



**TPO Board Public Hearing**

Marion County Commission Auditorium  
601 SE 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Ocala, FL 34471  
June 25, 2024  
3:00 PM

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:**

Councilman Ire Bethea  
Commissioner Craig Curry  
Councilmember Kristen Dreyer  
Councilman James Hilty  
Councilman Tim Inskeep  
Councilmember Barry Mansfield  
Mayor Ben Marciano  
Commissioner Matt McClain  
Commissioner Michelle Stone

**Members Not Present:**

Commissioner Kathy Bryant  
Commissioner Ray Dwyer  
Commissioner Carl Zalak

**Others Present:**

Rob Balmes, TPO  
Shakayla Irby, TPO  
Liz Mitchell, TPO  
Sara Brown, TPO  
Kia Powell, FDOT  
Melissa McKinney, FDOT  
Tom Duncan, City of Ocala  
Darren Park, City of Ocala  
Sean Lanier, City of Ocala  
Oscar Tovar, City of Ocala  
Eric Smith, City of Ocala  
Noel Cooper, City of Ocala  
Peter Lee, City of Ocala  
Tracy Straub, Marion County  
Steven Cohoon, Marion County  
Barb Girtman

Other members of the public not signed in.

### **Item 1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairwoman Kristen Dreyer called the hearing to order at 3:01pm and led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Item 2. Roll Call**

Shakayla Irby, Administrative Assistant called the roll and a quorum was present.

### **Item 3. Proof of Publication**

Shakayla Irby, Administrative Assistant, stated that the public hearing was published online on the TPO website and the City of Ocala, Belleview, Dunnellon, and Marion County websites on June 18, 2024. Additionally, the hearing was featured in the June 4, 2024 edition of the Star Banner and shared on the TPO's Facebook and Twitter pages.

### **Item 4a. 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Amendment #3**

Mr. Balmes gave a brief presentation to the committee of the 2045 LRTP Amendment #3.

The amendment was proposed to ensure appropriate consistency between the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), TPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the 2045 LRTP. The proposed amendment included funding and phase updates to the following project in the Cost Feasible Element of Chapter 7: Funding the Plan.

#### **I-75 at NW 49th Street Interchange, from End of NW 49th Street to End of NW 35th Street (FY 2021 to 2025) (FM 435209-1). Updated LRTP project cost estimates.**

##### **New Interchange**

- Right-of-Way (ROW): \$21,500,000
- Construction (Design-Build, DSB): \$93,500,000
- Total Funding: \$115,000,000

Mr. Bethea asked if state and local contributions were the only changes to the LRTP and whether the program was still on schedule.

Mr. Balmes explained that the reason for the amendment was to update the LRTP with the project changes. As the secretary stated last year, there was a shortfall of around \$50 million for the project, and it needed to be shown as fully funded to allow it to advance and ensure full consistency.

Ms. Stone thanked the Governor for recognizing the project as a priority and for addressing the shortfall, allowing the project to move forward.

TPO Public Hearing Minutes – June 25, 2024  
Approved – August 27, 2024

Ms. Stone made a motion to approve the 2045 LRTP Amendment #3.  
Mr. McClain seconded, a roll-call vote was called and the motion passed unanimously.

**Item 5. Public Comment**

*There was no public comment.*

**Item 6. Adjournment**

Chairwoman Dreyer adjourned the public hearing at 3:06pm.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Shakayla Irby, Administrative Assistant