



TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Marion County Commission Auditorium
601 SE 25th Avenue, Ocala, FL 34471

April 25, 2017

MINUTES

Members Present:

Commissioner Gary Ernst
Mayor Kent Guinn
Councilman Brent Malever
Commissioner David Moore – Chair (*arrived 4:08 pm*)
Councilman Jay Musleh
Commissioner Michelle Stone (*arrived 4:36 pm*)
Councilman Matthew Wardell – Vice Chair
Commissioner Kathy Bryant (*arrived 4:09 pm*)
Commissioner Jeff Gold
Councilwoman Valerie Hanchar
Councilman James Hilty, Sr.
Commissioner Carl Zalak (*arrived 4:15 pm*)

Members Not Present:

Councilwoman Mary Rich

Others Present:

Rickey Fitzgerald, FDOT
Jason Klempin, FDOT
David Cooke, FDOT
Kellie Smith, FDOT
Jim Wikstrom, FDOT
Don Atwell, Marion County
Gennie Garcia, SunTran
Carlos Zambrano, SunTran
Darren Park, City of Ocala
Masood Mirza, Marion County
Tracy Straub, Marion County
Oscar Tovar, City of Ocala

(Others Present Continued)

Sean Lanier, City of Ocala
Jim Halley, FDOT

Item 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Vice-Chairman Matthew Wardell called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM. Secretary Shakayla Jacobs called the roll of members. A quorum was present.

Item 2. Proof of Publication

Secretary Shakayla Jacobs stated that the meeting had been published online on the TPO website and on the City of Ocala, Marion County, Belleview, and Dunnellon websites.

Item 3a. FY 2016/2017 – 2020/2021 ‘Roll-Forward’ TIP Amendment

Mr. Odom presented the FY 2016/2017 – 2020/2021 ‘Roll-Forward’ TIP Amendment and said that to ensure that the Ocala/Marion County TIP reflects the most current project information, it was necessary to periodically amend the document.

Mr. Odom then stated that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) had request that the TIP be amended to reflect the addition of two projects which were the I-75 ‘FRAME On-System’ and the I-75 ‘FRAME Off-System’.

Mr. Musleh asked for an explanation of FRAME On and Off.

Mr. Odom answered that FRAME was Florida’s Regional Advanced Mobility Elements and was a technologically advanced contingency system that deploys multiple Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) elements to mitigate special/emergency events of US 301, I-75 and to integrate with local ITS Systems.

Mr. Malever asked what kind of construction work would be involved with the projects.

Mr. Odom responded that most of the work would be on existing infrastructures or poles will be added but would not affect traffic.

Mr. Wardell asked about the cost associated with both projects.

Mr. Odom responded that for the I-75 ‘FRAME On-System’ construction would be almost 5 million dollars and the design .85 million dollars and for the ‘FRAME Off-System’ construction would be 2 million dollars and the design at .4 million dollars.

Mr. Hilty made a motion to approve the FY 2016/2017 – 2020/2021 ‘Roll-Forward’ TIP Amendment. Mr. Guinn seconded, a voice vote was called and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 3b. General Planning Consultant Contract

Mr. Daniels said that earlier in the year, staff advertised Letters of Interest (LOI) for a general planning consultant (GPC) and said the TPO had employed a GPC over the past ten years and each GPC had been retained for a period of five years. The GPC would provide professional consulting services in the conduct of tasks assigned by the TPO. On February 22, 2017, staff received six responses from Kimley-Horn and Associates, Kittleson and Associates, Tindale-Oliver and Associates and Traffic and Mobility Consultants. A selection committee was formed and on March 22, 2017 interviews with each firm were conducted and on March 29, 2017 the four firms were ranked by each selection committee member. Feeling that two particular firms would bring valuable experience in several different areas, the committee chose to recommend both Kimley-Horn and Associates and Kittleson and Associates as general planning consultants.

Mr. Daniels said that staff was requesting approval of the selection of and contracts for Kimley-Horn and Associates and Kittleson and Associates as the TPO general planning consultants subject to the competitive negotiation process as set forth in the Consultants Competitive Negotiation Act (Florida Statutes 287.055(5)). Each contract would be for three years with two, one-year options.

Ms. Bryant made a motion to approve the General Planning Consultant Contract.
Mr. Moore seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 3c. Citizens Advisory Committee Appointment

Mr. Daniels informed the TPO Board that Mr. Robert Sulzer who was once a member on the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) wanted to return to the committee. Mr. Daniels asked the board for approval of his appointment.

Ms. Hanchar made a motion to approve the Citizens Advisory Committee Appointment.
Mr. Ernst seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 4a. DRAFT FY 2023 Priority Projects

Mr. Odom presented the Draft FY 2023 Priority Projects, the 2017 ‘Off-System’ Priority Projects and the 2017 ‘Trails’ Priority Projects. Mr. Odom said there was a number of changes to the priority lists with the current year including the addition of four new capital improvement projects to the FY 2023 Priorities and multiple types of additions to the 2017 ‘Off-System’ Priority Projects. There had been no changes to the ‘Trails’ Priority list.

Mr. Odom talked about the additions to the DRAFT FY 2023 Priority Projects and the list included the following projects:

- NE 8th Avenue from SR 40 to SR 492- road diet project that would remove two lanes/ multimodal enhancements

- NW 37th Avenue from SR 40 to US 27- new two lane road
- Emerald Road Extension from SE 92nd Loop to Emerald Road- new two lane road
- Marion Oaks Extension and Flyover from SW 18th Ave Rd to CR 475/w I-75 Flyover- new two lane road/ with new overpass

Mr. Odom then talked about the additions to the Off-System Priorities and the list included the following projects:

- NW 110th Avenue from North of SR 40 to NW 21st Street- widen shoulders to mitigate roadway departure crashes
- Marion Oaks Boulevard at CR 484- study to reconfigure intersection and signalization
- SE 113th Street from Hames Road to SE 56th Avenue- add sidewalks on the north side of the corridor
- US 301 at 320' North of SE 62nd Ave Rd to SE 115th Lane- add sidewalks on the west side of the corridor
- NE 19th Avenue from SR 492 to NE 28th Street- add sidewalks
- NE 7th Street from NE 36th Avenue to NE 44th Avenue- add sidewalks

Mr. Moore asked if there was any way the 95th Street Interchange could be moved up on the priority list.

Mr. Odom responded that the 95th Street Interchange was currently number sixteen on the list and that moving the project up on the list would be under the Boards advisory.

Ms. Bryant commented that she did not feel that the 95th Street Interchange was priority at the time and that the project to focus on was the NW 49th Street Interchange and stated she was not interested in moving 95th Street Interchange up on the priority list.

Mr. Zalak mentioned that he spoke with the Secretary of FDOT and from their standpoint the 95th Street Interchange will not be funded before 466, so the Villages would get their interchange before the southern interchange. Mr. Zalak also mentioned that CR 484 will need a lot of work for it to work from an industrial standpoint and the pieces would need to be into place for it to operate accordingly.

There was more discussion about the traffic impact of the traffic patterns.

Mr. Odom advised the board to look over the projects and that at the next board meeting in May TPO staff would bring the Priority Projects back for ranking and also staff and committee recommendations.

Mr. Odom then added that currently priority project number five SR 40 Downtown Multi-Modal Improvement from US 441 to NE 8th Avenue had been on the list for several years' and that staff would be recommending that it be moved up due to the City of Ocala's redevelopment it would be economically important and beneficial to the City's Downtown area and asked the board to keep that in mind as they reviewed the lists.

Mr. Ernst commented that the soup kitchen south of Belleview feeds about two hundred a day for lunch and the sidewalks would be a great addition.

Mr. Odom stated that the sidewalk project would be a project that could get quickly moved up on the list.

Item 4b. Freight Programs and Initiatives

Rickey Fitzgerald, Freight and Multimodal Operations Office Manager for FDOT talked about the Freight Initiatives Statewide.

Mr. Fitzgerald talked about current priorities for Rail and Motor Carrier and Freight and the FDOT Freight Strategy Profile. Mr. Fitzgerald also talked about the Strategic direction for freight and Key Freight Programs in the FAST Act building a network that can be reliable.

Mr. Daniels mentioned that some of the roadways in Marion County that had been identified as critical urban freight network were US 27 from I-75 to US 441 and US 301 North.

Jim Wikstrom, FDOT District Five Freight and Logistics Manager talked about the specifics for District Five. Some of the needs in District Five was for truck parking availability and currently FDOT had been conducting studies of designated truck parking facilities. The plan was to identify issues with lack of truck parking and find all problem areas and from study receive recommendations to work on improvements.

Commissioner Stone asked about landscaping at the truck parking areas.

Mr. Wikstrom said the concentration was to maximize the area for additional parking and not on the landscaping. Any landscaping would be left up to the local governments.

Jim Halley, FDOT Aviation System Manger talked about Air Cargo state wide in Florida. Air cargo in Florida supports trade, promotes connectivity, improves shipment security, enhances industry competitiveness, lightweight, time sensitive, and high value.

Mr. Halley also talked about the key participants in the Air Cargo industry and funding for Air Cargo in Florida. Ocala has specific needs for air cargo due to the horses that are transported to and from the area.

Commissioner Moore commented on the number of animals that are transported via air cargo including cattle.

There was discussion about different types of air cargo.

Item 5. Consent Agenda

Mr. Gold made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and Mr. Zalak seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 6. Comments by FDOT

Jamie Kersey with FDOT announced that there was an upcoming public information meeting on the US 441 project and she also told the board to refer to the updated construction report.

Item 7. Comments by TPO Staff

Mr. Daniels said that the TPO would work with the District to provide accurate data for the impact on new development for the SR 200 corridor in the southwestern portion of the county.

Mr. Daniels also mentioned that in May the TPO would provide a legislative update on the transportation bills that may impact Marion County.

Mr. Daniels mentioned that Commissioner Stone had attended the Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) weekend institution. Commissioner Stone thanked the TPO for allowing her to attend and said she believed she would serve better on the board after attending the institute.

Item 8. Comments by TPO Members

There was no comment by TPO Members.

Item 9. Public Comment

There was no comment by the Public.

Item 10. Adjournment

Vice-Chairman Wardell adjourned the meeting at 5:19 PM.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Shakayla Jacobs, TPO Administrative Assistant