



TPO Board Meeting

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

October 29, 2019

4:00 PM

MINUTES

Members Present:

Commissioner Kathy Bryant
Mayor Kent Guinn
Councilwoman Valerie Hanchar
Commissioner Ronald Livsey
Councilman Brent Malever
Commissioner David Moore
Councilman Jay Musleh (*arrived at 4:19pm*)
Commissioner Michelle Stone
Commissioner Carl Zalak

Members Not Present:

Commissioner Jeff Gold
Councilman Justin Grabelle
Councilwoman Mary Rich

Others Present:

Suni Perez
Ken Odom, Marion County
Don Atwell, Marion County
Michael Mace

Item 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairwoman Hanchar called the meeting to order at 4:09pm. Secretary Shakayla Irby called the roll and a quorum was present.

Item 2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairwoman Valerie Hanchar led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 3. Proof of Publication

Secretary Shakayla Irby stated that the meeting had been published online on the TPO website, the City of Ocala, Belleview, and Dunnellon websites on October 18th, 2019. The meeting was also published to the October 20th, 2019 edition of the Star Banner.

Item 4a. Fiscal Years 2019/20 to 2023/24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) “Roll Forward” Amendment

Mr. Balmes presented and said that when the Ocala/Marion County TPO’s Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Work Program become adopted on July 1st, there were cases in which some projects were not yet authorized. The projects, in addition to funding changed within other projects, would “roll forward” automatically into the Work Program, but not the TPO’s TIP. Therefore, there was a need each year to ensure both documents were consistent.

Mr. Balmes attached a draft ‘Roll-Forward’ Fiscal Years (FY) 2019/2020 to 2023/2024 list for the TPO board to review and provided a notable project-specific list of changes and additions for FY 19/20.

4336601: US 441 at SR 464 – additional \$1.2M for Traffic Operations (turn lanes)

4392381: US 441: SR 35 to SR 200 – additional \$3.2M for Resurfacing

4302521: Countywide ITS – \$3.1M for regional roadways

4383291: Countywide Emergency Sign Repair – \$3.1M

Additionally, an administrative modification was made to the FY 2019/2020 to 2023/2024 TIP for project **4385621: I-75 Rest Area Marion County**. The current TIP showed a total project cost of \$46,112,878 with \$43,337,688 programmed in FY 2022/23. That was an error. The project was only programmed in the Work Program for the Northbound Rest Area with funding for Construction and Construction Engineering Inspection (CEI) totaling \$25,422,603.

Ms. Stone made a motion to approve the Fiscal Years 2019/20 to 2023/24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) “Roll Forward” Amendment. Mr. Malever seconded, a roll-call vote was called and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 4b. Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Bylaws

Mr. Balmes said that TPO staff in discussion with committee chairs and members of both the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) decided that formal and up to date bylaws for the TAC and CAC needed to be developed. The foundation for the creation of bylaws for the TAC and CAC were based on a review of peer MPO/TPO's within the central Florida region. The bylaws were presented to the TAC and CAC in September and approved on October 8, 2019 after final revisions were made. TPO staff sought board approval of the bylaws.

Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the CAC and TAC Bylaws. Ms. Bryant seconded, a roll-call vote was called and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 4c. MPOAC Legislative Funding Request

Mr. Balmes said that the Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) was a statewide transportation planning and policy organization devoted to serving all 27 MPO/TPO's in Florida. The MPOAC was created by Florida Legislature pursuant to Florida Statutes (Section 339.175, (11)). The MPOAC was funded with federal Planning (PL) funds through the Federal Highway Administration and Section 5305(d) funds through the Federal Transit Administration. A soft match was used from toll revenues as a credit toward non-federal matching.

Every year the MPOAC solicits funding from the MPO/TPO's in Florida to finance transportation lobbying activities. The MPOAC Executive Director conducted lobbying on their behalf. Because lobbying activities must only use non-federal funds, each MPO/TPO had been asked to support the MPOAC through the use of local revenue sources. The Ocala/Marion County TPO had been typically asked annually to contribute \$500 of local funds. In the past, the source of the funds had come from the City of Ocala as the host government agency. For 2019-2020 legislative activities, the MPOAC had formally requested the TPO to contribute \$500. It was recommended the funds for this contribution are derived from the Marion County non-federally reimbursable Transportation Maintenance Fund (TMF).

Staff recommended the TPO Board approve a contribution of \$500 to the MPOAC from the Marion County TMF for legislative activities in 2019/2020.

Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the MPOAC Legislative Funding Request. Ms. Bryant seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 5a. Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Fiscal Years 2020/21 through 2024/25 Tentative Five Year Work Program

Anna Taylor with FDOT presented the Tentative Five Year Work Program to the TPO Board and said that the Five-Year Work Program was the product resulting from an ongoing process that prioritized and funded upcoming transportation system improvements programmed over the next five years in accordance with Section 339.135, Florida Statutes. The Five-Year Work Program provided clear direction on what projects to program, where to build projects, when to build projects, and how to fund projects. The development of the Five-Year Work Program involved extensive coordination with local governments, including Metropolitan/Transportation Planning Organizations, city and county officials and input from citizens to select road, transit, and enhancement projects that maintain and improve safety, reduce congestion, and increase mobility. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) had been granted authority by the Florida Legislature to commit and expend funds on projects in the first year of the Five-Year Work Program. The last four years of the work program were included for planning purposes.

The Tentative Five-Year Work Program included projects scheduled for Fiscal Years 2021 through 2025 (projects programmed July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2025). After the end of the public comment period the Tentative Work Program would be reviewed by the Florida Legislature and the Governor and adopted by the State Secretary of Transportation on July 1, 2020.

The Tentative Five-Year Work Program included roadway planning activities, preliminary engineering, right of way acquisition, construction and public transportation projects within Brevard, Flagler, Lake, Marion, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Sumter and Volusia counties planned by FDOT and the Florida Turnpike Enterprise.

The selection of the projects involved extensive coordination with local governments, including Metropolitan/Transportation Planning Organizations and city and county officials and input from citizens to select road, transit, and enhancement projects that maintain and improve safety, reduce congestion, and increase mobility. The Tentative Five-Year Work Program includes roadway planning activities, preliminary engineering, right of way acquisition, construction and public transportation projects within Brevard, Flagler, Lake, Marion, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Sumter and Volusia counties planned by FDOT and the Florida Turnpike Enterprise.

The selection of the projects involves extensive coordination with local governments, including Metropolitan/Transportation Planning Organizations and city and county officials and input from citizens to select road, transit, and enhancement projects that maintain and improve safety, reduce congestion, and increase mobility.

Ms. Taylor provided the following overview additions:

- **FM#435484-2: \$2,158,000 for Construction added to FY 22**
 - Pruitt Bike Path/Trail from S.R. 200 to the Pruitt Trailhead
- **FM#437596-2: \$921,942 for Construction added to FY 23**
 - S.R. 40/Silver Springs Blvd. Sidewalk from NW 27th Ave. to SW 7th Ave.
- **FM#439234-1: \$7,024,933 for Construction added to FY 23**

- S.R. 200 Resurfacing from I-75 to SW 12th Ave.
- **FM#441141-1: \$16,554,873 for Construction added to FY 23**
 - S.R. 464 Resurfacing from S.R. 500 (U.S. 27/301) to S.R. 35
- **FM#445217-1: \$8,873,855 for Construction added to FY 23**
 - S.R. 326 Resurfacing from NW 12th Ave. to S.R. 40
- **FM#445687-1: \$429,227 for Construction added to FY 23**
 - U.S. 41 Pedestrian Safety Improvements from Brittan Alexander Bridge to River Rd.
- **FM#445688-1: \$300,499 for Construction added to FY 23**
 - U.S. 27/U.S. 441/Abshier Blvd. Traffic Signal at C.R. 42
- **FM#445217-1: \$8,873,855 for Construction added to FY 23**
 - S.R. 326 Resurfacing from NW 12th Ave. to S.R. 40
- **FM#445687-1: \$429,227 for Construction added to FY 23**
 - U.S. 41 Pedestrian Safety Improvements from Brittan Alexander Bridge to River Rd.
- **FM#445688-1: \$300,499 for Construction added to FY 23**
 - U.S. 27/U.S. 441/Abshier Blvd. Traffic Signal at C.R. 42
- **FM#445701-1: \$1,208,537 for Construction added to FY 23**
 - SE Abshier Blvd. Traffic Signals from SE Hames Rd. to north of SE Agnew Rd.
- **FM#445800-1: \$786,286 for Construction added to FY 24**
 - E. S.R. 40 Traffic Signal at S.R. 492
- **FM#445802-1: \$2,164,273 for Construction added to FY 23**
 - S.R. 25 Access Management from NW 35th St. to S.R. 326
- **FM#435209-1: \$2,104,131 for Design moved from FY 22 to FY 20**

Moved Back

- **FM#435209-1: \$2,104,131 for Design moved from FY 22 to FY 20**
 - I-75 Interchange at NW 49th St.

Deferrals

- **FM#433651-1: \$9,517,030 for Construction deferred from FY 21 to FY 22**
 - C.R. 484 Interchange Improvements from SW 20th Ave. to C.R. 475A

Deletions

- **FM#435484-1: \$3,710,000 for Construction deleted from FY 22**
 - Pruitt Trail from Withlacoochee Bridge Trail at S. Bridges Rd. to S.R. 200

Item 6a. TPO Chair Report

Chairwoman Hanchar gave an update to the TPO Board regarding the Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance (M-CORES) program which was intended to revitalize rural communities, encourage job creation and provide regional connectivity while leveraging technology, enhancing the quality of life and public safety, and protecting the environment and natural resources. The program was signed into law by Governor Ron DeSantis on May 17, 2019. The intended benefits included, but were not limited to, addressing issues such as:

- Hurricane evacuation
- Congestion mitigation

- Trade and logistics
- Broadband, water and sewer connectivity
- Energy distribution
- Autonomous, connected, shared and electric vehicle technology
- Other transportation modes, such as shared-use nonmotorized trails, freight and passenger rail, and public transit
- Mobility as a service
- Availability of a trained workforce skilled in traditional and emerging technologies
- Protection or enhancement of wildlife corridors or environmentally sensitive areas
- Protection or enhancement of primary springs protection zones and farmland preservation areas

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) was assigned with assembling task forces to study three specific corridors:

- The Suncoast Connector, extending from Citrus County to Jefferson County
- The Northern Turnpike Connector, extending from the northern terminus of Florida's Turnpike northwest to the Suncoast Parkway
- The Southwest-Central Florida Connector, extending from Collier County to Polk County

Chairwoman Hanchar and Commissioner Kathy Bryant had been a part of the task force and attend meetings.

Chairwoman Hanchar informed the board that there would be an M-CORES meeting in Ocala at the Hilton on December the 12th, 2019.

Item 7. Consent Agenda

Ms. Bryant made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Stone seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 8. Comments by FDOT

Ms. Bryant inquired about panhandler ordinances due to ongoing issues at SR 326 and CR 484.

Anna Taylor with FDOT said there was a statute that existed concerning panhandling and she would get the information to Commissioner Bryant.

Item 9. Comments by TPO Staff

TPO Grants Coordinator, Liz Mitchell presented the board with an up to date financial report of the TPO.

Mr. Balmes introduced new Transportation Planner, Anton Schauerte.

Mr. Balmes also informed the board that the TPO were working with website designers to develop the new TPO website and showed a template of what the site would look like.

Item 10. Comments by TPO Members

Chairwoman Hanchar gave the board a copy of the Staff Services Agreement between the TPO and Marion County and also presented them with a revised Staff Services Agreement with edits more accommodating the TPO and Marion County. The board was to review the Agreement to see if any changes should be made. No action was taken on revisions to the Staff Services Agreement at that time.

Item 11. Public Comment

Ms. Suni Perez, 3748 NE 8th Place, Ocala, FL 34470 addressed the TPO board opposed to the new SunTran route changes and felt that the old route was better suiting to the SunTran riders.

Chairwoman Hanchar let Ms. Perez know that the TPO Board no longer oversaw the SunTran and that concerns would need to be voiced at City of Ocala Council meetings, as they were overseeing the SunTran.

Item 12. Adjournment

Chairwoman Hanchar adjourned the meeting at 5:17pm.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Shakayla Irby, TPO Administrative Assistant