



## TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Marion County Commission Auditorium  
601 SE 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Ocala, FL 34471

**February 27, 2018**

### MINUTES

#### **Members Present:**

Commissioner Jeff Gold  
Mayor Kent Guinn (*arrived 4:03pm*)  
Councilwoman Valerie Hanchar  
Councilman Justin Grabelle  
Commissioner Ronald Livsey  
Commissioner David Moore  
Councilman Jay Musleh  
Councilwoman Mary Rich  
Commissioner Michelle Stone  
Commissioner Carl Zalak

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

Commissioner Kathy Bryant  
Councilman Brent Malever  
Councilman Matthew Wardell

#### **Others Present:**

Darren Park, City of Ocala  
Don Atwell, Marion County  
Oscar Tovar, City of Ocala  
Sean Lanier, City of Ocala

### **Item 1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chairman Moore called the meeting to order at 4:00 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. Safety Performance Measures and Targets**

Mr. Daniels presented the Safety Performance Measures and Targets and said that nationally, state-specific, and locally, transportation plans existed to enhance safety for all users of the transportation system. A coordinated effort to connect all the safety plans had long been in effect in the transportation realm, but over the last two years, a system of Performance Management led to a greater push for comprehensive and coordinated transportation and safety planning. Performance Measures for Safety had been developed by the FHWA, for which targets were being established cooperatively between the FDOT and MPO's within the State of Florida (as well as nationally). Through the coordinated effort, the goals of the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), Highway Safety Plan (HSP), Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP), and region specific safety and transportation plans could be shown to guide and support one another.

Mr. Daniels said that in August of 2017, the FDOT adopted a target of "Zero" for the five (5) safety performance measures adopted by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for all public roads and at the January 9th TAC & CAC meetings, the committee recommended to adopt the FDOT target of "0" with an interim performance measure based on an average of the last four-five year rolling averages for each performance measure from 2009 to 2016. On January 31st, the TPO board was opposed to adopting a target of 0 and requested additional information to determine the correct performance measures for each category. At the February 13th TAC meeting, the committee approved the performance measure targets based on historical trends however they requested that the word "target" be removed and that the data be referred to as simply historical averages. The CAC approved staff's recommendation.

Mr. Daniels provided the board with additional charts and graphs showing the historical data of crashes from the last five years.

There was board discussion.

*Ms. Stone made a motion to approve the Safety Performance Measures and Targets.*  
*Ms. Rich seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*

### **Item 3b. Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) Freight Priorities**

Mr. Daniels presented the Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) Freight Priorities and said that The Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) Freight Committee developed a Freight Priority Projects list to be included for consideration for FDOT's annual work program.

The purpose of the list was to prioritize high priority projects Statewide and that the MPOAC, as the association representing all MPOs in Florida, had the opportunity to promote and endorse the priorities on behalf of its members for consideration by the FDOT.

Mr. Daniels told the overview of the process was as followed:

- Each MPO could submit up to 3 freight roadway projects annually for inclusion in the freight priority list; projects must fall on state facilities;
- Projects must have completed the PD&E process and be ready for design and/or construction funding;
- A screening checklist must be completed for each project; this information will illustrate the project is a freight priority;
- The list of freight priorities would undergo MPOAC approval process annually (Freight Committee, Staff Directors Committee, Governing Board)
- Approved list will be transmitted to FDOT Freight Logistics and Passenger Operation (FLP) Office.
- Intent was to influence funding decisions relating to the new 5th year of FDOT's work program as well any changes to years 1 thru 4.

Mr. Daniels said that staff was recommending that the top 3 freight projects be submitted for the statewide freight priority list which included:

- NW 49<sup>th</sup> Street Interchange
- SW 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue to SW 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- SW 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue Road to CR 475A

*Mr. Gold made a motion to approve the Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) Freight Priorities. Mr. Zalak seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*

### **Item 3c. SunTran Advertising**

Mr. Daniels said in January of 2018, TPO staff, in coordination with the City Procurement Department issued a Bus Wrap Advertising Opportunity for SunTran buses. One bid was received from Attorney Steven A. Bagen. The price proposal for the bid was \$1,255.51 per month for the first bus, and \$1,056.51 per month (each) for two buses. The bid, price proposal and SunTran advertising policy was enclosed for the board to review.

Mr. Daniels said that staff was requesting direction on whether not to proceed with the Bagen offer.

There was board discussion.

Mr. Gold made a motion to approve SunTran Advertising. Mr. Zalak seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **Item 4a. Belleview to Greenway Trail Update**

Mr. Odom introduced Ms. Kate Widness with Kimley-Horn to present the Belleview to Greenway Trail Update.

Ms. Widness said that TPO had enlisted Kimley-Horn & Associates to analyze alternative routes originating from Lake Lillian, in downtown Belleview, to the Marjorie Harris-Carr Cross Florida Greenway. This was an on-going effort to connect all the major municipalities to the growing trail system throughout Marion County. Similar trail connections were also planned for the Cities of Dunnellon and Ocala and future connections to the Town of McIntosh would also be revisited in the future.

Ms. Widness said that to date, stakeholder and public involvement meetings had been conducted along with the preliminary existing conditions analysis and alternatives development. Based on the data, a final alignment was selected at the City of Belleview Commission meeting and would be incorporated as the preferred alternative into the final document. Transmission of the document to the FDOT, along with a project application, would formally begin the funding process for design and construction of the project.

Ms. Widness talked about the three alternatives which included:

- Paved Trail
- Paved Trail Adjacent to Roadway
- Shared Lane Markings

There was board discussion about the trail alternatives.

Mr. Odom let the board know that no decision had to be made at the time it was only for discussion to get the boards input.

#### **Item 4b. SR 35 and NE 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue Trail Crossing Report**

Mr. Odom presented the SR 35 and NE 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue Trail Crossing Report and said the TPO enlisted Kimley-Horn & Associates to analyze trails crossings on SR 35 and NE 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue that would be a part of the Silver Springs to Downtown Trail and the Indian Lake State Trail. A FINAL report of the analysis was submitted to TPO staff, on January 18, 2018, that documented the existing conditions and recommended treatments at both locations.

Mr. Odom said that the purpose of the study was to evaluate crossing treatment options at two future trail crossing/connection locations and provide recommendations for the appropriate treatment to include in any future design phases of the project. The study focuses on the following two trail crossings, per the request of the Ocala/Marion County Transportation Planning Organization (TPO):

- A trail crossing at State Road (SR) 35 to connect the downtown trail to the Silver Springs State Park
- A trail crossing at NE 58th Avenue to connect the Indian Lake State Forest and Silver Springs State Forest

Mr. Odom said the existing conditions of the roadways subject to each trail crossing location were reviewed to identify the appropriate facility treatments. The roadway characteristics, posted speed limit, traffic volume, and crash history were evaluated in the review for the appropriate location and treatment. Guidance from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices were utilized in the determination of the recommended crossing treatment.

A conceptual layout of each recommended crossing location and treatment was prepared and discussed with stakeholders from Marion County Planning, Marion County Parks and Recreation, Florida Park Service, FDOT, and the TPO. This study had been updated to reflect the December 2017 notice from FHWA terminating their approval of the use of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) for mid-block pedestrian crossings. Input from the stakeholders was incorporated into the final recommendations within the study.

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

*Ms. Stone made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Musleh seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*

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

Ms. Kersey with FDOT informed the board of a Public Hearing for Project US 27 at CR 464B Safety Improvements Median Modification that was to be held at Fellowship Baptist Church 10500 US 27, Ocala, FL 34482 on Thursday, March 8, 2018 from 5-7pm.

Ms. Kersey also included the monthly construction report for the board to review.

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

Mr. Daniels introduced William Goodman who was a sophomore at Forest High School that attended the board meeting to see how the TPO conducted meetings. Mr. Daniels said that as part of a project that William was working on he had been working with the TPO to see the behind the scenes of what is done to complete transportation projects.

Mr. Daniels also let the board know that he was expecting to show the board the SunTran bus videos that would be used on the SunTran's new website at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

**Item 8. Comments by TPO Members**

*There were no comments by TPO members.*

**Item 9. Public Comment**

*There was no public comment.*

**Item 10. Adjournment**

Chairman Moore adjourned the meeting at 5:13 PM.

Respectfully Submitted By:

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Shakayla Jacobs, TPO Administrative Assistant