

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
June 27, 2007

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jan Frentzen, Chair
Rob Brinkman, Vice Chair
Sheryl Conner
Sharon Hawkey
Thomas Hawkins
Chandler Otis
Tom Reilly
Robert Reller
Greg Sholar
Ewen Thomson
Larry Vettel
Gary Weed

MEMBERS ABSENT

John Carlson

OTHERS PRESENT

Gaelan Bishop
Whit Blanton
Michael Fay
Rae Marie Gilbert
Richard Hedrick
Doreen Joyner-Howard
Jennifer Spagnoli
Karen Taulbee

STAFF PRESENT

Marlie Sanderson
Mike Escalante

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jan Frentzen called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were done at the request of Chair Frentzen.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Chair Frentzen asked for approval of the meeting agenda.

Mr. Marlie Sanderson, MTPO Director of Transportation Planning, stated that Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) staff has asked that agenda item VIII. Williston Road at SW 62nd Avenue Traffic Signalization be placed after agenda item IV. Chairman's Report.

ACTION: Bob Reller moved to approve the meeting agenda amended to place agenda item VIII. Williston Road at SW 62nd Avenue Traffic Signalization after agenda item IV. Chairman's Report. Rob Brinkman seconded; motion passed unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

ACTION: Sharon Hawkey moved to approve the May 16, 2007 minutes. Larry Vettel seconded; motion passed unanimously.

IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Sanderson announced that the next MTPO meeting is scheduled for August 9th at 3:00 p.m. in the Jack Durrance Auditorium. He said that the CAC's next meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 25th. He added that he would inform CAC members if the meeting would be cancelled.

VIII. WILLISTON ROAD AT SW 62ND AVENUE TRAFFIC SIGNALIZATION

Mr. Sanderson stated that, last fall, FDOT requested a waiver to the mast arm requirement for a new signal at the intersection of SW 62nd Avenue and Williston Road (State Road 121). He said the MTPO, at its December 14th meeting, referred the issue to its Advisory Committees. He added that the MTPO, at its May 31st meeting revised Policy 7.2.1 of the *MTPO Urban Design Manual* to state:

"All new signals within Alachua County shall be mast arms with horizontal signal heads. Exceptions to this policy may be granted if all three of the following conditions are met:

- the intersection is located in unincorporated Alachua County and outside the Gainesville Urbanized Area;*
- one of the intersecting roads has not been built to an urban, four-lane cross-section; and*
- the intersection must satisfy the Manual Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) warrant number seven crash experience.*

Exceptions for installing post-mounted signals or vertical heads on mast arms may be granted on a case-by-case basis."

Mr. Sanderson noted that the Design Team recommended that the MTPO grant the exception to allow strain-poled traffic signals at the Williston Road (State Road 121) and SW 62nd Avenue intersection contingent upon a TAC finding that the documentation of the crash cause is addressed by the traffic signal and that the safety project cost benefit analysis demonstrates the advantage of the strain pole. He and Ms. Karen Taulbee, FDOT Transportation Specialist discussed traffic signal options for the Williston Road (State Road 121) and SW 62nd Avenue intersection and answered questions.

ACTION: Sharon Hawkey moved to recommend that the MTPO grant the exception to allow strain-poled traffic signals at the Williston Road (State Road 121) and SW 62nd Avenue intersection and request that FDOT conduct a speed study after the signal is installed. Bob Reller seconded; motion passed unanimously.

It was a consensus of the CAC to receive a presentation from FDOT on speed limits, traffic signal warrants and roundabout operations.

Ms. Taulbee noted that the Interstate 75 Master Plan Study workshop will be July 17th at 4:30 p.m.

V. REGIONAL TRANSIT SYSTEM (RTS)- PROJECT PRIORITIES

Mr. Sanderson stated that the CAC, at its last meeting requested that RTS staff be invited to discuss the proposed regional transfer station.

Mr. Jesus Gomez, RTS Director, discussed the proposed regional transfer station and answered questions.

VI. REGIONAL TRANSIT SYSTEM- TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Mr. Sanderson stated that the CAC, at its last meeting requested that RTS staff be invited to discuss its Transit Development Plan.

Mr. Doug Robinson, RTS Chief Transit Planner, discussed the RTS Transit Development Plan and answered questions.

Mr. Richard Hedrick, Alachua County Public Works Director, suggested that the CAC receive a presentation on transportation funding.

Ms. Rae Marie Gilbert asked that RTS presentations address transportation efficiencies and air quality.

Mr. Sanderson noted that the MTPO requested information on the Alachua and Archer shuttle transit services.

VII. MAIN STREET 30 PERCENT DESIGN PLAN- N 8TH AVENUE TO N 23RD AVENUE

Mr. Sanderson stated that Alachua County Public Works Department requested that the MTPO Advisory Committees review and comment on the Main Street 30 Percent Design Plans.

Ms. Jennifer Spagnoli, Alachua County Traffic Engineer, discussed the Main Street 30 Percent Design Plans and answered questions. She noted that the County would try to get easements to complete the gaps in the sidewalks. She added that the County would be installing a midblock crosswalk and realigning the Post Office entrance opposite a Gainesville Main Street Shopping Center driveway.

Mr. Gaelan Bishop, Volkert & Associates Project Engineer, discussed pedestrian access along the corridor and answered questions.

Mr. Hedrick stated that the County would looking into adding additional medians in the corridor between N 8th Avenue and N 16th Avenue.

ACTION: Larry Vettel moved to recommend that the Alachua County Commission approve the Main Street 30 Percent Design Plans, subject to:

- 1. consideration by Alachua County staff to add pedestrian safety enhancements at N 16th Avenue and Main Street;**
- 2. having Alachua County staff work with Regional Transit System staff to add transit and pedestrian modifications along the corridor; and**
- 3. providing additional medians except where access is necessary to adjacent properties.**

Sharon Hawkey seconded; motion passed 9 to 3.

IX. ALACHUA COUNTY- THE NEXT FIFTY YEARS

Mr. Sanderson suggested deferring this agenda item to the next CAC meeting.

It was a consensus of the CAC to defer this agenda item IX. Alachua County- The Next Fifty Years to the next CAC meeting.

X. ALACHUA COUNTY PROPOSED FUTURE TRANSPORTATION CONNECTIONS

Mr. Michael Fay, Alachua County Assistant Public Works Director, stated that the Alachua County Commission requested review and comment from the MTPO Advisory Committees of the Alachua County Proposed Future Transportation Connections project. He said that the Commission authorized investigation of a transportation to support the land uses in the County's Comprehensive Plan. He said that these connections would be constructed with developer contributions.

Mr. Whit Blanton, Renaissance Planning Group Vice President, discussed the Alachua County Proposed Future Transportation Connections Map Project and answered questions.

ACTION: Thomas Hawkins moved to inform the Alachua County Commission that Citizens Advisory Committee supports the Alachua County Proposed Future Transportation Connections Map Project. Sheryl Conner seconded; motion passed unanimously.

XI. DESIGN TEAM- CAC MEMBER

Mr. Sanderson stated that the CAC's Design Team representative position was vacant. He asked that CAC to appoint a replacement.

It was a consensus of the CAC that Jan Frenzen serve as the Design Team representative and Greg Sholar serve as alternate.

Mr. Sanderson stated that the Design Team meeting schedule would be provided to CAC members.

XII. INFORMATION ITEMS

There was no discussion of the information items.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Date

Jan Frenzen, Chair