doug Robinson as TAC Chair.

ACTION: John Gifford moved to nominate Dean Mimms as TAC Chair.

ACTION: Steve Githens moved to close nominations. Linda Dixon seconded; motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Linda Dixon moved to appoint Dean Mimms as TAC Chair. John Gifford seconded; motion passed unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Mr. Sanderson asked for approval of the meeting agenda.

ACTION: Steve Githens moved to approve the meeting agenda. Linda Dixon seconded; motion passed unanimously.

IV. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

Vice Chair Robinson asked for approval of the January 24, 2007 TAC meeting minutes.

ACTION: Steve Githens moved to approve the January 24, 2007 TAC meeting minutes. Linda Dixon seconded; motion passed unanimously.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Sanderson announced that the next MTPO meeting is scheduled for April 12th at 3:00 p.m. in the Jack Durrance Auditorium. He said that the TAC's next meeting is scheduled for May 16th.

VI. STATE ROAD 26- MEDIAN OPENING

Mr. Sanderson stated that the Lake Forest Farms Home Owners Association has requested that a median opening be installed at the E University Avenue at NE 46th Street intersection.

Ms. Karen Taulbee, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Transportation Specialist noted that Lake Forest Farms Home Owners Association representatives would be attending the Citizens Advisory Committee meeting.

VII. ENHANCEMENT APPLICATIONS- 2007

Mr. Sanderson stated that FDOT staff has set May 1 as the deadline for new Enhancement-funded project applications. He noted that the Archer Road Rail/Trail construction funds have been moved outside the five-year Transportation Improvement Program.

ACTION: Steve Githens moved to recommend that the MTPO not submit any new enhancement applications this year. Linda Dixon seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VIII. MTPO MAST ARM POLICY- PROPOSED REVISIONS

Mr. Sanderson stated that, last fall, FDOT requested a waiver to the mast arm requirement for a new signal at the intersection of SW 62nd Avenue and Williston Road (State Road 121). He said the MTPO, at its December 14th meeting, approved the following motion to:

“Direct the TAC to consider whether exceptions to Policy 7.2.1 of the MTPO Urban Design Manual should be considered. If exceptions are recommended, criteria for these exceptions should be developed.”

He discussed proposed changes to Policy 7.2.1 and answered questions.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO approve 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 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.**

Exceptions for installing post-mounted signals or vertical heads on mast arms may be granted on a case-by-case basis.

John Gifford seconded; motion passed unanimously.

IX. TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT MAIN STREET AND N 53RD AVENUE- VERTICAL MAST HEADS

Mr. Sanderson stated that City of Gainesville staff is requesting a waiver of the MTPO Mast Arm Policy in order to install vertical heads on the mast arms for the signalization project at N Main Street and N 53rd Avenue intersection.

Mr. Brian Kanely discussed the need for installing vertical mast heads at this intersection and answered questions

ACTION: Steve Githens moved to recommend that the MTPO grant an exception to allow vertical mast heads for the signalization project at N Main Street and N 53rd Avenue intersection. Brian Kanely seconded; motion passed unanimously.

X. SW 20TH AVENUE AND SW 43RD STREET CONCEPTUAL INTERSECTION DESIGN PROJECT

Mr. Sanderson discussed a proposal prepared by City of Gainesville Public Works Department staff that discusses the need for a SW 20th Avenue & 43rd Street Conceptual Intersection Design Project. He said that Alachua County Public Works Department staff is currently developing the estimated cost to do this Design Project.

Mr. John Gifford, Gainesville Regional Utilities, noted that Butler Enterprises representatives discuss a conceptual Butler Plaza Development of Regional Impact.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO request that the City of Gainesville and Alachua County each pay for 50 percent of the cost of this SW 20th Avenue & SW 43rd Street Conceptual Intersection Design Project. Steve Githens seconded; motion passed 8 to 1.

XII. UNFUNDED PROJECT PRIORITIES

Mr. Sanderson stated that, each year, the MTPO develops recommended transportation priorities for projects that are needed but not currently funded. He said that this information is used by FDOT each fall to develop its Tentative Five Year Work Program. He added that, by Florida Statute, the MTPO's "List of Priority Projects" must be submitted to FDOT by October 1, 2006. He noted that FDOT staff has asked for the MTPO's Fiscal Years 2008/2009 - 2012/2013 List of Priority Projects as soon as possible so that it may begin development of its Tentative Five Year Work Program. He reported that the draft Fiscal Years 2008/2009 - 2012/2013 List of Priority Projects includes the recommendations from the Alachua County/Gainesville Regional Airport Authority Director, Alachua County Traffic Safety Team, Alachua County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board, Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board, Regional Transit System staff, City of Gainesville and Alachua County Public Works Department staffs and MTPO staff. He discussed the Enhancement Priorities and answered questions.

Ms. Taulbee discussed her concerns regarding the project description

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO approve Table 1 Enhancement Priorities. Steve Githens seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sanderson discussed Landscaping Priorities and answered questions.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to approve Table 2 Landscaping Priorities. Linda Dixon seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sanderson discussed Project, Development and Environment (PD&E) Priorities and answered questions.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to approve Table 3 Project Development and Environment Priorities. Steve Githens seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sanderson discussed Public Transportation Priorities and answered questions.

ACTION: Steve Githens moved to approve Table 4 Public Transportation Priorities. Linda Dixon seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sanderson discussed Right-Of-Way Priorities and answered questions.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to approve Table 5 Right-Of-Way Priorities. John Gifford seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sanderson discussed Safe Routes to School Priorities and answered questions.

ACTION: John Gifford moved to approve Table 6 Safe Routes to School Priorities. Brian Kanely seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sanderson discussed Safety Priorities and answered questions.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to approve Table 7 Safety Priorities with a new Priority #4 for an access management project on SW 62nd Avenue at NW 4th Place. John Gifford seconded; motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO approve Table 8 Strategic Intermodal System Priorities with a new Priority #1 to be the Airport Access Road being shown as partially funded. John Sabatella seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sanderson discussed Surface Transportation Program (STP) Priorities and answered questions.

Ms. Taulbee stated that the table should have a footnote indicating that STP funds for lift-equipped van purchases in years 2011 and 2012 into be allocated to Priority #1 Traffic Management System.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to approve Table 9 Surface Transportation Program (STP) Priorities with a footnote indicating that STP funds for lift-equipped van purchases in years 2011 and 2012 into be allocated to Priority #1 Traffic Management System. John Gifford seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sanderson discussed Traffic Operations Priorities- State Highway System (SHS) Only and answered questions.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to approve Table 10 Traffic Operations Priorities- State Highway System (SHS) Only. John Sabatella seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sanderson discussed Transit Corridor Development Priorities and answered questions.

Chair Robinson recommended adding a Priority #2 to be express bus service from the City of Newberry park-n-ride lot to the City of Gainesville.

ACTION: Steve Githens moved to approve Table 11 Transit Corridor Development Priorities with a new Priority #2 to be express bus service from the City of Newberry park-n-ride lot to the City of Gainesville. John Gifford seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sanderson discussed Transportation Disadvantaged Priorities- Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds and answered questions.

ACTION: Steve Githens moved to approve Table 12 Transportation Disadvantaged Priorities- Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds. John Gifford seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sanderson discussed Transportation Disadvantaged Priorities- Federal Transit Administration Section 5311- Nonurbanized Area Formula and answered questions.

ACTION: Steve Githens moved to approve Table 13 Transportation Disadvantaged Priorities- Federal Transit Administration Section 5311- Nonurbanized Area Formula. John Gifford seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sanderson discussed Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) Priorities and answered questions.

ACTION: John Gifford moved to approve Table 14 Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) Priorities. Linda Dixon seconded; motion passed unanimously.

XIII. NEW FEDERAL PLANNING REGULATIONS

Mr. Sanderson stated that City Staff requested discussion of the final rule for Statewide and Metropolitan Planning regulations have been published in the Federal Register.

XIV. UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

Mr. Sanderson stated that the staff services agreement between the MTPO and the Regional Planning Council (RPC) requires the annual submission of the budget for the support of the transportation planning staff. He said that MTPO staff is forwarding for its consideration the UPWP. He added that the UPWP outlines and describes planning efforts to be undertaken by participating agencies to maintain a comprehensive, cooperative and continuing transportation planning program in the Gainesville Urbanized Area. He discussed the proposed FY 2007/2008 UPWP planning program and budget and answered questions.

XV. RUSSIAN HIGHWAY TO SIBERIA

Mr. Sanderson presented a slideshow on the Russian highway to Siberia.

XVI. INFORMATION ITEMS

There was no discussion of the information items.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Date

Dean Mimms, Chair