

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
March 28, 2007

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jan Frentzen, Chair
Rob Brinkman, Vice Chair
John Carlson
Sheryl Conner
Sharon Hawkey
Thomas Hawkins
Chandler Otis
Tom Reilly
Robert Reller
Greg Sholar
Gary Weed

MEMBERS ABSENT

Brooke Bass
Thomas Collett
Ewen Thomson
Larry Vettel

OTHERS PRESENT

Patrice Boyes
Bev Browning
Brent Christensen
Kim Davidson
Bridget DeSue
Jenisha Howard
Briana Johnson
Britney Johnson
Doreen Joyner-Howard
Juanita Miles Hamilton
Dave Mulholland
Zaniya Nelson
Gunnar Paulsen
Karen Taulbee
Kate Turkwood

STAFF PRESENT

Marlie Sanderson
Mike Escalante

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jan Frentzen called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were done at the request of Chair Frentzen.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Chair Frentzen asked for approval of the meeting agenda.

ACTION: Sharon Hawkey moved to approve the meeting agenda. Sheryl Conner seconded; motion passed unanimously.

IV. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

ACTION: Sharon Hawkey moved to approve the January 28, 2007 minutes. Sheryl Conner seconded; motion passed unanimously.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Sanderson announced that the next MTPO meeting is scheduled for April 12th at 3:00 p.m. in the Jack Durrance Auditorium. He said that the CAC's next meeting is scheduled for May 16th.

Mr. Bob Reller noted that he would not be in attendance at the May 16th meeting. He asked who was selected as the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Chair.

Mr. Sanderson stated that Dean Mimms, City of Gainesville Chief of Comprehensive Planning, was selected as TAC Chair.

VI. STATE ROAD 26- MEDIAN OPENING

Mr. Sanderson stated that the Lake Forest Farms Home Owners Association has requested that a median opening be installed at the E University Avenue at NE 46th Street intersection.

Ms. Bridget DeSue, Lake Forest Farms Home Owners Association President, discussed the Association's NE 46th Street access concerns and answered questions.

Mr. Karen Taulbee, Florida Department of Transportation Traffic (FDOT) Transportation Specialist, discussed the the requested median opening and answered questions. She reported that FDOT would not install an opening at that intersection because it did not meet FDOT Class 5 criteria. She noted the options that the Association could undertake.

ACTION: Sharon Hawkey moved to recommend that the Alachua County Commission have its Public Works Department investigate the possibility of placing a median crossing or some other transportation solution for accessing the Lake Forest Farms subdivision. Rob Brinkman seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Taulbee noted that the County would be the responsible agency for the permit application and would also be financially responsible for installing the median opening if it were approved by FDOT.

VII. ENHANCEMENT APPLICATIONS- 2007

Mr. Sanderson stated that FDOT staff has set May 1st as the deadline for new Enhancement-funded project applications. He noted that the Archer Road Rail/Trail construction funds have been moved outside the five-year Transportation Improvement Program.

ACTION: Bob Reller moved to recommend that the MTPO not submit any new enhancement applications this year. Tom Reilly seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VIII. MTPO MAST ARM POLICY- PROPOSED REVISIONS

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, approved the following motion to:

“Direct the TAC to consider whether exceptions to Policy 7.2.1 of the MTPO Urban Design Manual should be considered. If exceptions are recommended, criteria for these exceptions should be developed.”

He discussed proposed changes to Policy 7.2.1 and answered questions.

ACTION: Rob Brinkman moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the following changes to Policy 7.2.1 of the MTPO Urban Design Policy Manual for review and recommendation:

“FDOT staff shall install mast arms with All new signals within the Gainesville Metropolitan Area shall be mast arms with horizontal signal heads on all FDOT projects from this date forward. This policy was approved on March 9, 1995. Exceptions to this policy may be granted by the MTPO, on a case-by case basis, for installing post-mounted signals, vertical heads on mast arms or signals on strain poles.”

Greg Sholar seconded; motion passed 10 to 1.

IX. TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT MAIN STREET AND N 53RD AVENUE- VERTICAL MAST HEADS

Mr. Sanderson stated that City of Gainesville staff is requesting a waiver of the MTPO Mast Arm Policy in order to install vertical heads on the mast arms for the signalization project at N Main Street and N 53rd Avenue intersection.

ACTION: John Carlson moved to recommend that the MTPO grant an exception to allow vertical mast heads for the signalization project at N Main Street and N 53rd Avenue intersection. Bob Reller seconded; motion passed unanimously.

X. SW 20TH AVENUE AND SW 43RD STREET CONCEPTUAL INTERSECTION DESIGN PROJECT

Mr. Sanderson discussed a proposal prepared by City of Gainesville Public Works Department staff that discusses the need for a SW 20th Avenue & 43rd Street Conceptual Intersection Design Project. He said that Alachua County Public Works Department staff is currently developing the estimated cost to do this Design Project.

ACTION: Rob Brinkman moved to recommend that the MTPO request that the City of Gainesville and Alachua County each pay for 50 percent of the cost of this SW 20th Avenue & SW 43rd Street Conceptual Intersection Design Project. John Carlson seconded.

AMENDMENT: Rob Brinkman moved to add to that the scope to include consideration of a roundabout at this intersection. John Carlson withdrew his second to the original action.

ACTION: Rob Brinkman moved to recommend that the MTPO request that the City of Gainesville and Alachua County each pay for 50 percent of the cost of this SW 20th Avenue & SW 43rd Street Conceptual Intersection Design Project with the scope to include consideration of a roundabout at this intersection. Sharon Hawkey seconded; motion passed 7 to 4.

XI. SPRINGHILLS DRI TRAFFIC STUDY

Mr. Sanderson discussed the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council's Final Report on the SpringHills DRI Substantial Deviation and answered questions.

ACTION: Rob Brinkman moved to recommend that the MTPO and the Alachua County Commission use the latest, most up to date, traffic analysis for the DRI. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Ms. Patrice Boyes, Counsel to the Applicant, Pennsylvania Real Estate Investment Trust (PREIT), stated that since the Alachua County Growth Management Department staff was not present, that there should be no discussion by the Applicant's representatives.

ACTION: Rob Brinkman moved to recommend that the Alachua County Commission refer the SpringHills DRI to the CAC for review and comment. Motion failed for lack of a second.

XIV. UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

Mr. Sanderson stated that the staff services agreement between the MTPO and the Regional Planning Council (RPC) requires the annual submission of the budget for the support of the transportation planning staff. He said that MTPO staff is forwarding for its consideration the UPWP. He added that the UPWP outlines and describes planning efforts to be undertaken by participating agencies to maintain a comprehensive, cooperative and continuing transportation planning program in the Gainesville Urbanized Area. He discussed the proposed FY 2007/2008 UPWP planning program and budget and answered questions.

XV. RUSSIAN HIGHWAY TO SIBERIA

Mr. Sanderson presented a slideshow on the Russian highway to Siberia.

XII. INFORMATION ITEMS

There was no discussion of the information items.

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: Sheryl Conner moved to adjourn the meeting. Sharon Hawkey seconded; motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

Date

Jan Frentzen, Chair