



Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting
Marion County – Library Headquarters, Meeting Room B
2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, FL 34470
1:00 PM

MINUTES

Members Present:

Matt Fabian
Brandon Cave
Richard McGinley
Travis Magamoll

Members Not Present:

Davis Dinkins
Michelle Shearer
Richard Howard
Steve Rudnianyn
Suzanne Mangram

Others Present:

Rob Balmes
Shakayla Irby
Liz Mitchell
Jason Learned, FDOT
Alice Giuliani, FDOT
Rakinya Hinson, FDOT

Item 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Acting Chairman Richard McGinley called the meeting to order at 1:03pm and Secretary Shakayla Irby called the roll. A quorum was present.

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 June 6, 2023. The meeting had also been published to the TPOs Facebook and Twitter pages.

Item 3. Consent Agenda

Mr. Fabian made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Magamoll seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 4a. Functional Classification Process, Marion County

At the April 11 TAC meeting, FDOT District Five presented an overview presentation Regarding the Functional Classification process and discussed the schedule for completion. The Committee was asked to provide a final review and approval of the Functional Classification Map for Marion County. The TPO Board would be asked to approve the map for Marion County at the June 27 meeting.

Mr. Balmes asked Mr. Learned to explain the significance of road classifications.

Mr. Learned explained that back in the 1960s the Feds wanted to classify roads based on how they functioned. DOT used to base a lot of engineering decisions based on functional classification but have since moved away from that. The present-day function of the functional classification review was for funding purposes. Roads that are functionally classified on the map would be eligible for certain type of funding from the State and the Feds. Functional classification was also a ten-year requirement by the Feds.

Mr. McGinley asked if speed limits had an impact on road classifications.

Mr. Learned said that speed limits were considered.

Mr. Magamoll made a motion to approve the Functional Classification Process, Marion County. Mr. Cave seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 4b. Fiscal Years (FY) 2023 to 2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #6

Mr. Balmes presented and said per the request of the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), two projects were proposed to be amended to the FY 2023 to 2027 TIP.

FM# 450948-1: SR 40 from NE 64th Avenue to Lake County Line

- Resurfacing of SR 40 (25.7 miles)
- Preliminary Engineering (PE) and Construction (CST) phases
- Funds to be added to FY 2024, 2026
- Total: \$24,831,080

FM# 450951-1: SR 40 from NE 25th Avenue to NE 64th Avenue

- Resurfacing of SR 40 (4.2 miles)
- Preliminary Engineering (PE) and Construction (CST) phases
- Funds to be added to FY 2024, 2026
- Total: \$11,953,924

Mr. Magamoll made a motion to approve the FY 2023 to 2027 TIP Amendment #6.
Mr. Cave seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**4c. Draft Fiscal Years (FY) 2027 to 2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
Approval**

Mr. Balmes said that the draft Fiscal Years 2024 to 2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was made available for public and partner agency review on May 2, 2023.

The TPO had received feedback from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and two comments from the public.

The following provides comments and updates made to the draft the FY 2024 to FY 2028 TIP since presented to the committees on May 9, 2023.

- **Public Comments:**
 - “In the draft TIP document for public review, the draft 2023 List of Priority Projects (Top 20 Priorities) is missing (Figure 12, page 26). Is there some reason that was omitted? It would be nice to see what's being proposed as the most important projects for 2023.”
 - **TPO Response:** Noted for public record. The citizen was provided a link to the current draft Top 20 list, and the process for adoption through the TPO Board. The citizen was thanked for the comment and action will be taken to add the most current draft Top 20 list in the draft TIP document.
 - “I live on SE 175th St. 34491. We frequently have overflow traffic in our neighborhood as the interstate backs up and drivers come on to 475, then onto SE 175th. I have emailed the sheriff, county commissioner, Marion County traffic dept. Several neighbors and I have come up with changes to our roads that we believe would help. Motorists are often speeding, not paying attention, littering, and disregarding pedestrians and their children and pets. We are concerned for our safety.”
 - **TPO Response:** Noted for public record. The citizen was thanked for the comment and asked to contact the TPO to share further details and recommendations.

- **FDOT Comments:**

- Please add LRTP CFP page # for applicable projects. Page # for goals/objectives consistency is fine for projects not in CFP.

Mr. Fabian made a motion to approve the Draft FY 2024 to 2028 TIP Approval.

Mr. Magamoll seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

4d. Commitment to Zero Safety Action Plan Update

Mr. Balmes said that on November 29, 2022, the TPO Board adopted the Commitment to Zero Safety Action Plan. The Action Plan outlined a visionary framework and strategies for achieving the long-term goal of zero fatalities and serious injuries to the transportation system of Marion County.

Based upon further guidance made available by the U.S. Department of Transportation (US DOT), along with an interest by local governments to pursue the federal discretionary Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant program, the TPO was proposing to update the Plan. In the **Strategies for Getting to Zero** section of the Action Plan, one of the TPO’s commitments outlined on page 39 (Safe Roads, Engineering/Planning) was to: ***“Review and update safety projects annually for the TPO’s List of Priority Projects (LOPP) process. Reference LOPP safety projects to the Commitment to Zero Safety Action Plan.”***

The TPO was proposing to accomplish this strategy by updating the Action Plan to include safety and operations projects tied to both the LOPP, safety emphasis areas, and local government partner input. The project list would help support an annual review of safety project needs, along with local government SS4A applications to USDOT.

Additionally, as part of having a “compliant” Safety Action Plan, USDOT called for a specific aspirational goal to achieve zero fatalities and serious injuries. Therefore, the TPO proposes a community-wide goal of achieving zero by 2045, which reflects the TPO’s current Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) horizon year.

Commitment to Zero Project List: Staff proposed the committee review and select one of two project list options:

Option A: Projects are listed/ranked in order based on four primary criteria:

- Location on the Commitment to Zero High Injury Network (HIN)
- Five-year history of fatalities and serious injuries (2018-2022)
- Location in a 2045 LRTP Equity Area
- 2023 LOPP Ranking

Option B: Projects are listed/ranked in order based on the adopted LOPP ranking process with further strategic refinement conducted by the TPO committees (CAC, TAC) and Board.

The draft 2023 Commitment to Zero Priority Projects List Options A and B, along with the proposed vision goal page edits. Background information was provided to the committee, including the Commitment to Zero High Injury Network (HIN) and U.S. Department of Transportation grant Self-Certification Worksheet.

Mr. McGinley asked if there was a reference to the Commitment to Zero in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) or Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).

Mr. Balmes said the TPO did not reference intersections identified in the Commitment to Zero.

Mr. McGinley said he thought it would be a good idea to add an additional column to both the TIP and LRTP that referenced the Commitment to Zero identified projects.

Mr. Balmes said that with the ranking methodology for the List of Priority Projects (LOPP) the TPO factored in whether a project is listed on the High Injury Network but said it was a good idea to add that reference in the TIP and LRTP.

Mr. Fabian made a motion to approve the Commitment to Zero Safety Action Plan Update: Option A. Mr. Magamoll seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 6. Comments by FDOT

Ms. Hinson provided an updated construction report and reminded the committee that they could also see updates on projects by visiting cflroads.com.

Mr. McGinley inquired about the location of the Wildwood Weigh Station.

Ms. Hinson said her notes stated that it was on I-75. There were electronic sensors installed along three miles of the I-75 roadway and digital messaging boards would be added to direct traffic to the weigh station.

Item 7. Comments by TPO Staff

Mr. Balmes gave the following comments:

2023 Traffic Counts Report

- The TPO had published to the website on May 26, 2023, the 2023 Traffic Counts Report and Online Map. The report was compilation of traffic counts taken and administered by professionals at Marion County, City of Ocala, and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).

Apportionment Process

- On May 16, 2023, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) sent a notice to all MPO/TPO's in Florida beginning the decennial Apportionment Plan and Urban Area Boundary/Functional Classification process. All MPO/TPO's are required to submit an Apportionment Plan to FDOT by November 14, 2023 (by 180 days).

Apportionment Plan

Every MPO/TPO reviews the composition of its membership in conjunction with the decennial census. MPO/TPO's must then submit a Membership Apportionment Plan that meets the requirements of both federal law and state statute.

Apportionment Plans are required to contain a profile of the MPO/TPO, including the total planning area population; Census-designated urban area populations greater than 50,000 people; proposed board membership; and a planning area boundary map. Resolutions of support from local governments must also be part of the Plan.

PROTECT Grant Cycle

- On April 21 2023, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) released a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) regarding the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT) grant program. PROTECT grants may be used for planning and improvement projects. The close date of the NOFO is August 18, 2023. The current NOFO will include two fiscal years of funding.

An inquiry was sent to local government partners regarding the grant opportunity and level of interest in the pursuit of a Resiliency Improvement Plan grant. TPO staff is considering the submission of a grant application for the development of an Improvement Plan for Marion County. The federal share for an Improvement Plan is 100%. TPO Board and local government interest would be the critical component to pursuing the grant. A Resiliency Plan may address issues such as short and long-range investment needs, assessment of vulnerabilities, evacuation planning and hazard mitigation.

Joint CAC/TAC Meeting

Mr. Balmes asked for the committee's thoughts on the Joint CAC/TAC meeting and if they would like to do it again.

Mr. McGinley said it was beneficially and would not mind doing it again.

Mr. Magamoll said the TAC went through all of the information quickly because they have more knowledge of the information being presented. He said he would like for them to go slower so that it gives the CAC an opportunity to comprehend.

Mr. Balmes thanked the committee for the feedback.

Item 8. Comments by CAC Members

There were no comments by CAC members.

Item 9. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Item 10. Adjournment

Acting Chairman Richard McGinley adjourned the meeting at 1:49pm.

AC Meeting Minutes – June 13, 2023
Approved – August 8, 2023

Respectfully Submitted By:

Shakayla Irby, TPO Administrative Assistant