



## **CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Ocala Citizens Service Center  
201 SE 3rd Street, Ocala FL 34478

**November 10, 2015**

### **MINUTES**

#### **Members Present:**

Renee Blaney, Chairwoman  
Ed Kelly  
Richard McGinley  
Suzanne Mangram  
Michelle Shearer (*arrived 3:06 pm*)

#### **Members Not Present:**

Davis Dinkins  
Joe London  
Robert Sulzer  
Clark Yandle

#### **Others Present:**

Greg Slay, TPO Director  
John Voges, TPO Staff  
Ken Odom, TPO Staff  
Kayleen Hamilton, TPO Staff  
Kellie Smith, FDOT  
Bob Wallace, Tindale-Oliver and Associates

#### **Item 1. Call To Order And Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by Chairwoman Renee Blaney. Secretary Kayleen Hamilton called the roll. A quorum was not present; however, a quorum was achieved with the

arrival of Ms. Shearer at 3:06 p.m. The quorum was lost with the departure of Ms. Mangram at 4:00 p.m.

## **Item 2. Proof Of Publication**

Secretary Kayleen Hamilton stated that the meeting had been published online on the TPO website and Facebook page and on the city of Ocala, Belleview, and Dunnellon websites.

## **Item 3a. Year 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan Final Draft**

Mr. Slay reported that the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) had been under development for the last eighteen to twenty-four months. Staff was seeking approval of the final draft of the LRTP for transmittal to the TPO board. Mr. Slay introduced Mr. Bob Wallace from Tindale Oliver and Associates to present the LRTP final draft.

Mr. Wallace advised that the LRTP had included a robust public involvement program that utilized digital polling, stakeholder interviews, grassroots meetings, informal presentations, and a telephone town hall meeting. The LRTP contained a vision statement, needs assessment, and available revenue data. This information was utilized to develop the cost feasible plan.

Mr. Wallace advised that LRTP built on the projects already included in the Transportation Improvement Program. Transit projects in the cost feasible plan were based on the highest performing routes. Locally funded projects were influenced by the impact fee district. The majority of gas tax revenue was applied to maintenance projects. Mr. Wallace mentioned that local gas taxes were not a progressive revenue source because cars were getting more fuel efficient, people were driving less, and the gas tax was not indexed.

Ms. Mangram asked about SR 200 south, and Mr. Slay that the road would be widened to the bridge. Mr. Slay added that staff had been discussing the project with the Hernando/Citrus MPO. Mr. Wallace said that the bridge was a high priority for Citrus County but that funds were limited. Ms. Mangram asked about US 301 from CR 42 north and Mr. Slay said that it was targeted for four-laning. Design was done but there was no funding on the project. Ms. Mangram asked whether the Marion Oaks Manor overpass at I-75 or the CR 484 interchange improvements would be done first, and Mr. Slay answered that the CR 484 interchange improvements would be first.

Mr. Wallace reviewed projects in the cost feasible plan, a breakdown of funding by mode of transportation, and results from the digital polling at the telephone town hall meeting. Comments received through the town hall meeting, community meetings, and via the website would be taken to the TPO board as part of the plan.

Ms. Shearer commented that in a previous presentation, the committee had heard that now was the time in shaping the plan to decide what should be saved. Ms. Shearer said that with that in mind, she knew a lot of people did not want to see scenic roads like CR 475A four-laned. Ms.

Shearer suggested removing the SW 95<sup>th</sup> Street interchange from the plan. Mr. Slay advised that the committee could decide if they wanted to remove the SW 95<sup>th</sup> Street interchange from the cost feasible plan; it would, however, remain identified in the needs assessment. There was discussion regarding the impact to CR 475 and CR 475A.

*Ms. Shearer made a motion to remove the SW 95<sup>th</sup> Street interchange from the cost feasible plan and Ms. Mangram seconded.*

Mr. Slay advised that if the committee voted to remove the SW 95<sup>th</sup> Street interchange, the LRTP would be transmitted to the TPO with a memo regarding the TAC recommendation and the CAC recommendation. If the board voted to remove the project, the plan would be brought back to adjust some of the other projects. Mr. McGinley asked about the need to four-lane CR 475A if the interchange was not built, and Mr. Slay said that traffic projections only showed a need to four-lane north of SW 66<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Slay added that traffic counts had dropped and that things might change by the next plan update.

*A vote was called and the motion passed three to two with Mr. Kelly and Mr. McGinley opposed.*

Ms. Shearer noted a correction to the Shady Greenway Conservation Alliance name where it was listed as a community group.

*Mr. McGinley moved approval of the Long Range Transportation Plan as amended and Mr. Kelly seconded.*

Ms. Shearer said that she wanted to make further amendments to the plan, and Mr. Kelly withdrew his second.

Ms. Shearer made a motion to remove adding lanes to CR 475A north of SW 66<sup>th</sup> Street from the needs assessment. The motion died due to lack of a second.

*Mr. McGinley moved approval of the Long Range Transportation Plan as amended and Mr. Kelly seconded. The motion passed four to one with Ms. Shearer opposed.*

### **Item 3b. Legislative Priorities**

*This item was deferred due to a lack of quorum.*

### **Item 3c. Roll-Forward Transportation Improvement Program**

Mr. Odom presented the Roll-Forward Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP was a five-year document that anticipated the phases and funding of transportation project. It was developed consistent with MAP-21 legislation. The roll-forward version of the TIP was produced because of the difference between the state and federal funding cycles. Mr. Odom

mentioned that resurfacing funding was down a little from previous years and reviewed highlights from the TIP.

Ms. Shearer asked about a bike trail from Belleview to Lake Louise, and Mr. Odom advised that a feasibility study for a route had been initiated.

Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve the Roll-Forward Transportation Improvement Program as presented. Mr. McGinley seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

### **Item 3d. Election of Chairman and Vice-chairman**

Mr. Kelly nominated Mr. McGinley for chairman and Ms. Shearer seconded. The nomination was unanimously approved.

Mr. McGinley nominated Ms. Blaney for vice-chair and Ms. Mangram seconded. The nomination was unanimously approved.

### **Item 4a. FDOT Five Year Work Program Presentation**

Ms. Smith presented the FDOT Five Year Work Program. The Work Program included projects from the TPO's trail priorities and off-system priorities, as well as roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian projects.

Mr. McGinley asked about the land issue on Pruitt Trail, and Mr. Slay said that the Department of Environmental Protection was working with the land owner. Mr. McGinley asked about the conservation easement on the Withlacoochee River, and Mr. Slay said that he could find out. Mr. Kelly wondered about historical significance of the area.

### **Item 4b. Annual Traffic Counts and Trends Manual**

Mr. Odom presented the Traffic Counts and Trends Manual. The manual contained some statistical data such as population, number of licensed drivers, vehicle registrations, and fuel sales. Mr. McGinley asked about fuel sales, and Mr. Slay said that it was taxed sales and did not include off-road diesel.

The manual also included maps and corresponding count tables with five-year historical data. The traffic count locations on the map were geo-located. The manual also contained a list of the county's most heavily traveled corridors. Mr. Slay noted that the baseline traffic counts that had been used for the LRTP development were lower than the counts ten years earlier. Mr. McGinley asked if registered vehicles were down and Mr. Slay said that the numbers were going back up. Mr. Odom added that while car and pickup truck registrations went down, motorcycle registrations went up.

The manual also contained location information about traffic crashes and fatalities.

Mr. McGinley noted that there was not a count on I-75 south of CR 484, and Mr. Odom said that there was a count station between CR 44 and CR 484 that could be included in the manual.

### **Item 5. Consent Agenda**

*This item was deferred due to a lack of quorum.*

### **Item 6. Comments by FDOT**

Ms. Smith reported that I-75 resurfacing on the southbound inside lanes would require lane closures. A flyer for the Florida Transportation Plan was included in the meeting packet, and Ms. Smith mentioned that the comment period for the plan would end on November 14.

### **Item 7. Comments by TPO Staff**

Mr. Slay advised the committee that an I-75 Relief Task Force had been formed to look at making connections between Tampa and Jacksonville. The task force was comprised of representatives from the various counties that would be affected and other stakeholders such as the Audubon Society. The first meeting was happening shortly and a report was due in October 2016. Ms. Kelly asked about weather, particularly fog, issues, and Mr. Slay said that they would probably stay away from the Paynes Prairie area. Mr. McGinley asked if this was regarding the turnpike extension, and Mr. Slay said that it was to look at tying the SunCoast Parkway 2 into the interstate. Mr. McGinley asked about the Sabal Trail pipeline, and Mr. Slay said that it was farther to the west. Mr. Slay said that staff would send out the Task Force meeting information.

### **Item 8. Comments by CAC Members**

Ms. Shearer commented that information regarding the SW 95<sup>th</sup> Street decision should have been made available in one of the CAC packets.

### **Item 7. Public Comment**

*There was no public comment.*

### **Item 8. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned by Ms. Blaney at 4:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

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Kayleen Hamilton, TPO Administrative Assistant