

MINUTES

GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MTPO)
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

Conference Room
North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Gainesville, Florida

7:00 p.m.
Wednesday
August 18, 2004

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jan Frentzen, Vice Chair
Sheryl Conner
Jim Painter
Cindy Smith
Ruth Steiner
David Welch
Mike Wright

MEMBERS ABSENT

Joe Wilson, Chair
Sharon Hawkey
Tony Porter
John Skelly
[four vacancies]

OTHERS PRESENT

Dekova Batey
Tom Grant

STAFF PRESENT

Marlie Sanderson
Thomas Hill

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Jan Frentzen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Vice Chair Frentzen asked everyone to introduce themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Vice Chair Frentzen asked for approval of the meeting agenda.

Mr. Marlie Sanderson, MTPO Director of Transportation Planning, noted that the Design Team deferred review of the State Road 26A Landscaping Plans until its next meeting and that the Year 2025 Transportation Plan Update agenda item be discussed after the Chairman's Report.

ACTION: Cindy Smith moved to approve the meeting agenda as amended to defer discussion of Agenda Item V. State Road 26A Landscaping Plans until the next CAC meeting and place Agenda Items VII. Year 2025 Transportation Plan Update- Random Survey of Households, VIII. Year 2025 Transportation Plan Update- Evaluation Factors and IX. Year 2025 Transportation Plan Update- Vision Statements. Sheryl Conner seconded; motion passed unanimously.

IV. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

ACTION: Cindy Smith moved to approve the June 30, 2004 minutes. David Welch seconded; motion passed unanimously.

IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Thomas Hill, MTPO Senior Planner, announced that the next MTPO meeting is scheduled for September 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the Jack Durrance Auditorium. He said that the next CAC meeting is scheduled for September 29.

VII. YEAR 2025 TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE-
RANDOM SURVEY OF HOUSEHOLDS

Mr. Sanderson stated that the Year 2025 Transportation Plan Update scope of services requires that the Consultant conduct a random survey of households. He said that a draft telephone survey that has been prepared by the MTPO's Consultant- The Corradino Group.

Mr. Joe Corradino, The Corradino Group President, discussed the survey and answered questions.

ACTION: Cindy Smith moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the random survey of households amended to include the following revisions:

- 1. in section A-1, replace "Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization" with "Gainesville City Commission and the Alachua County Commission";**
- 2. in section A-3, strike "Pedestrian" from bullet one;**
- 3. in section C-3 (a) add "bike lanes" to end of sentence; and**
- 4. in section C-3 (o) revise "elderly and those who have disabilities" to "those who are too young, too old or have disabilities".**

Sheryl Conner seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VIII. YEAR 2025 TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE-
EVALUATION FACTORS

Mr. Sanderson stated that the MTPO's Consultant- The Corradino Group has prepared draft evaluation factors for the Plan Update. He said that citizens who attend the September 20 Community Workshop and the MTPO Advisory Committees will be asked to rank these factors.

Mr. Corradino discussed the evaluation factors and answered questions.

ACTION: Cindy Smith moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the random survey of households with the B.2 survey questions using the same Agree, Disagree and No Opinion format in the B.1 survey questions, including modifications to the B.2 survey questions to facilitate the new format. David Welch seconded; motion passed unanimously.

IX. YEAR 2025 TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE-
VISION STATEMENTS

Mr. Sanderson stated that, in 1997, the Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR) recommended incorporating a strong visioning process to improve MPO long range transportation planning. He said that based on information developed so far, the Consultant recommends a modification to the Livable Community Reinvestment Plan Vision Statement. He reported the current vision statement and proposed modifications. He noted that vision statement recommendations will be developed late this year or early next year after the random telephone survey is completed.

Mr. Corradino discussed the proposed vision statement modifications and answered questions.

VI. ARCHER ROAD/S. 16TH AVENUE CHARRETTE-
FINAL TESTING AND EVALUATION

Mr. Sanderson stated that the consultant has completed the final testing and evaluation. He and Mr. Tom Grant, Kimley-Horn Project Manager, discussed the Archer Road/S. 16th Avenue Charrette final testing and evaluation, three design options:

1. Option C- Do Nothing;
2. Option D- Intersection Reconfiguration of Archer Road and S. 16th Avenue; and
3. Option E- Transfer Two Lanes to SW 16th Avenue; and

answered questions. They recommended Option D.

ACTION: Cindy Smith moved to recommend that the MTPO:

- 1. approve the Archer Road/S. 16th Avenue Charrette Option D- Intersection Reconfiguration; and**
- 2. request that an analysis be conducted concerning reducing the radius of the SW 13th Street sliplane onto Archer Road in order to reduce traffic speed.**

Ruth Steiner seconded; motion passed unanimously.

X. UNIVERSITY AREA “NO RIGHT TURN ON RED” SIGNS

Mr. Sanderson stated that the MTPO, at its July 15 meeting, discussed the “No Turn On Red” signage that have been recently installed as part of the traffic signal update projects adjacent to the University of Florida. He said that City of Gainesville Public Works Department staff recommends that the “No Turn On Red” signs be replaced by signs that read “Turning Traffic Must Yield to Pedestrians.” He noted that the proposed sign is approved by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)- the R10-15 sign.

ACTION: Ruth Steiner moved to recommend that the MTPO authorize the MTPO Chair to send a letter to the Florida Department of Transportation requesting that the “No Turn on Red” signs be replaced with variable message signs and limit right turns from 8:00 a.m. - 6 p.m. Cindy Smith seconded; motion passed unanimously.

XI. AUDIBLE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING DEVICES

Mr. Sanderson stated that, at the July 15 MTPO meeting, Mr. Jack Varnon, Council for the Blind President, discussed several issues related to assisting *visually-impaired* people in safely crossing streets. He said that Mr. Varnon has requested consideration of accessible traffic signals at State Road 26 (W. University Avenue) at US 441 and State Road 26 (University Avenue) at Main Street in Gainesville. He added that the MTPO asked whether audible pedestrian crossing devices can be installed on traffic signals in this area and if so, how much would it cost per crossing. He reported that according to FDOT, "accessible" pedestrian signals in have been installed in NE Florida. He said that the installation of accessible pedestrian signals is evaluated on a case by case basis. He noted that it costs about \$1,000 for each device or \$4,000 per intersection. He added that it is our understanding that the next step is for FDOT staff to contact Mr. Varnon and schedule a meeting with him regarding these two locations in order to conduct an evaluation.

It was a consensus of the CAC to recommend the intersection of Shands (SW 16th Street) and Archer Road as another audible pedestrian crossing location for consideration by FDOT.

XII. WHITE CANE LAW ENFORCEMENT SIGNS

Mr. Sanderson stated that, at the July 15 MTPO meeting, Mr. Jack Varnon, Council for the Blind President, discussed several issues related to assisting visually-impaired people in safely crossing streets. He discussed the White Cane Law (Chapter 316.1301, Florida Statutes) and answered questions. He said that the MTPO asked whether “White Cane” law enforcement signage can be installed on speed limit signs. He said that FDOT would not be able to approve such a sign. He said that FDOT indicated that it would be very difficult to design a sign that would be effective and that motorists could understand.

XIII. W. 6TH STREET/W. UNIVERSITY AVENUE- CAPACITY ANALYSIS

Mr. Sanderson stated that a member of the MTPO has requested traffic information concerning the W. 6th Street Corridor with respect to how this road is expected to operate after the proposed roundabouts are constructed. He said that several years ago, a community charrette was conducted for W. 6th Street. He noted that the results of this charrette was reported in a document entitled West 6th Street Design Project. He said that MTPO staff worked with City staff to evaluate operating conditions using roundabout traffic information. He noted that the evaluation of the W. 6th Street/W. University Avenue intersection resulted that a roundabout resulted in a better level of service than the existing traffic signal.

XIV INFORMATION ITEMS

There was no discussion of the information items.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

Date

Joseph N. Wilson, Chair