



Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting

Marion County Library Headquarters – Meeting Room C
2710 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, FL 34470
August 10, 2021
1:00 PM

MINUTES

Members Present:

Michelle Shearer
Paul Marraffino (*arrived at 1:14pm*)
Richard Howard
Richard McGinley
Steve Rudnianyn
Travis Magamoll (*arrived at 1:15pm*)

Members Not Present:

Clark Yandle
Davis Dinkins
Joe London
Suzanne Mangram

Others Present:

Rob Balmes
Shakayla Irby
Liz Mitchell
Rakinya Hinson, FDOT
Tyler Burgett, FDOT
Amber Gartner, Kimley-Horn

Item 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Steve Rudnianyn called the meeting to order at 1:07pm and Secretary Shakayla Irby called the roll, there was not a quorum present. A quorum was present at 1:14pm with the attendance of Mr. Paul Marraffino and Mr. Travis Magamoll.

Item 2. 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 August 3, 2021. The meeting had also been published to the Star Banner news calendar, and the TPOs Facebook and Twitter pages.

Walk-On Item. Amendment (FY) 20/21 to 24/25 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Rob Balmes presented and per the request of the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), one transit project was proposed to be added to the Fiscal Years (FY) 2020/2021 to 2024/2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

FM# 449238-1 Marion-Ocala SunTran Section 5307 ARP Small Urban Area

- American Rescue Plan (ARP) project
- Total: \$783,759
- New transit project Capital Grant

The SunTran had received the grant application a month prior and funding was a part of the Covid Relief. The grant was at 100% no match but had to be included to the TIP for the funds to be awarded to the City and County Local funds were not applied for.

The total grant funding would be \$627,007.

Mr. McGinley made a motion to accept the Walk-On Amendment FY 20/21 to 24/25 TIP.

Mr. Magamoll seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. McGinley made a motion to approve FM449238-1 for supplemental SunTran funding.

Ms. Shearer seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. McGinley made a motion to approve FM449238-1 Ocala SunTran Section 5307 American Resuce Plan (ARP) Small Urban Area supplemental funding for the 22/26 TIP.

Mr. Magamoll seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 3A. Fiscal Years (FY) 21/22 to 25/26 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Roll Forward Amendment

Mr. Balmes presented and said that the on an annual basis, the TPO worked in coordination with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to amend the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) through a roll-forward process. The process was undertaken because in some cases project phases that were programmed in the previous fiscal year (FY) of the prior TIP were

not authorized and encumbered by June 30. The projects must then roll-forward to the new FY in July of the FDOT Work Program and also be included in year one the TPO's recently adopted TIP (FY 2021/2022 to 2025/2026). Therefore, a TIP amendment was necessary to ensure full consistency with the FDOT Work Program.

A total of \$25,605,946 in funding had been proposed to be rolled forward to projects in the FY 2021/2022 to 2025/2026 TIP. Some of the notable projects included:

- SR 40 from end of 4 lanes to east of CR 314 (Right-of-Way, PE): \$818,427
- SR 40 intersections at SW 40th and SW 27th (Right-of-Way, PE): \$550,709
- US 441 from SR 40 to SR 40A (Right-of-Way, PE, and Construction): \$402,469
- SR 25/SR 200/US 301 from CR 25A to US 301/US 441 (Resurfacing): \$3,399,470
- SunTran Capital and Operating: \$17,472,315
- SunTran Block Grant Operating: \$523,310
- SunTran Small Urban Capital: \$808,794
- Silver Springs State Park Pedestrian Bridges (PE, Environmental): \$148,616

Mr. Herlihy made observation that totals provided had seemed to be at half the total amount and also inquired about the reason for deferrals and delays.

Mr. Balmes responded with a walk through of the Roll-Forward report showing projects that had funding rolled forward. Regarding deferrals and delays, in some cases projects had a lapse in schedule and also flexibility by FDOT to roll funding forward to get projects completed.

Mr. McGinley made a motion to approve the FY 21/22 to 25/26 TIP Roll Forward Amendment. Mr. Magamoll seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 4A. Draft Congestion Management Plan

Mr. Balmes said that the TPO had been undertaking a major update to the Congestion Management Process (CMP). The updated included full revisions to the current Policy and Procedures and State of System documents last completed in 2011. In addition, public outreach took place through an online survey conducted in March.

Ms. Amber Gartner with Kimley-Horn provided a presentation to the Committee.

The CMP process was updated every 5 years

1. Develop Regional Objectives
2. Define CMP Network
3. Develop Multimodal Performance Measures

Frequent Updates (every two year process)

4. Collect Data/Monitor System Performance
5. Analyze Congestion Problems and Needs
6. Identify and Assess Strategies
7. Program and Implement Strategies
8. Evaluate Strategy Effectiveness

Step 1: Recommended CMP Goals

- Monitor System Performance

- Improve Safety
- Congestion Reduction
- Engage the Public

Step 2: A map of the Congestion Management Network was displayed.

Step 3: Performance Measures

Safety Performance Measures (5-Year Rolling Average)

- Number of Fatalities
- Fatality Rate
- Serious Injuries
- Serious Injury Rate
- Non-Motorized Safety (Fatalities + Serious Injuries)

Roadway Capacity Performance Measures

- Percent of VMT and Roadway Miles below adopted Level of Service Standard
- V/C Ratio
- V/MSV Ratio

Reliable Travel Time Performance Measures

- Percent of Person-Miles Traveled on the Interstate that are Reliable
- Percent of Person Miles Traveled on the Non-Interstate NHS that are Reliable

Goods Movement Performance Measures

- Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Below LOS Standard on Designated Truck Routes
- Truck Travel Time Reliability (TTTR) Index
- Percent of the Interstate System Mileage Uncongested
- Number of Crashes Involving Heavy Vehicles

Public Transit Performance Measures

- Percent of Congested Roadway Centerline Miles with Transit Service
- Passenger Trips per Revenue Hour
- Average Peak Service Frequency
- On-Time Performance
- Annual Ridership

Bicycle/Pedestrian/Trail Facility Performance Measures

- Percent of Congested Roadway Centerline Miles with Bicycle and/or Sidewalk Facilities
- Miles of Multi-Use Trails

TDM Performance Measures

- Number of Registered Carpools or Vanpools

System Preservation (Optional – Non-CMP)

- Percent of pavements on the Interstate System in Good condition
- Percent of pavements on the non-Interstate NHS in Good condition
- Percent of pavements on the Interstate System in Poor condition

- Percent of pavements on the non-Interstate NHS in poor condition
- Percent of NHS Bridges classified as in Good condition
- Percent of NHS Bridges classified as in Poor condition

Public Engagement

- Was a survey of provided to the public to identify congestion and safety issues?
- Were CMP materials provided for review by the public?

Step 4: Collect Data/ Monitor System Performance map was shown.

Step 5: Analyze Congestion Problems & Needs

Step 6: Identify and Assess Strategies

Step 7 and 8: Program Strategies and Evaluate Effectiveness

Summary and Next Steps

1. Ongoing monitoring of the transportation system
2. Monitor availability of traffic data and travel time reliability from FDOT
3. Monitor Federal and State requirements for CMP and setting of performance targets
4. Program 2 to 3 corridor / intersection studies per year based on the results of the congestion analysis and mitigation strategy identification
5. Perform State of the System update every two to three years to monitor system performance and effectiveness of strategy implementation
6. Publish an online interactive map and CMP resource page on the TPO's website

Item 5A. Traffic Counts Report

Mr. Balmes said the TPO published the 2021 Traffic Counts Report and Online Map in June to serve as a resource to citizens, elected leaders and professionals in Marion County. The report was a compilation of traffic counts taken and administered by professionals at Marion County, City of Ocala and the Florida Department of Transportation.

Provided to the committee in the meeting packet was a 2021 Traffic Counts report.

The information was also accessible at the TPO's Website Transportation Statistics Page:
<https://ocalamariontpo.org/transportation-statistics>

Traffic Counts Online Map

<https://marioncountyfl.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=684f763711d742f893a1271ab346c28c>

Traffic Counts Story Map

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/6190ad2ad11c4e99a0d149c9dff71488>

Item 5B. CAC Membership Update

Mr. Balmes said the composition of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) was at nine members. Based on two departures in 2021, TPO staff announced a call for applications on June

28 to the general public. Applications would be accepted and reviewed as they are received. Per the CAC Bylaws, the TPO Board would review any new membership nominations submitted by staff for their consideration.

Item 5C. Safety Action Plan

Mr. Balmes reported that the TPO is investing in the development of a Safety Action Plan to serve as a resource to improving transportation safety throughout Marion County. The development of an Action Plan is envisioned to be a collaborative process involving citizens and stakeholders, private and public partners, and state agencies. The proposed title of the Action Plan is

Commitment to Zero: An Action Plan for Safer Streets in Ocala Marion.

Nationally, safety has been a priority of federal planning and policy-making for decades. However, with the passage of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, the role of safety at MPO/TPO's has been expanded in both planning and reporting. All MPO/TPO's are required to expand upon past work performed in transportation safety, such as meeting annual performance targets and integrating safety into the project prioritization process.

Additionally, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) had adopted Vision Zero into their practices of advancing safety in the state of Florida. At the FDOT District 5 level, an Office of Safety was established in 2021 placing safety at the forefront of transportation activities in the central Florida region.

The purpose of Commitment to Zero is to bring together the Ocala Marion community to collaborate in the development of an Action Plan to improve safety on our transportation system. The Action Plan will serve as a guidance document to help propel community partners and stakeholders toward reaching the ultimate vision of zero fatalities and serious injuries on the streets. The Action Plan will also serve as a source of inspiration by honoring local leaders and organizations devoted to safety.

Furthermore, a major theme of the Action Plan will be an emphasis on the implementation of agreed-upon specific action steps, including shared responsibility to support building a stronger safety culture in the community.

A draft scope of work will be provided to the committee at the September committee meeting.

Ms. Shearer made a comment that roads would never be safe until texting while driving stopped.

Mr. McGinley asked if bicycle accidents were being tracked.

Mr. Balmes said that if law enforcement was called to the scene of the crash, it is reported.

Ms. Shearer asked if there had been comparisons in accidents since before and then after texting. No comparisons had been documented at the time but Mr. Balmes did take note of the comment. Ms. Shearer said that once the bike corridor from New England to Florida was finished that there should be a nice barrier to protect bicyclist and pedestrians. Possibly some trees acting as a barrier.

Item 6A. Consent Agenda

Mr. McGinley made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Howard seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 7. Comments by FDOT

Ms. Rakinya Hinson provided an updated construction report as of July 28, 2021 and highlighted the following projects:

Current

- Resurface U.S. 441 from State Road 35 (SE Baseline Road) to State Road 200 (FDOT Financial Information Number 439238-1)
- Widen Northeast 36th Avenue to four lanes and construction of bridges over CSX rail line (FDOT Financial Information Number 431798-3)
- Converting full median openings to directional medians, closing three of the existing full median openings, and extending some of the turn lanes between Northwest 27th Avenue and Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue in Ocala. These modifications reduce traffic conflict points and separate turning movements along this section of S.R. 40. (FDOT Financial Information Number 441366-1)

Upcoming

- Mill and resurface U.S. 441 from County Road 25A in Ocala north 8.8 miles to the U.S. 441/301 split. This project will also change the configuration of the roadway at the US 441/301 split to allow both lanes of traffic on northbound US 441 to turn left onto US 301. Currently, only vehicles in the right lane may turn onto US 301. This change is being made to alleviate significant backups of trucks stacking in the right lane awaiting their opportunity to turn onto US 301. (FDOT Financial Information Number 441136-1)

Mr. Magamoll inquired about DAB Constructors shutting down operations and how that would affect big and small projects.

Ms. Hinson said she would find out information on the status of projects and get back to the committee with a response.

Mr. Marraffino inquired about the extension of the Suncoast Parkway and the completion date of the project.

Ms. Hinson said she would have to do some research and get back with the committee on a status.

Ms. Shearer inquired about the status of the congestion relief of I-75.

Ms. Hinson said she would inquire about the PD&E study and get back with the committee.

Item 8. Comments by TPO Staff

Mr. Balmes provided a Senate update regarding the Infrastructure bill package that called for \$550 billion in new spending over five years.

A summary breakdown of the package thus far includes:

- \$110 billion for roads and bridges

- \$66 billion for passenger and freight rail
- \$39 billion for public transit
- \$11 billion for safety
- \$7.5 billion for electric vehicle charging stations
- \$5 billion for purchase of electric school buses and hybrids
- \$17 billion for ports
- \$25 billion for airports
- \$46 billion for infrastructure resiliency
- \$55 billion for water and wastewater
- \$65 billion for broadband access
- \$21 billion for superfund and brownfield cleanup
- \$73 billion for the nation’s electrical grid modernization

The pay-for, as currently estimated, will potentially come from a variety of sources, including COVID-19 unspent relief, unemployment insurance aid, delaying Medicare rebates, 5G service auctions, and tax on chemical manufacturing, tax enforcement and future economic growth.

The Senate had passed the bill earlier in the day. The bill was set to move on to the House.

Item 9. Comments by CAC Members

Ms. Shearer talked about the resurfacing of SE 25th Avenue from SE 95th Street to SE 110th Street and there were some aprons going down the trails and a friend of hers came with a carriage and it was very nice and a great job.

Ms. Shearer inquired when the other section to 80th Street would be completed. There was no timeline at the time.

Ms. Shearer mentioned a citizen she knew spoke with her about the intersection at CR 475A to 66th Street and said that the green light wasn't long enough and that after two seconds it turned red again and that's where the backup could be for a few minutes.

Item 10. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Item 11. Adjournment

Chairman Rudnianyn adjourned the meeting at 2:13pm.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Shakayla Irby, TPO Administrative Assistant