



Citizens (CAC) and Technical (TAC) Advisory Committee Joint Meeting

Marion County – Library Headquarters, Meeting Room C

2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, FL 34470

3:30 PM

MINUTES

CAC Members Present:

Matt Fabian
Brandon Cave
Michelle Shearer
Richard Howard
Richard McGinley
Steve Rudnianyn
Travis Magamoll

CAC Members Not Present:

Davis Dinkins
Suzanne Mangram

TAC Members Present:

Ji Li (*Steven Neal attended as an alternate*)
Elton Holland (*arrived at 1:40pm*)
Bob Titterington
Kenneth Odom
Noel Cooper
Eric Smith
Rakinya Hinson (*Melissa McKinney attended as an alternate*)

TAC Members Not Present:

Dave Herlihy
Mickey Thomason
Loretta Shaffer

Others Present:

Rob Balmes
Shakayla Irby
Liz Mitchell
Jim Couillard, Marion County Parks and Recreation
David Bottomley
Daniel DaGraca, Kimley-Horn
Mo Ansari, Kimley-Horn

Item 1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Kenneth Odom called the meeting to order at 3:32pm and led the committees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 2. CAC Roll Call

Chairwoman Michelle Shearer asked for a roll call. Secretary Shakayla Irby called the roll and a quorum was present.

Item 3. TAC Roll Call

Chairman Kenneth Odom asked for a roll call. Secretary Shakayla Irby called the roll and a quorum was present.

Item 4. 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 May 2, 2023. The meeting had also been published to the TPOs Facebook and Twitter pages.

Item 5. CAC Consent Agenda

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

Item 6. TAC Consent Agenda

Mr. Neal made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Titterington seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 7a. Draft 2023 List of Priority Projects (LOPP)

Mr. Balmes presented and said that on April 11, 2023, the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) reviewed a draft of the 2023 List of Priority Projects

(LOPP). The following initial comments from the CAC and TAC were incorporated into a revised LOPP version.

- Revise the Project List header to include projects in multiple lists (e.g., I-75 interchange at NW 49th Street – on Top Priorities and SIS lists)
- Move the SR 40 from end of 4 lanes to CR 314 project up in the rankings, above the I-75 interchange at U.S. 27

The CAC also recommended adding a column depicting the length of time a project had been on the LOPP and unfunded. The request would take some additional time, and would be added to the 2024 LOPP.

At the April 25, 2023 TPO Board meeting, a presentation and discussion took place involving the LOPP. At the meeting, Vice-Chair Dreyer asked all board members to submit any comments on projects and rankings to their respective staff members so they may be addressed at the TAC and CAC meeting on May 9.

TAC members were asked to share comments, project modifications and project ranking change requests at the meeting. The process would ensure a final set of LOPP lists were provided to the TPO Board for their final review and approval on May 23.

Mr. Rudnianyn said there was no interconnectivity from the County from Silver Spring Shores to SR 200 being addressed in the LOPP. He said there needed to be a connection from the South to the County and referenced 95th Street.

Chairman Odom said that would a recommendation that could be made but at the pleasure of the board. At the time the Marion Oaks Extension and Flyover SW 18th to CR 475/I-75, Flyover interstate would be higher priority.

Mr. Balmes mentioned the project Marion Oaks Extension and Flyover SW 18th to CR 475/I-75, Flyover interstate was #38 on the 2023 Non-SIS Capacity Priorities list.

CAC Action:

Mr. Howard made a motion to approve the Draft 2023 LOPP. Mr. Cave seconded, and the motion passed with Mr. Rudnianyn opposing.

TAC Action:

Mr. Cooper made a motion to approve the Draft 2023 LOPP. Mr. Titterington seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 7b. Draft 2023 List of Regional Priority Projects

Mr. Balmes presented and said in collaboration with the Central Florida MPO Alliance (CFMPOA), the TPO developed an annual list of regionally significant transportation priority projects. Mr. Balmes went through the summarized regional lists.

TPO Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) List

The purpose of TRIP was to encourage partnerships for transportation projects that are regionally significant. TRIP funds were awarded by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and used to match local or regional funds up to 50% of the total project costs. To be eligible, there must be a 50% local match commitment and endorsement of the project by three contiguous counties to receive consideration (2 in addition to Marion).

The current (2022) TPO TRIP projects:

- Marion Oaks Manor Extension – Marion Oaks Manor to CR 42 Flyover at I-75
- County Road 484 – SW 49th Avenue to CR 475A, Widening to Six Lanes
- NW/SW 44th Avenue – SR 200 to U.S. 27, Four Lane Roadway

The TPO was seeking Committee member input and recommendations on updating, replacing or adding projects to the regional 2023 TRIP list.

The current Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Needs based on unfunded needs in Marion County:

- I-75 Interchange from SW 40th to SW 27th
- I-75 from Turnpike to SR 200
- I-75 from SR 200 to CR 234
- I-75 at US 27 from NW 44th to SW 35th
- I-75 Interchange at 326
- SR 40 from end of Four Lanes to CR 314
- SR 40 from CR 314 to CR 314A
- SR 40 from CR 314A to Levy Hammock Road

The draft 2023 SIS Priorities list of the current draft LOPP contains the following projects:

- I-75 at NW 49th Street Interchange
- I-75 at US 27 Interchange
- I-75 Interchange from SW 40th to SW 27th
- I-75 from SR 200 to CR 234 Alachua County
- I-75 from SR 91 (Turnpike) to SR 200
- I-75 at SR 326 Interchange Operations
- I-75 at SW 20th Street Interchange
- I-75 at CR 484 Interchange **(add)**
- I-75 at SR 200 Interchange **(add)**
- I-75 at CR 318 Interchange **(add)**
- SR 40 from end of Four Lanes to CR 314
- SR 40 from CR 314 to CR 314A
- SR 40 from CR 314A to Levy Hammock Road
- SR 326 from US 301 to old US 301 **(add)**
- SR 326 from CR 200A to NE 36th **(add)**

Tier 3 SunTrail Projects

The current Tier 3 SunTrail regional projects list contains four projects in Marion County.

- Santos to Baseline Trail – Santos to Baseline Trailhead – Part of Heart of Florida Trail
- Pruitt Trail – Pruitt Trailhead to Bridges Road Trailhead – Part of Heart of Florida Trail

- Silver Springs to Mount Dora – Part of Heart of Florida Trail
- Nature Coast Connector – Dunnellon to Chiefland – Part of the Nature Coast Trail

Mr. Balmes said the TPO was seeking input and recommendations on updating, replacing or adding projects to the regional 2023 TRIP list.

The committees engaged in discussion of the presented projects with a focus on the added Interchange projects on the SIS Needs.

Chairman Odom suggested next year when it was time to review the List of Regional Priorities there needed to be more scrutiny on the list to alleviate redundancy that was not needed.

Mr. Couillard, Director of Marion County Parks and Recreation gave comments and said about a month ago Governor DeSantis signed Senate Bill 106 and it was a good Bill for shared-use trails. The funding was \$25 million a year with an increase to \$50 million a year with a one-time allocation of \$200 million a year to kick-start trail projects across the state. FDOT would be managing the funding and focusing on Regional Significant Trails. Anything that had to do with the Heart of Florida Loop Trail was a great opportunity. Mr. Couillard said anytime a project was not Regionally Significant it would get knocked down a few ranks for scoring on the new applications FDOT would be pushing out. He mentioned that the Silver Springs to Mount Dora Trail may not be a part of the Heart of Florida.

Chairman Odom mentioned that the County received an award from Tallahassee to design and construct the Pennsylvania Avenue Trail in Dunnellon which would be a connector to the Heart of Florida Loop.

CAC Action:

Mr. McGinley made a motion to approve the proposed four regional priorities list for submission to the Central Florida MPO Alliance. Mr. Howard seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

TAC Action:

Mr. Titterington made a motion to approve the proposed four regional priorities list for submission to the Central Florida MPO Alliance. Mr. Neal seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 8a. Draft Fiscal Years (FY) 2024 to 2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Balmes presented the draft Fiscal Years (FY) 2024 to 2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and said the TIP was made available for public review and comment on May 2, 2023.

The draft TIP public involvement process is from May 2 to June 16. A formal presentation of the draft TIP would be provided at the committee meetings on May 9. The draft TIP will be presented again at the June 13 meeting to include a summary of public and partner feedback on the projects and document.

Key highlights of the FY 2024 to 2028 draft TIP:

- **Public and Partner Review Period:** The review period is from May 2 to June 16, 2023. TPO Board adoption scheduled for June 27.
- **TIP Projects and Funding:** The draft contains 63 projects, grant programs and ongoing maintenance activities, totaling \$373.5 million of funding. The breakdown by source is:
 - \$209.2 million State (56%);
 - \$148.6 million Federal (39.8%); and
 - \$4.2 million Local (4.2%).
- **TIP Interactive Map:** The TIP online interactive map for the public to view projects with specific locations may be found at the TPO TIP project page.
- **TIP Document Organization:** To TPO continues to publish a TIP document that is a public-friendly resource while not compromising the importance of meeting federal and state requirements. The TIP contains summary pages for each programmed project. Projects continue to be organized by the following major categories for ease of reference by the general public.
 - Interstate (I-75)
 - U.S. Routes
 - State and Local Routes
 - Bicycle and Pedestrian
 - Aviation (Airport)
 - Transit, Funding, Grants
 - ITS and Maintenance

New Projects in the FY 2024 to FY 2028 TIP included (13) Thirteen Projects:

- I-75 Sign Structure Replacements – Bridge Repair/ Rehabilitation
- U.S. 41 from SW 110th Street to SR 40 – Capacity (Widening to 4 lanes)
- U.S. 27 from Sumter Co. to U.S. 301 – Resurfacing
- U.S. 301/441/27 “Gap” 17 Electric Vehicles – Electric Vehicle Charging
- County Road 42 at County Road 25 – Intersection/ Turn Lane
- SR 40 (Silver Springs) at SW 27th Ave. – Intersection/ Turn Lane
- SR 40 from CR 314 to CR 314A - Right-of-way for future Capacity (widening to 4 lanes)
- SR 40 from CR 314A to Levy Hammock - Environmental Work for future Capacity (widening to 4 lanes)
- SR 40 from SW 80th Ave. to SW 52nd Ave. – Resurfacing
- SR 40 from U.S. 441 (Pine) to 25th Avenue – Resurfacing
- SR 40 from 25th Avenue to NE 64th Ave. – Resurfacing
- SR 40 from 25 NE 64th Ave. to Lake Co. – Resurfacing
- SR 200 at SW 60th Avenue – Intersection/ Turn Lane

Aviation Projects: 8 Projects (4 MC, 4 OCF)

SunTran Funding: 3 Major Grants (FTA, Local Funding)

Marion Transit Funding: (FTA, Local Funding)

TPO Funding: Improvements (FHWA – CPG Grants)

Mr. Odom asked if there would be a road diet on 8th?

Mr. Cooper said the road diet had already been completed and it would be four roundabouts with some landscaping. The City was still finalizing the details.

Item 8b. Draft 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Scope of Work

Mr. Balmes presented and said the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is one of the TPO's core federally required planning documents. The TPO is required every five years to update and adopt the LRTP and include a new horizon year (2050). The adoption date of the revised 2050 LRTP would be by November 24, 2025.

The TPO would be soliciting professional services to support the development of the 2050 LRTP. The current estimated timeframe for the 2050 LRTP development process would be from end of calendar year 2023 to 2025. A draft Scope of Work, outlining the tasks and activities associated with the LRTP update was provided to the committee.

A team was being formed to serve on a selection panel for a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process, which was anticipated to take place from July to September.

Item 9. Comments by FDOT

Ms. Melissa McKinney gave the following updates:

- Moving Florida Forward State budget included \$4 billion (TIP, STIP, and LRTP amendments would be needed if the budget was approved). FDOT was still working with Tallahassee on District projects.
- The 2050 LRTP revenue forecast was not available at the MPOAC meeting however, Central Office was expecting the information to be ready within two weeks and would send it out.
- Apportionment Plan Boundary Map- mid May Central Office would send official notification to MPOs that Census data is available and that would start the 180-day block for MPOs to submit their proposed apportionment plans.
- The Construction Report was provided in the committee packet.

Item 10. Comments by TPO Staff

Mr. Balmes said he had been contacted by the City of Dunnellon asking if any of the other jurisdictions had a policy or formal procedure for the conversion of streets from two way to one way.

Mr. Holland said the County did not have a formal process and that it would be specific to assessing the purpose, traffic, and need for the conversion. It would also include a lot of public involvement.

Mr. Cooper said the City of Ocala would conduct a traffic study of the area followed by a City Council workshop to get feedback and input. The conversion would require City Council approval.

Mr. Holland asked which roads were Dunnellon referring to.

Mr. Balmes said that Dunnellon did not specify, however he was sure it was no major roadway.

Mr. Balmes also mentioned that Ms. Hinson provided funding information on the following projects that were referenced at the previous CAC meeting:

- I-75 resurfacing project from Sumter County to SR 200 - \$30 million
- CR 484 from 20th to 475 operational project - \$21 million

Mr. Balmes also said he conducted some research about the correlation between enforcement and improvements to safety, a topic that came up at the previous CAC meeting. There appeared to be a correlation with targeted enforcement and altering driver behaviors according to the research. Mr. Balmes said he would share the information he researched with the committee.

Item 11. Comments by CAC Members

There were no comments by CAC Members.

Item 12. Comments by TAC Members

Mr. Cooper said the City of Ocala would be removing unwarranted traffic signals in the Downtown Ocala area beginning Thursday.

Item 13. Public Comments

Mr. David Bottomley gave comments regarding the importance of all parks being ADA compliant and accessible to all.

Item 14. Adjournment

Chairman Odom adjourned the meeting at 2:19pm.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Shakayla Irby, TPO Administrative Assistant