

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

NCFRPC Conference Room
Gainesville, Florida

Tuesday, 1:30 p.m.
March 18, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT

Emery Swearingen, Chair
Susan Bridges Niemann
Ha Nguyen
Meg Niederhofer
John Richter
Reid Rivers
Doug Robinson
Karen Taulbee
Gary Weed

MEMBERS ABSENT

Linda Dixon
Katy Fanning
Beth Jordan
Jonathan Paul

OTHERS PRESENT

Jennifer Spagnoli

STAFF PRESENT

Marlie Sanderson
Michael Escalante

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Emery Swearingen, City of Gainesville Public Works Engineer, called the meeting to order at 1:37 p.m.

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Swearingen introduced himself and requested introductions.

II. AGENDA APPROVAL

Chair Swearingen requested action on the meeting agenda.

ACTION: Doug Robinson moved to approve the meeting agenda. John Richter seconded; motion passed unanimously.

III. MAIN STREET RESURFACING PROJECT- DEPOT AVENUE TO N 8TH AVENUE

Chair Swearingen stated there was a request to review the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) Main Street 30 percent design plans.

Ms. Karen Taulbee, FDOT Transportation Specialist, stated that the design plans incorporated the MTPO-approved Option2 criteria. She discussed the plan and answered questions.

Ms. Ha Nguyen, Alachua County Design/Contract Manager, stated that the County was proceeding with its N Main Street project with the County Commission-approved cross-sections. She discussed project coordination needs regarding the FDOT Main Street project.

Ms. Taulbee said that the FDOT project manager would coordinate with the County.

Chair Swearingen noted that the FDOT project is a standard mill and resurfacing project with curb bulb-outs at the intersections and stormwater drainage expansion to a 36-inch pipe.

Mr. Reid Rivers, Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU) Energy Delivery Manager, asked about GRU's access to the design plans.

Ms. Meg Niederhofer, City of Gainesville Arborist, asked about landscaping opportunities in the corridor.

Chair Swearingen said he would provide GRU with 60 percent plans. He said that he would check the plans and report to the City Arborist regarding landscaping opportunities. He reported that the City's Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) has a streetscape project in the Capital Improvement Program.

Mr. Rivers noted that the CRA had no funds for lighting.

Mr. Doug Robinson, Regional Transit System Chief Transit Planner, asked about the siting of a bus bay adjacent to the Alachua County Courthouse.

Chair Swearingen reported that the City declined maintenance agreements for four FDOT resurfacing projects. He reviewed that he would provide GRU with 60 percent plans, investigate landscaping opportunities and the courthouse bus bay.

V. MTPO URBAN DESIGN POLICY MANUAL- MAST ARMS POLICY

Chair Swearingen stated that the new FDOT mast arms policy is in conflict with the MTPO mast arms policy.

Ms. Taulbee discussed the FDOT District 2's new policy on painting mast arms. She said that FDOT has concerns regarding the expense for maintaining the paint on mast arms. She said that FDOT will require a maintenance agreement in order for painted mast arms to be installed. She noted that the Main Street project will have painted mast arms.

V. PROJECT DESIGN PLAN REVIEW

Chair Swearingen discussed the charge of the Design Team. He encouraged Team members to review the Urban Design Policy Manual. He suggested that members form a subgroup to review the manual to develop recommendations for updates regarding conflicts with City and County policies and new policy recommendations. He said that he would review the manual to address consistencies with the City's policies.

VI. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Mr. Sanderson stated that the MTPO meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 10th and the next Design Team meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 15th.

Chair Swearingen noted that the City would be bringing Depot Avenue design plans for review by the Design Team. He said that the project has been split into four phases.

VII. INFORMATION ITEMS

There was no discussion of the information items.

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: Ha Nguyen moved to adjourn the meeting. John Richter seconded; motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:46 p.m.