

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

NCFRPC Conference Room  
Gainesville, Florida

Tuesday, 1:30 p.m.  
June 19, 2007

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u>	<u>OTHERS PRESENT</u>	<u>STAFF PRESENT</u>
Dom Nozzi, Vice Chair Linda Dixon Jan Frentzen Julia Reiskind Reid Rivers Doug Robinson Jennifer Spagnoli Emery Swearingen Karen Taulbee	Meg Niederhofer, Chair Kathy Fanning Beth Jordan Jonathan Paul	Tom Ballenger Gaelan Bishop Adam Doyle Dave Preston	Marlie Sanderson Michael Escalante

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Dom Nozzi, City of Gainesville Senior Planner, called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Nozzi introduced herself and requested introductions.

II. AGENDA APPROVAL

Chair Nozzi requested action on the meeting agenda.

Mr. Marlie Sanderson, MTPO Director of Transportation Planning, stated that he has recommendations to change the agenda.

**ACTION: Emory Swearingen moved to approve the meeting agenda. Linda Dixon seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

III. MAIN STREET 30 PERCENT DESIGN PLANS- N 8<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE TO N 23<sup>RD</sup> 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.

Mr. Gaelan Bishop, Volkert & Associates Project Engineer, noted that the County's and the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT's) respective Main Street projects needed to be coordinated.

Ms. Karen Taulbee, FDOT Transportation Specialist, stated that she would inform FDOT's Main Street Project consultant.

Ms. Spagnoli added that the County would be realigning the Post Office entrance opposite a Gainesville Main Street Shopping Center driveway.

Mr. Sanderson asked Ms. Spagnoli to review Exhibit 1 for accuracy and inform MTPO staff of any corrections.

**ACTION: Reid Rivers moved to recommend that the Alachua County Commission approve the Main Street 30 Percent Design Plans. Linda Dixon seconded; motion passed 8 to 1.**

#### IV. WILLISTON ROAD AT SW 62<sup>ND</sup> 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 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and Williston Road (State Road 121). He said the MTPO, at its December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, referred the issue to its Advisory Committees. He added that the MTPO, at its May 31<sup>st</sup> 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 and Ms. Taulbee discussed traffic signal options for the Williston Road (State Road 121) and SW 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue intersection and answered questions.

Mr. Emory Swearingen, City of Gainesville Public Works Manager, discussed his concern regarding making an informed decision based on crash data.

**ACTION: Linda Dixon moved to recommend that the MTPO grant the exception to allow strain-poled traffic signals at the Williston Road (State Road 121) and SW 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue intersection contingent upon a Technical Advisory Committee 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. Reid Rivers seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Sanderson stated that he would provide Mr. Swearingen with crash analysis from FDOT.

## V. CONTEXT SENSITIVE DESIGN

Mr. Sanderson stated that the Design Team deferred its discussion of Context Sensitive Design to its next meeting to discuss the following issues:

- 1. whether the Design Team should forward a comment to the MTPO that the MTPO Urban Design Manual is a one-size-fits-all document that is not context-sensitive and it does not provide guidelines for the full range of contexts- Urban, Suburban and Rural;*
- 2. whether the Design Team should forward a comment to the MTPO that the MTPO Urban Design Manual be amended to be more context sensitive and to the extent appropriate, be compatible with City and County design standards;*
- 3. the issue of conflicts between the MTPO Urban Design Manual and local government develop regulations;*
- 4. whether to deal with conflicts among City and County agency documents on a case by case basis; and*
- 5. whether to identify where the conflicts are and how to proceed.*

Vice Chair Nozzi discussed context sensitive design modifications to the *MTPO Urban Design Policy Manual* and answered questions.

## VI. UPCOMING MEETING

Mr. Sanderson stated that the next MTPO meeting is August 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. He said that the next Design Team meeting is scheduled for July 17<sup>th</sup> at the NCFRPC Conference Room.

## VII. INFORMATION ITEMS

There was no discussion of the information items.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.