



CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

June 9, 2015

MINUTES

Members Present:

Ed Kelly
Suzanne Mangram
Michelle Shearer

Members Not Present:

Renee Blaney, Chairwoman
Davis Dinkins
Joe London
Richard McGinley
Robert Sulzer
Clarke Yandle

Others Present:

Greg Slay, TPO Director
John Voges, TPO Staff
Ken Odom, TPO Staff
Ann McGaffic, TPO Staff
Kayleen Hamilton, TPO Staff
Kellie Smith, FDOT

Item 1. Call To Order And Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by Chairwoman Renee Blaney. 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. FY 2014/2015 – 2019/2020 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment

This item was tabled due to a lack of quorum.

Item 3b. FY 2015/2016 – 2020/2021 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Odom presented the 2015/2016-2020/2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). There had been a number of changes since the previous TIP had been adopted. The TIP was required to be cost feasible, acted as the budget for carrying out the Long Range Transportation Plan, and documented the funding and phasing on all federal and state funds for projects in Marion County.

Major changes to the TIP included additional funding for intelligent transportation system operational support for the city Ocala and Marion County. The NE 36th Avenue widening had been split into a separate project from the railroad crossing grade separation, which was fully funded for construction. Resurfacing on SR 200 had been added, as had additional turn lanes to the off ramp approaches on I-75 at SR 200. Funds had been added for SR 40 East widening. SR 492 was programmed for resurfacing, and SW 49th Avenue was funded for construction of a new section of roadway. US 441 resurfacing in the north section of the county had also been added. Mr. Odom noted that there were also two new trail projects – Belleview to Greenway Trail was programmed for a study to analyze the best connection between Lake Lillian and the Greenway, and staff was looking at alternatives for the route for the Downtown Ocala to Silver Springs Trail.

Ms. Mangram asked about increased railroad traffic, and Mr. Slay reported that SunRail had kicked off about a year ago, which had shifted some traffic to the S Line coming through Ocala. To date, Mr. Slay said, there was not a perceivable increase. Staff was working with the County, Belleview, Dunnellon, and Ocala to implement quiet zones. Mr. Voges mentioned that the NE 36th Avenue railroad crossing grade separation project was a result of the anticipated freight traffic increase.

Ms. Shearer asked about the SW 95th Street interchange, and Mr. Slay stated that the interchange justification report was at FDOT Central Office. In April, there had been changes to the procedures for interchanges outside of a traffic management area. Ms. Smith advised that SW 95th Street was under the old policy but NW 49th Street would be processed under the new policy. Ms. Shearer expressed the hope that SW 95th Street would be removed from the program in favor of NW 49th Street. Mr. Slay noted that the NW 49th Street interchange was a priority for the TPO Board.

No action was taken due to lack of a quorum.

Item 4. Florida Transportation Plan/Strategic Intermodal System Presentation

Ms. Smith presented the Florida Transportation Plan (FTP) and the Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Plan updates. The FTP served as the long range transportation plan for all of Florida. It established policy framework for allocating funds and identified different roles and responsibilities.

The SIS included the state's largest strategic facilities to move people and freight. The SIS plan set policies to guide decisions about what the SIS was and where and how to fund it.

The FTP and the SIS were being adopted in parallel. FDOT was meeting with partner and public groups to talk about the plan. A visioning summit and policy workshop had been held the previous year, and adoption was scheduled for the end of 2015. Additional information was posted on the website set up for the plans. A public meeting was scheduled in The Villages in June.

Item 5. Consent Agenda

This item was deferred due to lack of a quorum.

Item 6. Comments by FDOT

Ms. Smith reported that there would be lane closures on SR 40 East for placement of a barrier wall at the virtual scale site. A public meeting upcoming on the SR 40 downtown corridor study, and a public hearing on the SR 40 traffic operations project was scheduled for June 18.

Ms. Shearer asked about SR 40 West, and Mr. Slay stated that the existing road would be rebuilt.

Item 7. Comments by TPO Staff

Mr. Slay mentioned that a twelve foot multiuse path would be included on the south side of the bridge on SR 40 East. It would tie into the Black Bear Scenic Byway.

Mr. Slay reported that staff would have presentations on the Long Range Transportation Plan's (LRTP) financial resources, needs assessment, and goals and objectives at the August committee meeting. Staff was currently conducting public involvement meetings for the LRTP.

Item 8. Comments by CAC Members

There were no further comments by CAC members.

Item 9. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Item 10. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned by Mr. Kelly at 3:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Kayleen Hamilton
Kayleen Hamilton, TPO Administrative Assistant