TPO OCALA MARION
TRANSPORTATION
PLANNING
ORGANIZATION

Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting
Meeting Held via Cisco WebEx
August 11, 2020
1:00 PM

MINUTES

Members Present:

Andrea Lemieux
Michelle Shearer
Paul Marraffino
Richard McGinley
Joe London
Vickie Wyche

Members Not Present:

Steve Rudnianyn
Davis Dinkins
Clark Yandle
Travis Magamoll
Suzanne Mangram
Richard Howard

Others Present:

Rob Balmes, TPO
Liz Mitchell, TPO
Derrick Harris, TPO
Anton Schauerte, TPO

Item 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Vice-Chair Richard McGinley called the meeting to order at 1:00pm. Assistant TPO Director Derrick Harris called the roll, there was not a quorum present.

Item 2. Proof of Publication

Assistant TPO Director Derrick Harris 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 4th, 2020. The meeting had also been published to the Star Banner news

calendar, and the TPOs Facebook and Twitter pages.

Item 3A. Gateway Signage Presentation

Loretta Shaffer, Director of the Ocala Marion County Visitors and Convention Bureau and Technical Advisory Committee Member, gave a brief presentation on the Tourist Development Council's I-75 Gateway Signage Project. She said the plan came out of the latest strategic plan for the Marion County Board of County Commissioners (BCC). Loretta highlighted how this plan came to fruition with the beginning of an additional 2% tax which was passed by the BCC in 2015. Then, two years after passing the additional tax, Kimley Horn was hired as a lead consultant to analyze the best locations for implementing and installing gateway signage. The analysis determined that a proposed flyover at CR 42 and I-75, and the newly programmed NW 49th Street Interchange would be the most ideal locations. The design began of the concept at the beginning of 2020 with an anticipated completion date of October 2020. The plan as it sits currently would be to obtain permits in 2021 and obtain approval for construction by late 2021 or early 2022.

CAC Member Michelle Shearer asked where the exact locations of the signage would be constructed. Loretta mentioned that it was the CR 42 flyover and NW 49th street interchange, both which haven't been constructed yet.

Item 3B. I-75 FRAME & TSM&O Presentation

Jeremy Dilmore an engineer with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) gave a brief presentation on the I-75 Florida's Regional Advanced Mobility Elements (FRAME) project and how it relates to what FDOT is doing with Transportation Systems Management & Operations (TSM&O). Jeremy mentioned there is actually two parts to the I-75 FRAME project, one project location in the Ocala/Marion County area, and another just north in the Gainesville/Alachua County area. He highlighted how the intent of this project is to relieve congestion that occurs due to crashes on I-75 utilizing technology. Jeremy explained the technology component relates to connected vehicles and integrated corridor management. Jeremy went into great detail regarding which corridors the project or technology would be constructed on, and those include:

- SR 200
- US 27
- SR 40
- SR326

Jeremy stated the design is complete, with an anticipated construction completed in the spring of 2021. He also mentioned that once completed this project has the potential to reduce crashes by 74%. Jeremy highlighted how cars of the future, specifically 2022 models from Ford, will have the technological ability to talk to the software being installed with the I-75 FRAME project as well as other automobiles with similar technology. Jeremy mentioned that a great deal of discussion is going on with the automobile manufactures as they continue to develop this technology and implement the infrastructure with the I-75 FRAME project. Jeremy stated that if you wanted to learn more about the progress of this project you can view the central Florida smart roads website for more details.

CAC Member Paul Marraffino asked where this technology would be implemented, how many feet/miles? Jeremy stated the technology would be less than half a mile on the major arterials or at the intersections in the traffic cabinet box.

Vice-Chair Richard McGinley asked if this information was being sent back to a central command. Jeremy stated it was currently being sent to a Regional Traffic Management Center. In addition Jeremy mentioned that it was currently being developed as an open data initiative so that it can be used by a variety of different users. Vice-Chair asked if FDOT was in communication with the automobile manufactures to ensure they have this technology in their products. Jeremy said they are in communication with several automobile manufactures but there is some limitations as they are in a competitive business market.

Item 4 LRTP Status

Assistant Director Derrick Harris presented a brief update on the status of the on-going 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) update. Derrick stated the public comments for the needs plan portion of the LRTP was kicked off by an in-person and virtual workshop on June 18th. He mentioned that the project site or story map, which was created to serve the public comment portion of the needs plan, was left up until the end of July, when the public comment portion for this particular task was closed. He highlighted how the TPO received 123 comments. He stated that the 123 comments included any comments which were liked by other citizens, as there was a feature which allowed for individuals to like a comment which had already been made, as people could view other comments before making their own. Derrick gave a brief overview of the majority of the comments received which were related to CR 484, CR 475, and the SR 200 corridors. He said the Cost Feasible Plan would be presented at next month's meeting in September, so look forward to that. Derrick stated that to ensure a good CFP is possible, he was proposing pushing back next month's meeting one week to the 15th, but if anyone had any conflicts with the proposed date please let him know.

CAC Member Michelle Shearer asked if there would be another opportunity for public comments. Derrick stated there would be additional comment periods for the Cost Feasible Plan and the DRAFT Adoption Document in September and October. Michelle stated the scenic roads like 475A needed to be preserved because it showcases the beauty if Marion County.

Item 5. 2020 Traffic Count Manual

Transportation Planner Anton Schauerte presented an overview of the newly created Traffic Count Manual for 2020. He mentioned that this document is typically updated every year, with the exception of the last two years. Mr. Schauerte mentioned this document is a compilation of traffic counts from the City of Ocala, Marion County, and FDOT. He informed every one of the major change in this document from years past, is the separating of crash statistics. He mentioned TPO staff will be creating a separate stand-alone crash document, which staff will begin in the next month of two. Mr. Schauerte highlighted how the annual growth rate was changed as well, to be more aligned with best practices in the field of transportation for publishing traffic count statistics. In addition, Anton mentioned that staff was working on an interactive map to support this document and should be made available soon.

Vice-Chair McGinley mentioned that he really liked the new format.

Item 6. Consent Agenda

Consent agenda was tabled until the next meeting where a quorum would hopefully be present.

Item 7. Comments by FDOT

There was no comments.

Item 8. Comments by TPO Staff

Assistant TPO Director Derrick Harris mentioned the meeting next month would be pushed back one week until the 15th. In addition, Derrick mentioned to keep a look out for the Cost Feasible Plan coming in September.

Item 9. Comments by TAC Members

There was no comments.

Item 10. Public Comment

There was no comments.

Item 11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Vice - Chair McGinley at 2:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted By:

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Derrick Harris, TPO Assistant Director