



Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting
Marion County – Library Headquarters, Meeting Room B
2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, FL 34470
1:00 PM

MINUTES

Members Present:

Davis Dinkins
Matt Fabian
Brandon Cave
Richard Howard
Richard McGinley
Suzanne Mangram

Members Not Present:

Michelle Shearer
Steve Rudnianyn
Travis Magamoll

Others Present:

Rob Balmes
Shakayla Irby
Rakinya Hinson, FDOT
Yessenia Encarnacion, FDOT
Jack MacKenzie, FDOT

Item 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Vice-Chairman Richard Howard called the meeting to order at 1:01pm and Secretary Shakayla Irby called the roll. A quorum was present.

Item 2. Proof of Publication

Secretary Shakayla Irby stated the meeting had been published online to the TPO's website, as well as the City of Ocala, Belleview, Marion County, and Dunnellon's websites on April 4, 2023. The meeting had also been published to the TPOs Facebook and Twitter pages.

Item 3. Consent Agenda

Mr. McGinley made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Mangram seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 4a. Draft 2023 List of Priority Projects (LOPP)

Mr. Balmes presented the Draft 2023 LOPP. On an annual basis, per State Statute, the TPO worked in collaboration with the cities of Belleview, Dunnellon, Ocala, Marion County and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to develop and submit a 2023 List of Priority Projects (LOPP). The process was undertaken to identify the highest priority projects to receive consideration for federal and state funding through the FDOT Work Program over the next five years.

The LOPP process serves as the key connection between projects identified in the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Therefore, for a project to receive federal and state funding, the project would have to be in the LRTP Cost Feasible or Needs Plan and Boxed Funds Lists.

The initial draft 2023 LOPP project lists were provided for the committee to review.

The lists reflected the format and revised procedures adopted by the TPO Board in 2022.

Based upon submissions by local partners along with follow up discussions, the following provided a breakdown of the individual lists and total number of projects.

- Top 20 Priorities – 20 of 81 total projects
- Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) – 15 projects
- Non-SIS Capacity – 39 projects
- Safety and Operations – 12 projects
- Trails – 10 projects
- Bicycle/Pedestrian – 6 projects
- Planning Studies – 15 projects

Mr. Balmes opened the discussion up for comments by committee members.

Mr. Dinkins commented that it would be nice if there was a way to correlate all the projects and know which projects were on multiple lists.

Mr. Balmes noted and said that change could be made during the next LOPP process.

Mr. Cave said there should be a line added to the document that shows the date a project was added. Also, conduct research to see exactly how long projects had been on the LOPP.

Mr. Balmes also noted Mr. Cave's comment and said he could add that information to the document and would do some research to see how long the projects that were currently on the LOPP had been there.

Ms. Hinson gave comments using project #15 SR 40 from End of four lanes to CR 314 on the list as an example and said that the likelihood of FDOT being able to fund a project with a price tag of \$103,000,000.00 with the FDOT 2023 funding would be slim to none.

Ms. Hinson also added that she could not advise the MPO how to prioritize their projects however, other projects on the lists could be funded depending on the amount of funding available. FDOT tries to fund projects according to their priorities however, that is not always the case. She also said she was not discrediting the priority lists but ultimately it was up to the money that becomes available to the agency to put towards a project.

Mr. McGinley inquired about project #13 SR 200 from Citrus County to CR 484 and said there had been discussions on the bridge that approached another district and wondered if the bridge would be reconstructed.

Mr. Balmes said that the bridge was in District 7 Citrus County and that he had some discussions with Bob Esposito, MPO Director of Citrus County. The project was also on their project priority list. The bridge was a historic bridge and would require a lot of coordination between District 5 and District 7, therefore it would remain on the list but it was a priority for both MPOs.

Item 5a. Congestion Management Process (CMP), State of the System Update

Mr. Balmes presented and said that in November 2021, the TPO Board adopted a revised Congestion Management Plan (CMP). One major element of the CMP was a State of the System. The element contained information related to level of service and congestion for the major federal-aid roadways in Marion County.

The TPO planned to conduct an update to the State of the System element, including level of service information, a comprehensive database table and associated map series. The update had been requested by local government partner agencies in support of ongoing traffic study and impact analysis work performed in the community. The project also involved the development of context classifications for the non-state roadways in Marion County based on the release of the new Quality/Level of Service Handbook in January 2023.

The project was anticipated to begin in early May and be completed by August 31, 2023 and would include the following tasks:

Task 1: Project Management and Agency Coordination

Task 2: Preliminary Context Classification and Service Volume Update

Task 3: CMP Database and Congestion Map Series

Mr. Balmes mentioned there was no meeting scheduled in August and asked if the committee would be willing to meet so that the deliverables could be presented.

Committee members gave consensus to add the August meeting to the schedule.

5b. TPO Safety Tools Project

Mr. Balmes said that as part of the Commitment to Zero Safety Action Plan, the TPO identified the development of a safety dashboard and annual crash reporting, as a future resource to the public and partnering governments. The concept was shared with the TPO Board and Committees in January, as part of a presentation related to upcoming 2023 planning activities.

The purpose of the project involved the development of an online, interactive safety dashboard mapping tool and annual safety report. Both resources would be developed in a format that would be public-friendly for ease of use and navigation. Part of the project was tied to the TPO's past work involving an annual Trends and Conditions report. The timeframe of the project development would be from May to August 2023, with a formal release of both the online dashboard and annual report in late August.

Mr. Balmes provided the committee with some examples of neighboring TPO/MPO peers who had developed similar tools and reports.

Lake~Sumter MPO

<https://lsmmpo.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/54e870a958ad4ace84a3d860ffff0f48>

MetroPlan Orlando

<https://metroplanorlando.org/maps-tools/crashdata/>

SpaceCoast TPO

<https://sctpo.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/c15a9dae1fb945adb9e28a71d0b89b98>

Mr. McGinley inquired if there was a master plan for all the bicycle paths in Central Florida.

Mr. Balmes said that MetroPlan was in the process of developing an online tool for the whole region that captured all modes of transportation and existing plans for all MPOs including bike/ped. Mr. Balmes said he would share the information with the committee once released.

Ms. Hinson also added that SUN Trails did an update late last year to connect the trails that loop Central Florida. There were only two gaps not connected to SUN Trail, she could not recall where the gaps were located.

5c. Functional Classification Process

Mr. Balmes gave a quick update that based on the Census, every ten years FDOT needed to look at the major roadway network and see if any updates or changes needed to be made. FDOT would be working with local governing partners and had planned to present to the TAC meeting later in the afternoon.

FDOT would come to the committee in June to share the results along with any updates or changes and would also be presenting to the TPO board.

Item 6. Comments by FDOT

Ms. Hinson introduced new FDOT liaison, Yessenia Encarnacion and Professional Engineer (PE) Trainee, Jack MacKenzie.

Ms. Hinson gave a follow-up on two projects from inquires at the March committee meeting:

1. I-75 from Sumter County Line to SR 200 – Professional Engineering and Construction Costs Updated
2. CR 484 from SW 20th Avenue to CR 475A – Professional Engineering, Right-of-way, and Construction Costs Updated

Ms. Hinson said she would be sharing that information with Mr. Balmes when she returned to the office.

Ms. Hinson shared an Immediate Release that came out on April 7, 2023: The Governor awarded \$4 Million for the new I-75 Interchange in Ocala and announced the third Buc-ee's location in Florida.

Ms. Hinson also mention that April was Distracted Driving Awareness Month and Work Zone Safety Awareness Week would begin on April 17, 2023.

The construction report was also provided to the committee.

Item 7. Comments by TPO Staff

Mr. Balmes gave the following comments:

- There would be a joint TAC and CAC meeting at 1:00pm in May.
- The TPO would be providing the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in May.
- SUN Trail Senate Bill 106 had been placed on Governor DeSantis' desk, it had been passed by Senate. Would be \$50 Million a year over four years for \$200 Million for SUN Trail funding.

Item 8. Comments by CAC Members

There were no comments by CAC members.

Item 9. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Item 10. Adjournment

Vice-Chairman Richard Howard adjourned the meeting at 1:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Shakayla Irby, TPO Administrative Assistant