

MEETING SUMMARY  
GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY  
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MTPO)  
**DESIGN TEAM**

NCFRPC Conference Room  
Gainesville, Florida

Tuesday, 1:00 p.m.  
July 15, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT

Linda Dixon, Chair  
Meg Niederhofer Vice Chair  
Jesus Gomez  
Doreen Joyner-Howard  
Brian Kanely  
Sam Middleton  
Kristen Nowicki  
Dom Nozzi  
Chandler Otis/Julia Reiskind  
Cindy Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jennifer Auger  
E. J. Bolduc  
Kathy Fanning  
Gwendolyn Pra  
Reid Rivers

OTHERS PRESENT

Bruce DeLaney  
Warren Nielsen  
Jim Scott  
Suraya Teeple  
Myrna Widmer  
Fred Wright

STAFF PRESENT

Marlie Sanderson  
Thomas Hill  
Mike Escalante

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Linda Dixon, University of Florida Facilities Planning and Construction Planning Office Manager, called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Dixon introduced herself and asked those present to introduce themselves.

II. AGENDA APPROVAL

Chair Dixon requested that the Design Team approve the meeting agenda.

Mr. Marlie Sanderson, MTPO Director of Transportation Planning, stated that a citizen would like to discuss the State Road 26 26A right-of-way issue, but would not be at the beginning of the meeting.

**ACTION: Dom Nozzi moved to approve the meeting agenda amended to reverse agenda items III and IV. Jesus Gomez seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

#### IV. NEWBERRY ROAD TURN LANES

Mr. Thomas Hill, MTPO Senior Planner, stated that, at the June 19 MTPO meeting, representatives of the Council of University Neighborhood Associations (CUNA) expressed their concerns regarding FDOT plans to modify the three median openings on Newberry Road between NW 43<sup>rd</sup> Street and NW 39<sup>th</sup> Road. He said, in response to CUNA's concerns, the MTPO requested FDOT meet with the local citizen groups to discuss the issues and to reach an agreement on planned median opening modifications.

He reported that FDOT staff met with CUNA representatives and other local citizens and reached an agreement on the Newberry Road median opening modifications.

Ms. Doreen Joyner-Howard, FDOT District 2 Transportation Planner, Mr. Jim Scott, FDOT District 2 Traffic Operations Engineer, and Ms. Myrna Widmer, FDOT Project Manager, discussed the revisions to the design plan revision and answered questions.

**ACTION: Cindy Smith moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the Florida Department of Transportation's recommendations discussed in the June 30 FDOT memorandum:**

- 1. to revise the Newberry Road Turnlanes Project (FPN #20769901):**
  - A. to close the median opening immediately east of NW 43<sup>rd</sup> Street; and**
  - B. to shorten the length of the other two turnlanes as much as possible; and**
- 2. to coordinate this project with the City Arborist to ensure the landscaping changes are acceptable.**

**Brian Kanely seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

#### III. STATE ROAD 26 (SR) 26A RIGHT-OF-WAY

Mr. Hill stated that the SR 26A (SW 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue) design plans include the reconstruction of State Road 26 (West University Avenue) between NW 22<sup>nd</sup> Street and North-South Drive. He said that the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) design plans include acquisition of right-of-way to realign SR 26 with SR 26A and to provide instreet bicycle facilities. He added that these bicycle facilities were requested by the MTPO and will provide connectivity between the existing instreet bikelanes on State Road 26 and the University of Florida. He noted that these modifications address corridor safety, which was identified as a high priority in the *State Road 26/State Road 26A Corridor Planning Study* dated September 1995. He reported that the MTPO, during its June 18 meeting, approved a motion to:

*"Refer this motion to it's advisory committees for recommendations, including consideration of a landscape plan to add livability to the affected area."*

Mr. Fred Wright, FDOT Construction Project Manager, discussed the SR 26A Project design plans and answered questions.

**ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO request that the Florida Department of Transportation continue with its current State Road 26A design plans and develop landscaping recommendations. Sam Middleton seconded; motion passed 8 to 3.**

#### V. SR 226 (SW 16<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE) RESURFACING PROJECT

Mr. Hill stated that FDOT has submitted 60 percent design plans for the SR 226 Resurfacing Project. He said that this project will resurface SR 226 from SR 24 (Archer Road) to SR 331 (Williston Road).

Ms. Widmer discussed the SR 226 Resurfacing Project 60 percent design plans and answered questions.

**ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the State Road 226 Resurfacing Project 60 percent design plans. Jesus Gomez seconded; motion passed 10 to 1.**

Mr Sanderson asked the Design Team to have additional discussion on the SR 26/SR 26A Project to address citizen concern.

Chair Dixon noting no objection stated that there would be additional discussion on the SR 26/SR 26A Project.

#### III. STATE ROAD 26 (SR) 26A RIGHT-OF-WAY (CONTINUED)

The following persons discussed their concerns regarding the SR 26A reconstruction and SR 26 resurfacing projects with respect to the possibility of implementing a one-way pair configuration at some time in the future:

Bruce DeLaney

Warren Nielsen

Mr. Wright stated that the SR 26A and SR 26 reconstruction and resurfacing projects would not have impact to the possibility of implementing a one-way pair configuration.

## VI. SR 329 (MAIN STREET) RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Mr. Hill stated that the Design Team, at its May 20 meeting, requested that FDOT provide an update on the latest Main Street Reconstruction Project design plans for the segment between Depot Avenue and NW 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Ms. Joyner-Howard discussed the Main Street Reconstruction Project design plans and answered questions.

Chair Dixon stated that resolution of the Main Street Reconstruction Project landscaping concerns would be discussed at a meeting by a Design Team Subcommittee consisting of:

1. City Arborist- Meg Niederhofer;
2. City Community Development- Dom Nozzi;
3. City Public Works- Ron Barlow;
4. Citizens Advisory Committee- Cindy Smith;
5. FDOT- Doreen Joyner-Howard;
6. Gainesville Regional Utilities- Reid Rivers; and
7. University of Florida- Linda Dixon.

## VII. SR 329 (MAIN STREET) RESURFACING PROJECT

Mr. Hill stated that FDOT has forwarded 60 percent design plans for the SR 329 (Main Street) Resurfacing Project. He said that this resurfacing project extends from SR 226 (SW 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue) to SR 331 (Williston Road).

**ACTION: Doreen Joyner-Howard moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the State Road 329 Resurfacing Project 60 percent design plans. Brian Kanely seconded; motion passed 8 to 3.**

## VIII. SR 331 (WILLISTON ROAD) RESURFACING PROJECT

Mr. Hill stated that FDOT has forwarded 60 percent design plans for the SR 331 (Williston Road) resurfacing project. He said that this project extends from US 441 (SW 13<sup>th</sup> Street) to SR 26 (East University Avenue) and includes the realignment of the intersection of SR 331 and SR 329 (Main Street) as well as instreet bicycle lanes.

Ms. Joyner-Howard, Ms. Widmer and Mr. Scott discussed the SR 331 resurfacing project and answered questions.

**ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the State Road 331 Resurfacing Project 60 percent design plans. Doreen Joyner-Howard seconded; motion passed 10 to 1.**

IX. SR 331 (WILLISTON ROAD) TRAFFIC SIGNAL

Mr. Hill stated that FDOT has forwarded 60 percent design plans for the construction of a new mast arm traffic signal at the intersection of State Road (SR) 331 (Williston Road) and SR 226 (SE 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue).

**ACTION: Cindy Smith moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the State Road 331 Traffic Signal Project 60 percent design plans with the verification that the roadway lighting meets FDOT standards. Kristen Nowicki seconded; motion passed 10 to 1.**

**ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO ask FDOT to replace the street sign with an illuminated street sign attached to the horizontal mast arm, if structurally possible. Cindy Smith seconded; motion passed 10 to 1.**

X. DESIGN TEAM REVIEW PERCENTAGES

Mr. Hill stated that the Design Team, at the request of FDOT staff, discussed the MTPO's design plan review process at its May 20 meeting. He said that during its discussion, the Design Team approved a motion to recommend that the MTPO:

*amend this policy to substitute the following criteria:*

- I. In October or November, the Design Team will review FDOT's tentative work program to select projects to review at the scoping stage; and*
- II. Design Team second review at 30 percent and final review at 60 percent stage.*

He reported that, for all projects, FDOT has specific milestones at each stage of project development that must be maintained in order to receive State funding. He noted that since the Design Team meeting, FDOT has indicated that due to the current efficiency program mandated by the Governor to reduce agency spending and improve efficiency, not all projects will be available for review at the 30 percent and 60 percent stages. He added that:

1. construction projects will be available for review at these stages; but
2. other types of projects (such as resurfacing projects) may not be available for review until the 60 percent stage, since FDOT has reduced the design phases on certain programs to only have a 60 percent and 100 percent design stages.

Ms. Joyner-Howard discussed FDOT's concern regarding the design plan review process and answered questions.

**ACTION: Cindy Smith moved to recommend that the MTPO revise *MTPO Urban Design***

**Manual to include the following policy:**

**Project Design Plan Review Stages**

Type	Scoping	30 Percent	60 Percent
Construction	✓	✓	✓
Resurfacing	✓	-	✓
Traffic Signals	✓	-	✓
Traffic Operations	✓	-	✓
Enhancement	✓	✓	✓

**Jesus Gomez seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

XI. HOGTOWN CREEK FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Hill stated that the Design Team, at its May 20 meeting, requested the information on the final MTPO recommendation for the Hogtown Creek project.

Ms. Joyner-Howard discussed the agreements between FDOT and the MTPO.

A member of the Design Team discussed his concerns regarding the difficulty reading the design plans.

Mr. Sanderson and Ms. Joyner-Howard stated that signage and pavement marker design plan sheets would be provided in the meeting packets.

XII. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Chair Dixon announced that the next MTPO meeting is August 14 and the next Design Team meeting is scheduled for August 19.

XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS

There was no discussion of information items.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.