



TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

JANUARY 13, 2015
10:00 AM

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

2. PROOF OF PUBLICATION

3. ACTION ITEMS

A. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON

The TAC is required to annually elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson to serve for the calendar year. The current chairman is Dave Herlihy, and Mike Daniels is vice-chairman.

B. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF 2015 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Each year the Transportation Planning Organization develops a set of legislative priorities on which to focus. Staff will present the 2015 legislative priorities for review and approval.

C. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENTS

To ensure that the Transportation Improvement Program reflects the most current project information, it is periodically necessary to amend the document. Staff will present the Transportation Improvement Program amendments for review and approval.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. FDOT DISTRICT 5 FIVE YEAR WORK PROGRAM PRESENTATION

5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 14, 2014

6. COMMENTS BY FDOT

7. COMMENTS BY TPO STAFF

8. COMMENTS BY TAC MEMBERS

9. PUBLIC COMMENT (Limited to 5 minutes)

10. ADJOURNMENT

If reasonable accommodations are needed for you to participate in this meeting, please call the TPO Office at (352)629-8297 forty-eight (48) hours in advance, so arrangements can be made.

*The next regular meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee will be held on
February 10, 2015.*



2015 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

RESTORATION OF FUNDING FOR THE TRANSPORTATION REGIONAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM

The Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) was established to encourage a regional approach to transportation system improvements. This program proved highly successful in the Central Florida area. Funding for the program has declined steadily since 2008 due to the economic downturn and a shift of \$60 million in 2014 to the Florida Rail Enterprise. Restoring the program to its pre-recession levels enable local governments to accelerate a number of transportation projects.

SUPPORT EXPANDED AVAILABILITY OF THE CURRENT CHARTER COUNTY TRANSIT SURTAX

Section 212.055(1) F.S. authorizes charter counties to levy (by countywide referendum) up to 1¢ for various transportation uses including highway construction and maintenance as well as activities to support a transit system. Expanding eligibility for this surtax to counties that are members of a metropolitan/transportation planning organization would provide another resource for local governments in those counties to address transportation issues as well as provide a source of matching funds for programs such as the Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP).

SUPPORT INDEXING OF LOCAL OPTION GAS TAXES

Current market conditions, including more fuel efficient vehicles, are greatly undermining the purchasing power of local option gas taxes. In 1997, the Legislature allowed state gas taxes to be indexed to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) each year. Providing local governments the same opportunity to index local option gas taxes would enable local governments to better address both

capacity and maintenance issues. Since 1990, the purchasing power of local option taxes has decreased by approximately 40%.

SUPPORT REDUCTION OF DISTRACTED DRIVING BY DESIGNATING USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES AS A PRIMARY OFFENSE

Traffic crashes caused by drivers using wireless communication devices continues to be a concern. In 2013, the legislation was enacted that prohibited use of such devices while driving as a secondary offense, meaning a driver has to have committed a more serious violation (i.e. speeding, careless driving) to be issued a citation for texting while driving. Designating distracted driving as a primary offense would further deter this dangerous activity.

DRAFT



January 7, 2015

TO: TAC/CAC Committee Members

FROM: Kenneth Odom, Transportation Planner

RE: FY 2014/2015-2018/2019 'Roll-Forward' TIP AMENDMENT

In order to ensure that the Ocala/Marion County TIP reflects the most current project information, it is necessary to periodically amend the document. Amendments to the TIP are typically required:

- To add or delete a project;
- To change the state or federal funding allocation of a project;
- To change the year of anticipated funding of a project phase;
- To change the scope of work of a project;
- To change the source of federal or state funds.

Eight project amendments are proposed by the Florida Department of Transportation this month. Please see the attached page following this memo.

Specific details regarding the addition of these projects and the associated funding changes will be discussed at the January 13, 2015 meeting.

If you have any questions prior to the upcoming meeting, please contact our office at 629-8297.

Version: G1

Florida Department of Transportation
STIP Amendments Needed for Estimate Increases
MARION COUNTY
Fiscal Years 2015 to 2018

Effective: 01/06/15 00:24

Run: 01/06/15 11:36

Item Segment	Last Approved STIP Amendment	Description	Phase Group	Federal Project	PH	Sq	Fund	Year	Original Estimate	Current Estimate	Estimate Increase
427188-2		SUNTRAN/OCALA/MARION URBAN CAPITAL FIXED ROUTE FTA SECTION 5307-2009	GRANTS AND MISCELLANEOUS		94	01	FTA	2015	1,294,144	1,294,144	-
							LF	2015	323,536	323,536	-
						02	FTA	2016	-	2,022,110	2,022,110
							FL	2016	-	505,528	505,528
<i>Project Totals</i>									1,617,680	4,145,318	2,527,638
431797-1		NE 25TH AVENUE FROM SR 492 TO NE 35TH STREET	RAILROAD AND UTILITIES	7777-267-A	37	01	SL	2015	-	15,000	15,000
<i>Project Totals</i>									-	15,000	15,000
431798-1		NE 36TH AVENUE FROM SR 492 (NE 14TH ST) TO NE 35TH STREET	RAILROAD AND UTILITIES		37	01	SL	2015	-	15,000	15,000
<i>Project Totals</i>										15,000	15,000
431798-2		NE 36TH AVENUE FROM SR 492 (NE 14TH ST) TO NE 35TH STREET	PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING		32	01	ACSL	2016	-	485,426	485,426
							CM	2016	-	889,574	889,574
				9339-004-U	31	01	SA	2015	-	10,000	10,000
<i>Project Totals</i>										1,385,000	1,385,000
431798-4		NE 36TH AVENUE FROM NORTH OF NE 25TH STREET TO NE 35TH STREET	PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING		32	01	CM	2016	-	533,131	533,131
							SA	2016	-	106,876	106,876
							SL	2016	-	734,993	734,993
				9339-005-U	31	01	SA	2015	-	10,000	10,000
<i>Project Totals</i>										1,385,000	1,385,000
436186-1		SW 80TH AVENUE FROM SW 90TH STREET TO SW 38TH STREET	CONSTRUCTION	8886-626-A	58	01	ACSL	2015	-	1,440,321	1,440,321
							LF	2015	-	564,679	564,679
					61	01	ACSL	2015	-	5,000	5,000
					68	01	ACSL	2015	-	18,000	18,000
<i>Project Totals</i>										2,028,000	2,028,000
436474-1		COUNTYWIDE SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS, MARION COUNTY	PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING		31	01	TALL	2015	-	6,000	6,000
					38	01	TALL	2015	-	60,000	60,000
<i>Project Totals</i>										66,000	66,000
437188-1		MARION-MARION COUNTY TRANSIT SEC 5339 SMALL URBAN BUS & BUS FACILITIES CAPITAL	GRANTS AND MISCELLANEOUS		94	01	DU	2015	-	434,778	434,778
							LF	2015	-	108,695	108,695
<i>Project Totals</i>										543,473	543,473



TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

October 14, 2014

MINUTES

Members Present:

Mike Daniels, Vice-chair
Bart Ciambella
Sue Farnsworth
Winston Schuler
Kellie Smith

Members Not Present:

Dave Herlihy, Chairman
Gennie Garcia
Chris Rison
Mickey Thomason

Others Present:

Greg Slay, TPO Director
John Voges, TPO Staff
Ken Odom, TPO Staff
Ann McGaffic, TPO Staff
Kayleen Hamilton, TPO Staff
Mike McCammon, FDOT
Joan Carter, FDOT
Ryan Marks, FDOT
Brian Snyder, Marion County Transportation Engineering

Item 1. Call To Order And Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 10:12 AM by Vice-chairman Mike Daniels. Secretary Kayleen Hamilton called the roll. A quorum was 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. Roll-Forward Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Slay advised that staff would be giving a presentation on the Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan update. No action would be taken on the plan, and Mr. Slay said staff was still working to refine the final document, a draft of which was provided to committee members. A public hearing was scheduled for the end of the month.

The Roll-forward Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was the second part of the TIP that was done each year. Two trail projects, Santos and Pruitt, had been added to the TIP, and Mr. Slay said that the county was overseeing both projects. The Santos Trail was design-build in the current fiscal year, and Pruitt Trail was planned for construction 2016. Mr. Slay also mentioned the state and local funding split for the Belleview Bypass.

Mr. Ciambella asked about the Santos Trail, and Mr. Slay said that the bid documents were being prepared with plans for construction in late 2015 or early 2016.

Ms. Farnsworth made a motion to approve the Roll-forward TIP as presented. Mr. Ciambella seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Item 4. Consent Agenda

Mr. Schuler made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2014, meeting. Ms. Farnsworth seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Item 5. Comments by FDOT

Ms. Smith announced that a Work Program public hearing would be held on December 9, at 6:00 p.m. The public hearing would be broadcast via webinar at www.d5wpph.com/2014.

Mr. McCammon reported that work on SR 40 West from York to CR 328 was progressing. Traffic was scheduled to be shifted onto the new section of road in January or February 2014. Mr. McCammon added that there had not been a lot of utility issues, which was good.

Ms. Carter advised that FDOT had adopted a statewide complete streets policy. This policy would be taken into consideration for projects not only in downtown and urban areas. Mr. Slay asked about projects currently going into construction retrofitting or expanding, and Ms. Carter said that if the design was already bid for construction, it was unlikely to be changed. Mr. Slay mentioned that US 41 was planned for construction in 2018/2019, and Ms. Carter said that if the design changed they might try to adapt it to current standards. The new standards included six-foot shoulders on roads instead of five-foot shoulders in order to accommodate cyclists. Mr. McCammon noted that there were some roads that currently had no shoulders and that the Department would generally add shoulders in a resurfacing project when it was not constrained from doing so by permits or cost.

Item 6. Comments by TPO Staff

Mr. Odom presented the Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan update. Accomplishments of the plan included extensive public involvement that targeted bicycling groups; achieved consensus on the projects included in the plan; secured funding for a major portion of the Cross Florida Greenway Trail; developed a recommendation list of sidewalk projects; identified gaps in Marion County; and developed a list of other bicycle/pedestrian recommendations. Public information had been disseminated via newsletters, the project website, and the project Facebook page.

A map of gaps had been developed for the final plan documents. Mr. Odom reported that the focus of the update had been on regional connectivity, particularly multi-use trails. A multi-use trail was a twelve-foot wide trail with two-foot wide clear zones on either side.

Mr. Odom stated that regional connectivity was being advanced by the Florida legislature with the development of the Coast-to-Coast Connector and the Heart of Florida Loop. Marion County was moving forward with the sections of the projects in its area as well as spurs like the Withlacoochee Bay and a connection to the Goethe State Trail.

The trail projects had the potential for major economic impact on the area. Mr. Odom said that Silver Springs State Park could be used as an effective anchor for ecotourism and that the trails could attract more sporting events. Estimates suggested a potential impact of \$20,000,000 per year on the local economy.

Mr. Odom advised that the plan update started with three primary corridors – the Cross Florida Greenway Trail, the Silver Springs Bikeway, and the Florida Northern Railroad alignment. The first two project had funding allocated to them but the Florida Northern Railroad alignment had not been feasible for development. Mr. Odom noted that the railroad would have some impact of crossings along other trails, as well, and that staff would continue to monitor the railroad alignment for future opportunities.

Mr. Odom reported that three primary projects had come out of the Cross Florida Greenway Trail feasibility study. An additional project from the end of the Baseline Trail to Santos had also been identified. The Santos Gap and Land Bridge Gap were programmed for design-build in the current fiscal year; the Pruitt Gap was held up in right-of-way acquisition. Mr. Odom stated that

the projects together would form twenty-two miles of continuous trail with connections to Dunnellon. Dunnellon was working on a spur from Blue Run Park, and Citrus County was working on closing a gap between the Withlacoochee Trail and Dunnellon. This would connect to the city of Ocala and to Silver Springs.

The Downtown to Silver Springs Multi-use Trail was approximately six miles and utilized existing low volume road facilities. The Silver Springs Bikeway began with a 4.5-mile section connecting Silver Springs Park to the Cross Florida Greenway. The Bikeway then continued south to CR 42 with plans to eventually connect with Lake County. Mr. Ciambella asked about the width of the service roads being utilized in developing the Bikeway, and Mr. Odom said that there was over twenty feet in some areas. Mr. Slay added that various locations might need swales or berm to achieve the required width for the multi-use trail. ADA guidelines needed to be taken into account. Mr. Snyder asked if county right-of-way was being utilized, and Mr. Slay said that it was St. Johns Water Management District land.

Another feature of the update was development of a bicycle suitability map. Staff planned to provide a copy of the map to each of the local bicycle stops. The map included levels of suitability, was interactive, and linked to mapmyride.com.

Mr. Odom advised that additional bicycle projects included a trail on SR 40, a Lake Weir connection, a connections to the northeast side of the county, the Goethe State Trail, and Withlacoochee Bay Trail, a bikeway around Ocala, and East Pennsylvania Avenue in Dunnellon. Sidewalk recommendations were also included in the update.

Next steps were continued coordination with FDOT on an urban bicycle facility network, continued coordination with interested regional parties, and adoption of the plan at a public hearing scheduled for October 28.

Mr. Ciambella stated that he would like to see a list of recommendations and know how the projects had been identified. Mr. Odom replied that the recommendations came largely from a list of gaps that had been developed in the last Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan. Mr. Slay said that recommendations would be available and categorized by municipality rather than prioritized. Ms. Carter commented that small projects could be bundled together. Mr. Daniels stated that there were small gaps in the downtown area that were important to fill, and Mr. Slay said that prioritization would be left up to the municipality.

Mr. Ciambella reported that the county had started a fee in lieu of sidewalk program. Mr. McCammon noted that there had been issues in the past with city or county codes requiring sidewalks even when there were no other sidewalks in the area. Mr. Slay commented that a criteria for building sidewalks should be whether the facility would be used.

Ms. Farnsworth asked about agency responsibility for trailheads, and Mr. Slay said that FHWA funding would not pay for trailheads and bathroom facilities. Trailheads were left up to DEP and local agencies. Mr. Slay said that there was no money in the plan for trailheads. Discussion ensued regarding trailheads, bathroom facilities, and their inclusion in the plan update.

Mr. Daniels asked about an alternate bicycle route through downtown Ocala, and Mr. Slay said that staff was discussing with FDOT putting together an urban cycling plan/urban bicycle route. A scope had been submitted to the Department with a request for additional funding.

Item 7. Comments by TAC Members

Mr. Daniels suggested scheduling a discussion regarding the complete streets policy, and Mr. Slay said staff would put it on the agenda for the next meeting. Ms. Carter suggested a workshop.

Item 8. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Item 9. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned by Vice-chairman Daniels at 11:18 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Kayleen Hamilton, TPO Administrative Assistant