



**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:**

Matt Fabian

Michelle Shearer (*arrived at 1:17pm*)

Richard McGinley

Steve Rudnianyn

Suzanne Mangram

**Members Not Present:**

Davis Dinkins

Brandon Cave

Richard Howard

Travis Magamoll

**Others Present:**

Rob Balmes, Ocala Marion TPO

Liz Mitchell, Ocala Marion TPO

Amber Gartner, Kimley-Horn

Jonathan Scarfe, FDOT

Mary Bierwagen, FDOT

### **Item 1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Acting Chairman Richard McGinley called the meeting to order at 1:03pm and Acting Secretary Liz Mitchell called the roll. A quorum was not present at the start of the meeting, however at 1:17pm a quorum was reached with the arrival of Ms. Michelle Shearer.

### **Item 2. Proof of Publication**

Acting Secretary Liz Mitchell 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 August 1, 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. Congestion Management Plan (CMP), State of the System Update**

The TPO was conducting an update to the Congestion Management Plan (CMP), State of System Report. Activities included a revised level of service information, an updated comprehensive database table and associated map series for the CMP major roadway network in Marion County.

The update had been performed per the request of 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 state (FDOT) roadways in Marion County based on the release of the new Quality/Level of Service (Q/LOS) Handbook in January 2023. Local (non-state) roadways were analyzed using the 2020 Q/LOS Handbook.

Amber Gartner, Kimley-Horn and Associates, provided a presentation on the draft 2023 Congestion Management Plan, State of the System Report. Highlights of the presentation included:

- The Ocala Marion CMP was adopted in August 2021
- The CMP follows the federal 8-step process
- A Systems Evaluation was included with the CMP adoption in 2021, in addition to a CMP comprehensive database
- Traffic data used for the 2023 Report are from 2022 traffic counts by FDOT, the City of Ocala and Marion County, plus projected to 2023
- The 2023 Report includes the new FDOT Quality/Level of Service for state roads only. This includes the new Context Classification
- Local roads were analyzed with the 2020 Quality/Level of Service methodology

Ms. Gartner showed the impacts to state roads from the new Context Classification and 2023 FDOT methodology. Ms. Gartner also presented on the revised 2023 daily congestion and level of service (LOS) to the CMP network of Marion County, and the projected 2028 levels.

Ms. Gartner also highlighted the revised Congested Corridors map, which includes Extremely Congested, Congested, Approaching Congested and Not Congested. She explained some of the differences in congestion linked to growth and traffic changes, along with the new FDOT Quality/Level of Service tied to Context Classification. In addition, she shared a map of a supplemental analysis done for County-maintained roads only that are approaching a Level of Service of D or at 80% per the request of the County Commission.

Ms. Gartner shared some recommendations with the Committee, including ongoing updates and monitoring, future studies and more integration into the TPO's List of Priority Projects (LOPP).

Steve Rudnianyn inquired about the SR 40 corridor in the west portion of the county, east of U.S. 41.

Ms. Gartner stated this is a congested corridor, and remains unfunded by FDOT.

Mr. Rudnianyn also inquired about the U.S. 41 widening project north of Dunnellon.

Mr. Balmes stated this project is currently funded for construction in Fiscal Year 2028. It was funded for Fiscal Year 2024, then deferred by FDOT. Now back in the TIP and Work Program.

Mr. Magamoll made a motion to approve the Functional Classification Process, Marion County. Mr. Cave seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **Item 5. Comments by FDOT**

Jon Scarfe, FDOT Liaison Supervisor re-introduced himself to the CAC members. He was recently appointed Supervisor of the MPO Liaison Team at FDOT District 5. He was in attendance at the meeting as Ms. Rakinya Hinson was on vacation.

Mr. Scarfe provided project updates that were referenced in the July 2023 FDOT Construction Report for Marion County.

Richard McGinley inquired about the status of the CR 484 at I-75 interchange project and schedule.

Mr. Scarfe reported the project is still on schedule for completion in Spring 2024.

#### **Item 6. Comments by TPO Staff**

Rob Balmes provided some updates from the TPO. The TPO has been working with Marion County Procurement Services to advertise a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the 2050 LRTP. An RFQ was posted from June 30 to August 4. A selection committee will review the submittals and work through a selection process. After the process concludes, Mr. Balmes will provide an update to the TAC.

As mentioned in June, the TPO is required every 10 years to develop an Apportionment Plan per the Census. The contents of the Plan include population changes of the TPO Planning Area, TPO

Planning Area Boundary and TPO Board membership. A draft of the Apportionment Plan will be shared with the TAC in September.

The TPO is working closely with its consultant Kittelson and Associates to develop a Commitment to Zero Dashboard and Annual Report. This project will be completed at the end of August. A report and presentation will be provided to the TAC in September.

Mr. Balmes also mentioned the FDOT/National Coalition for Safer Roads and TPO event in Ocala at SW 27<sup>th</sup> and SR 200 on August 9. Committee members were invited to participate with a press conferenced at 9 am.

#### **Item 7. Comments by CAC Members**

Suzanne Mangram requested to the TPO to inquire about the intersection of County Road 484 at Marion Oaks Boulevard. There are major turning issues for traffic going westbound. Improvements are needed and follow up necessary.

Mr. Balmes stated he will reach out to the Marion County Office of County Engineer to inquire about the status of this intersection and future improvements.

#### **Item 8. Public Comment**

*There was no public comment.*

#### **Item 9. Adjournment**

Chairwoman Michelle Shearer adjourned the meeting at 1:44pm.

Respectfully Submitted By:

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Shakayla Irby, TPO Administrative Assistant