



CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

April 14, 2015

MINUTES

Members Present:

Richard McGinley, Vice-chairman
Davis Dinkins (*arrived 3:07 p.m.*)
Ed Kelly
Robert Sulzer

Members Not Present:

Renee Blaney, Chairwoman
Joe London
Suzanne Mangram
Michelle Shearer
Clarke Yandle

Others Present:

John Voges, TPO Staff
Ken Odom, TPO Staff
Ann McGaffic, TPO Staff
Kayleen Hamilton, TPO Staff

Item 1. Call To Order And Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Vice-chairman Richard McGinley. Secretary Kayleen Hamilton called the roll. A quorum was not present.

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. Review and Approval of Local Off-system Priorities

Mr. Odom advised that projects were solicited from the local cities and the county. The local off-system priorities were projects not eligible for typical federal and state road funding.

Mr. McGinley asked if the new buses would be compressed natural gas, and Mr. Voges reported that staff was looking into it. Mr. Voges said that ordering the new fuel efficient buses would be cheaper than retrofitting the old buses. Mr. McGinley asked if federal funding was available for the buses and Mr. Voges replied affirmatively.

Mr. Odom explained that the local off-system priority list had been developed to procure funding for smaller projects. This was separate from the capital improvement projects. The TPO had been successful in getting funding for resurfacing SW 80th Avenue and for storm water mitigation work on SR 40. The SunTran replacement buses and constructing a new four lane section of SW 49th Avenue were also funded in FY 2019.

Mr. Odom mentioned that the Marion County sidewalks project was partially funded. The future of the NW 100th Street at US 441 reconfiguration was uncertain because FDOT had disagreed with Marion County's plan to cut down the will.

A consensus of present members was unanimously in favor of approving the priority list.

Item 3b. Transportation Improvement Program Amendments

Mr. Odom presented six amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program. Three were rail projects related to additional railway traffic. There was one amendment for audible pavement markings on US 441 and two amendments related to paved trail projects.

Mr. McGinley asked how far the paved trail would go, and Mr. Odom advised that it was from Ocala to Dunnellon. Negotiations were ongoing for a land swap on the proposed alignment. Citrus County was also working on a trail in their jurisdiction to connect into Dunnellon. The trail projects would be design-build, and Mr. Odom mentioned that there was the potential need for environmental mitigation. Much of the trail alignment utilized existing fire lines and service roads.

Item 4c. Long Range Transportation Plan Presentation

Mr. Odom reported that the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) had kicked off with a presentation to the TPO board by the plan's consultant. Staff would be engaging stakeholders and civic organizations for the plan's public outreach element. The LRTP was the guiding document for the TPO, and began with a "wish list" of projects that were refined into a cost feasible plan. The plan took into consideration local comprehensive, corridor, and vision plans, and the goals and objective from the last LRTP, adjusted for current conditions. After the stakeholder and grassroots outreach meetings, a consensus building workshop would be held to refine what the priorities should be. In September, the draft document would be presented for an open comment period leading up to final adoption in November.

Mr. Odom led the committee through a brief informational survey. There was discussion regarding participation from stakeholders and civic groups. Mr. Voges mentioned that staff was looking into collecting online responses.

Mr. McGinley asked about notices regarding meetings, and Mr. Odom said that there would be newspaper advertising. Mr. Odom reported that staff was also looking at having booths at festivals and other events.

Item 5. Consent Agenda

The consent agenda was deferred due to lack of a quorum.

Item 6. Comments by FDOT

There were no updates from FDOT.

Item 7. Comments by TPO Staff

There were no further comments by TPO staff.

Item 8. Comments by CAC Members

Mr. McGinley asked about the SW 95th Street interchange justification report, and Mr. Odom said that it was still in process. Mr. Voges mentioned that FDOT and FHWA had just come out with a streamlined process for reviewing IJR's.

Item 9. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Item 10. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned by Mr. McGinley at 4:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Kayleen Hamilton
Kayleen Hamilton, TPO Administrative Assistant