



TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Marion County Commission Auditorium
601 SE 25th Avenue, Ocala, FL 34471

May 22, 2018

MINUTES

Members Present:

Commissioner Kathy Bryant (*arrived at 5:07pm*)
Mayor Kent Guinn
Commissioner Ron Livsey
Councilman Brent Malever
Commissioner David Moore
Councilman Jay Musleh (*arrived at 4:20pm*)
Councilwoman Mary Rich (*arrived at 4:06pm*)
Commissioner Michelle Stone
Commissioner Carl Zalak (*arrived at 4:26pm*)

Members Not Present:

Commissioner Jeff Gold
Councilwoman Valerie Hanchar
Councilman Justin Grabelle

Others Present:

Sign In Sheet Attached

Connie Bryant
Annette Stutzman
Stephen Nelson
Elaine Vinson
CHRIS HEWSCRT
Melanie Newbert
CATHY TRICKEL
MICHAEL TRICKEL
Marilyn Atwell
Susan Snow
Karen Eagle
Kelli Smith
ANITA NEWTON
Derek Stanley
Chris Neihoff
Carla Pasteur
TOMMY PASTEUR
Lori Lewis
Cheryl Holekamp
Chris Penski
ANTHONY BARELFORD
Laverna Penski
Blake Hunter
Marco Bravo
Jeanne M. Ritt
Jim Martin
JUDY ETZEN
Monica Schneider
LAURA VENOSA DELMONTE
Oliver Crowell
Bonnie Shannon
Helen Jozzkawski
Ann CARL
PAT HARRISON
Kathrin Dancer
Daren Park
JOHN HARRICK
Honey Cheever
Robert Davis
Polly Benson & Richard OLSEN
Travis Darratt
WALTER GREEN
MARY ENGSTROM
Ann Kern
Ed McManara
Karen + Ray Richard

Kimie Carp
Matt Verney
Sam Kneller
TRACEY COREY
Don Burbank
Van Garvin
Martha Steward
Charlie Butler
Derek Strine
Nancy Roswell
DIZANA Foley
Don Atwell
IRA STERN
BRANDON KELCOY
MICHELLE SHEARER
MARTINE BRITELL
Ken Hoffman
Kimberly Kajina
Therese Vetter
Christina Krock
Diane Mulhern
HILARY MCNAMARA
Christi Israel
Darian Guthrie

Item 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Moore called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM. Secretary Shakayla Pullings called the roll of members. A quorum was not present at the time. At 4:20pm there was a quorum present.

Item 2. Proof of Publication

Secretary Shakayla Pullings 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 3. Public Comment

Chairman Moore asked the audience who was there in opposition to the Coastal Connector and unanimously everyone in the audience raised their hand. He then asked that as public comment was called that there was no repetition in comments and if anyone wanted to waive when called in opposition that they could do that. Each person signed up for public comment was given two minutes to speak.

Connie Bryant, 18507 SW 31st Street, Dunnellon, FL 34432 referenced number seven on the Coastal Connector's website in the previous year and read it for the board "Florida's Turnpike has never built an interchange or roadway that was not approved by local officials and the public support" Ms. Bryant said that the Coastal Connector "had none of that" and was opposed to the Coastal Connector.

Elaine Vinson, 6500 West Hwy 326, Ocala, FL 34482 said that her property was two miles from the intersection of I-75 and that she owned a 62-acre farm and that her neighbors found an old book that had an Indian Trail that went across the top of her property and she also talked about a sinkhole problem and gumbo clay in the area that the Coastal Connector would run through. Ms. Vinson was opposed to the Coastal Connector.

Thomas Cooper, 4719 NW 35th Lane Road, Ocala, FL 34482 said he moved to Ocala from Naples to assist citizens with farm legacy and talked about the value and income to Marion County through the horse industry and said he could not imagine the "buzz" of an interstate 2 ½ miles from the Ocala Preserve community. Mr. Cooper was opposed to the Coastal Connector.

Annette, Stutzman, 204 SW 192nd Court, Dunnellon, FL 34431 referenced the recommendations of the 2016 Relief Task Force and said that study and progression of the Coastal Connector needed to be halted and that there had been a lot of miscommunications during the process with talk about hurricane evacuation routes. Ms. Stutzman was opposed to the Coastal Connector.

Chairman Moore quoted Mr. Green, Mayor of the City of Dunnellon saying "You don't evacuate from Tampa to Jacksonville and you don't go coast to coast in an evacuation".

Kimberly Carp, 5400 NW 110th Avenue, Ocala, FL 34482 said that County Commission was preparing a resolution to opposed the Coastal Connector and hoped that the TPO would follow the wisdom of that rather than ignoring the I-75 Relief Taskforce recommendations which had been released even though the Coastal Connector was a separate project because some of the same studies were being used. Ms. Carp was opposed to the Coastal Connector.

Michael Trickel, 4060 NW 110th Avenue, Ocala, FL 34482 referenced the Board of County Commission last meeting and talked about some questions that was asked and said that Florida Turnpike said they were “going back to the drawing board”. Mr. Trickel wanted to know if a different plan would be put together by Florida Turnpike. He also wanted to know if a single other route had been suggested or looked and if so why hadn’t it been published to the public.

Mary Atwell, 2662 NW 134th Street, Citra, FL 32113 said that the 329 route would go within 1500ft of her farm and said that even with the proposed Costal Connector property values had been effected. Ms. Atwell wanted to know “Why we are still here” when nobody agrees with the plan in Marion County. She said she grew up in Marion County and that the NW needed to be protected and kept rural. Ms. Atwell was opposed to the Coastal Connector.

Susan Snow, 8070 West Highway 326, Ocala, FL 34482 said that regardless of which of the routes were selected they would all affect her farm and that plan would place real estate in a state of stagnation. She asked the following questions: Who was the engineering firm that drew the lines? Had all the DOT and Turnpike staff taken time to drive the corridor? How much did it cost to do the study? Ms. Snow was opposed to the Coastal Connector.

Anita Newton, 1859 NW 165th Court Road, Dunnellon, FL 34432 said that the “blue lines and yellow lines” were in her front yard and received a notice saying that she was within 300ft and that the “dark green line or light green line” was in her backyard. She said she had only a few years left on her mortgage and had planned to retire with no mortgage payments but with the Coastal Connector plan she would have to move. She also said she was a Real Estate Broker in Dunnellon and that since the proposed plans would take away a lot of residential property. Ms. Newton was opposed to the Coastal Connector.

Charles Lee, 1101 Audubon Way, Maitland, FL 32751 said that he was a member of the 21-member Taskforce appointed by the Governor September of 2015 that deliberated until September of 2016 on the issue and that concept of a road coming north from the end of Suncoast connecting to I-75 and that many of the same routes being shown were routes that the Taskforce looked at and rejected. Mr. Lee said there was no consensus by the Taskforce to do the Coastal Connector. He said that there was a recommendation to improve I-75 and should not be looking at other plans as a diversion to I-75 improvements. Mr. Lee was opposed to the Coastal Connector.

Mayor Kent Guinn asked the name of the study. Mr. Lee responded, the I-75 Relief Task Force.

Lori Lewis, 15801 NW 112th Place Road, Morriston, FL 32668 read a letter to the board that she wrote opposing the Coastal Connector.

Anthony Beresford, 7015 NW 90th Avenue, Ocala, FL 34482 referenced the objectives in the Coastal Connector and said that Coastal Connector solution was in SR 44 and said that it went east west to I-75 and another road was not needed. Mr. Beresford was opposed to the Coastal Connector.

Chris Penski, 12575 SW 61st Place Road, Ocala, FL 34481 said that C2 would go over his house and D1 would go to the east of his house. He referenced other toll roads that were built that had went bankrupt within three years and said that with the Coastal Connector it would eliminate other improvements to existing roads.

Polly Benson, 2381 NW 100th Avenue, Ocala, FL 34482 said that she had worked hard with friends and neighbors to make sure everyone knew of the Coastal Connector and said she learned that everyone she spoke with was united and a political force “strong” who would not back down from a fight. She said that she wanted the FDOT and FTE to understand who they decided to take on and said as a group they would be hiring the best attorneys, best environmentalists, the best lobbyists, and best transportation engineers. Ms. Benson said they would not let the turnpike ruin their lives.

Judy Etzler, 5251 NW 219th Street Road, Micanopy, FL 32667 read a letter to the board that she wrote opposing the Coastal Connector.

Janet Barrow, 11791 SW 164th Avenue Road, Dunnellon, FL said that the Coastal Connector would cause transportation issues and chip away at agriculture. She said C1 and C2 would cut through farmland. Ms. Barrow was opposed to the Coastal Connector.

Kathrin Dancer, 8991 NW 80th Avenue, Ocala, FL 34482 talked about the Trucking Association and said that they were opposed to the Coastal Connector. Ms. Dancer was opposed to the Coastal Connector but would “Vote Yes” to I-75 improvements.

Brian Donnelly, 7337 West Anthony Road, Ocala, FL 34479 said he was curious what would happen since everyone had said no to the Coastal Connector. He asked if the State could still put the road up anyway.

Doug Shearer, 2301 SE 85th Street, Ocala, FL 34480 said the purpose of the road was to get more traffic on a road that did not pay for itself and said that it was not a good purpose. He said that the State Officials wanted the road to go somewhere and they were the ones that needed to be talked to. Mr. Shearer was opposed to the Coastal Connector.

Pam Kern, 11809 Camp Drive, Dunnellon, FL 34432 said that I-75 is the problem and said that if that could be addressed the Coastal Connector discussion could be eliminated.

Susan Scott, 10624 NW Highway 225A, Ocala, FL 34482 said her farm was located at the address she provided and that she had been in Ocala since 1971 and said Ocala had

great soil. She said that putting a road through the farmland would be destroying everything that Ocala was about. Ms. Scott was opposed to the Coastal Connector.

Susan Edwards, 9760 West Highway 316, Reddick, FL 32686 she would like to see all of the horse county protected and said that other options should be examined instead of the Coastal Connector. Ms. Edwards was opposed to the Coastal Connector.

Michelle Shearer, 2301 SE 85th Street, Ocala, FL 34480 talked about the value of the land in Marion County and how a road through the land would affect the land poorly. She agreed on improving I-75. Ms. Shearer was opposed to the Coastal Connector.

Derek Strine, 13885 North US Highway 27, Ocala, FL 34482 said he would like to see the previous study on the I-75 Relief Project provided to the public.

Commissioner Stone said that the I-75 Relief Project was published online and could be found by doing a Google search.

Ira Stern, 7000 NW Highway 225A, Ocala, FL 34482 he said that the project should not go further and that there were things to do to prevent the Coastal Connector and that should have been the focus. Mr. Stern was opposed to the Coastal Connector.

Damian Guthrie, 17000 NW Highway 225, Reddick, FL 32686 asked the TPO to take a strong position against the Coastal Connector and talked about the poor economic effect on the community if the project went through.

Item 4a. Coastal Connector

Chairman Moore moved the Coastal Connector Presentation prior to Item 3 Public Comment.

Mr. Daniels presented the Coastal Connector to the board and said that the Florida Department of Transportation, Florida's Turnpike Enterprise was in the planning phase of the Coastal Connector, which was a high-level study evaluating new transportation corridor alternatives through Citrus and Marion Counties.

Mr. Daniels gave a brief update to the board on the proposed Coastal Connector and showed the board a slideshow presentation that displayed the alternative routes.

Mr. Daniels asked for direction from the board on if the TPO should prepare a resolution in response to the Coastal Connector.

Chairman Moore said that Marion County would be preparing a resolution in opposition to the Coastal Connector.

Mayor Walter Green with the City of Dunnellon said that the issue of the Coastal Connector was extremely important to the City of Dunnellon as well as surrounding areas and had generated a lot of talk in the community and said he had no one contact him in favor of the Coastal Connector. He said he had also made a comment at the Citrus County meeting opposing the project. He said that it would be devastating to the community and wanted to make it clear that the City of Dunnellon had voted unanimously to go forward with a resolution in opposition to the entire Coastal Connector.

Mayor Kent Guinn said that the City of Ocala spoke about the Coastal Connector at the Council Meeting and had not decided on going forward with a resolution of opposition at that time. However, Mayor Guinn said that there would be a Proclamation from the Mayor's office in opposition to the Coastal Connector. He said that was completely against the Coastal Connector and hoped the Florida Turnpike would come up with another option that would please everyone but anywhere in Marion County would not be good.

The TPO Board asked for Mr. Daniels to bring back a resolution to the next TPO Board meeting.

Item 5a. FY 2024 Priority Project List

Mr. Odom presented the FY 2024 Priority Project List and said that there had been the usual changes in the programmed funding as the projects progressed toward final construction. Additionally, there were a number of changes to all the lists this year. The changes were as followed:

2024 Priority Projects

- **#2: SR 40 Downtown Operational Improvement** – The project had been split into two phases and moved from five to two;
- **#3 & 7: SR 40 East Multi-Modal Improvement** – The project had been split into two separate priorities to expedite tasks not associated with reconstruction of the intersection at SR 40 & SR 35;
- **#8: US 41 from SW 111th Place Lane to SR 40** – Project had been added back to the list because of deferred construction funding;
- **#21: SW 40th Avenue Realignment**- New project

2018 Trail Projects

- **#8: Watula Trail and NE 8th Road Trail** – Projects had been combined into one.
- **#10: Nature Coast Trail** – New Project

2018 Off-System Priorities

- **#1: SW 44th Avenue from SR 200 to SW 32nd Street** – Project had been added back to the list because of deferred construction funding.
- **#10: Lake Tusawilla Flood Relief** – New Project

Ms. Bryant made a motion to table the FY 2024 Priority Project List until the May 22nd TPO Board Meeting. Mr. Malever seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 5b. NE 25th Avenue, From NE 14th Street to NE 24th Street Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment

Mr. Odom said that FDOT was requesting the TIP be amended to reflect the additional funding allocation for the following project:

- **431797-2:** NE 25th Avenue from SR 492 to NE 35th Street: Widen to four lanes. Add \$10k for PE in 2018.

Mr. Musleh made a motion to approve the NE 25th Avenue, from NE 14th Street to NE 24th Street Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment. Ms. Bryant seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 5c. NE 25th Avenue, From NE 24th Street to NE 35th Street Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment

Mr. Odom said that FDOT was requesting the TIP be amended to reflect the additional funding allocation for the following project:

- **431797-3:** NE 25th Avenue from SR 492 to NE 35th St.: Widen to four lanes. Add \$10k for PE in 2018.

Mr. Musleh made a motion to approve the NE 25th Avenue, from NE 24th Street to NE 35th Street Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment. Ms. Bryant seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 5d. DRAFT FY 2018/2019-2022/2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Odom presented the ‘Draft’ 2018/2019-2022/2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and said that the document had been prepared from the latest draft of the Florida Department of Transportation’s Tentative Work Program.

Mr. Odom talked about the notable changes to the TIP:

- **435057-1:** I-75 at CR 484, SR 326 & CR 318 – Enhance illumination (Add \$ 2.0 Million CST (FY 2016/2017))
- **435209-1:** I-75 Interchange at NW 49th St – Add \$3.5 Million PE (FY2020/2021)
- **435659-2:** I-75 Interchange at SR 200 – Add ramp turn lanes (Project advanced two years to 2017/2018)
- **435547-1:** SW 44th Ave from SR 200 to SW 32nd St – New 4-lane (Add \$4.4 Million)

CST (FY 2018/2019))

- **4437339-1:** US 27 from CR 326 to Levy CL – Resurfacing (Add \$7.6 Million CST (FY 2018/2019))
- **436755-1:** Indian Lakes State Trail – Add \$155K PE (FY 2018/2019)
- **436474-3:** Legacy Elementary Sidewalks – Add \$1.4 Million CST (FY 2017/2018)
- **436474-2:** Saddlewood Elementary Sidewalks – Add \$317K CST (FY 2017/2018)

Ms. Bryant made a motion to approve the DRAFT FY 2018/2019-2022/2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Ms. Stone seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 5e. FINAL Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) 2018-2019 to 2019-2020

Mr. Daniels presented the FINAL Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) 2018-2019 to 2019-2020 and said that is served as the TPO staff’s two-year work outline and budget and would be effective on July 1. He mentioned the following allocations for each of the funding sources in the UPWP:

	<u>FY 2018/19</u>	<u>FY 2019/20</u>
PL	\$807,110	\$499,316
Section 5305(d)	\$74,876	\$78,097
TD	\$26,821	\$26,821

Mr. Daniels said the FY 2018/19 PL allocation included a \$310,000 carryforward from the previous UPWP. The FY 2019/2020 allocation was an initial estimate and would be updated early next year when the actual allocations were made available.

Mr. Daniels said the UPWP covered routine activities such as traffic counts, TIP development, and public involvement as well as various studies. For the next two years, staff would be working on several plans including an update to the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), an update to the Pennsylvania Avenue study, the NE 8th Avenue Road Diet, Corridor Assessments for CR 484 and US 27, Trail Safety and Supporting Facilities Study and the Nature Coast Trail Feasibility Study.

Ms. Bryant made a motion to approve the FINAL Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) 2018-2019 to 2019-2020. Ms. Stone seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 6. Consent Agenda

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

Item 7. Comments by FDOT

Ms. Kellie Smith with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) told the board that provided to them was an updated construction report.

The board had no questions for Ms. Smith.

Item 8. Comments by TPO Staff

There were no comments by TPO Staff.

Item 9. Comments by TPO Members

There were no comments by TPO members.

Item 10. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Item 11. Adjournment

Chairman Moore adjourned the meeting at 5:48 PM.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Shakayla Pullings, TPO Administrative Assistant