

MINUTES  
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MTPO)  
FOR THE GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA

Jack Durrance Auditorium  
Alachua County Administration Building  
Gainesville, Florida

7:00 p.m.  
Thursday  
December 13, 2001

MEMBERS PRESENT

MEMBERS ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT

John Barrow, Chair  
Mayor Tom Bussing  
Mike Byerly  
Chuck Chestnut IV  
Pegeen Hanrahan  
Robert Hutchinson  
Rodney Long  
Dave Newport  
Warren Nielsen  
Ed Poppell  
Aage Schroder

Penny Wheat

See Exhibit 1

STAFF PRESENT

Marlie Sanderson  
Gerry Dedenbach  
Michael Escalante  
Lynn Franson-Godfrey

CALL TO ORDER

Chair John Barrow called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

**ACTION: Commissioner Nielsen moved to approve the consent agenda and meeting agenda. Commissioner Byerly seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

II. DR. KERMIT SIGMON CITIZEN PARTICIPATION AWARD

Mr. Marlie Sanderson, MTPO Director of Transportation Planning, announced that the MTPO's Citizens Advisory Committee had selected Mr. Chandler Otis to be the recipient of this year's Dr. Kermit Sigmon Citizen Participation Award.

Chair Barrow presented the award to Mr. Otis.

Mr. Otis discussed Dr. Sigmon's contributions to the community and supported the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board's (B/PAB) recommendation to name the bicycle/pedestrian trail along Archer Road the Kermit Sigmon Memorial Bicycle/Pedestrian Trail.

### III. CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) VACANT POSITIONS

Mr. Sanderson stated that the MTPO needs to fill five vacant positions on its CAC. He said that the five positions have a term of office through December, 2004.

The following applicants spoke concerning why they wanted to be appointed to this Committee.

John Skelly                      Roberta Lopez                      James Foust

Mr. Sanderson conducted a rollcall vote and reported the results.

**ACTION: Commissioner Newport moved to appoint James Foust, Vanessa Gordon, James Higman, Roberta Lopez and John Skelly to the CAC for terms through December 2004. Commissioner Hanrahan seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

### IV. BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY BOARD (B/PAB) VACANT POSITIONS

Mr. Sanderson stated that the MTPO needs to fill one vacant positions on its B/PAB. He said that the position has a term of office through December, 2004.

Mr. Sanderson conducted a rollcall vote and reported the results.

**ACTION: Commissioner Long moved to reappoint Tim Strauser to the B/PAB for a term through December 2004. Commissioner Hutchinson seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

A member of the MTPO thanked all candidates for their interest in serving on the B/PAB and noted that both the City and County will soon be making appointments to the B/PAB.

### V. REVIEW OF CITY OF GAINESVILLE AND ALACHUA COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLANS

Mr. Sanderson reported that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has nominated the City of Gainesville for the 1,000 Friends of Florida's Florida Successful Community Award. He also stated that, at a joint meeting of the Gainesville City Commission and Alachua County Commission on April 20, both the City and County Commission approved motions:

- 1. to have City and County staff work together with University staff, MTPO staff and the staff of other municipalities in Alachua County to review the comprehensive plans of the City, County and other municipalities and the University of Florida Campus Master Plan for compatability with the MTPO's Livable Community Reinvestment Plan; and*
- 2. to report back to the City and County Commissions before final approval of their respective plans.*

He reported that, on October 15, representatives from the City, County, other municipalities in Alachua County and the University of Florida were invited to a meeting to discuss these consistency issues. He said that the following two areas of inconsistency were identified and discussed them as they related to the MTPO's plan and the City of Gainesville and Alachua County Comprehensive plans:

1. The first area of inconsistency had to do with that part of the MTPO's vision statement concerning "*connecting a limited number of highly developed mixed use centers.*"
2. The second area of inconsistency had to do with that part of the MTPO's vision statement to "*provide a high level of premium transit service in a linear Archer Road corridor.*"

Mr. Ralph Hilliard, City of Gainesville Community Development Department Planning Manager, discussed the City's transportation concurrency exception area (TCEA) and answered questions.

Ms. Kathleen W. Pagan, Alachua County Department of Growth Management Senior Planner, discussed the County's activity centers and answered questions.

**ACTION: Commissioner Byerly moved to:**

1. **request that the Gainesville City Commission and the Alachua County Commission have their respective staff work with MTPO staff and FDOT staff on the following issues:**
  - A. **continue to work together in a joint planning effort to address consistency issues related to the City of Gainesville and Alachua County Comprehensive Plans and the MTPO's Livable Community Reinvestment Plan;**
  - B. **through the land development code, develop and implement tools, such as multimodal districts, land development regulations and other incentive/ disincentive tools that support the implementation of the Livable Community Reinvestment Plan, particularly the development of a limited number of mixed use centers;**
  - C. **consider designation of TCEAs within the unincorporated areas of Alachua County along the Archer Road corridor (from US 441 west to Tower Road) that includes a specific plan to properly balance mixed-use centers and support multimodal transportation; and**
  - D. **develop recommendations concerning:**
    - i. **whether the City's TCEA should be revised to provide incentives for growth to occur in a limited number of highly developed mixed use centers;**
    - ii. **how mixed use centers can support multimodal transportation, especially in TCEAs; and**

- iii. **whether City and County Comprehensive Plans should be revised to include a highly developed mixed use center land use category and designate a limited number of these centers on the land use map and consideration of the appropriate number of activity centers within the unincorporated area of the County; and**
2. **request that the Alachua County Commission increase the density and intensity of land uses along the length of the Archer Road corridor within the Gainesville Metropolitan Area to make it consistent with the Livable Community Reinvestment Plan.**

**Commissioner Hanrahan seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

## VI. STATE ROAD (SR) 121 RESURFACING

Mr. Gerry Dedenbach, MTPO Senior Transportation Planner, stated that the MTPO, at its October meeting, discussed the October 3 letter from Mr. Aage Schroder, FDOT District 2 Secretary, which discussed FDOT's willingness to include bikelanes in the SR 121 resurfacing project by reducing the median width by two feet. He said that, since the MTPO expressed some concern about whether the median with the student memorial would be adversely affected, it referred the design plans for the addition of bikelanes on SW 34<sup>th</sup> Street, from Archer Road north to University Avenue, to the MTPO Design Team. He reported that FDOT's plans include provisions against adverse affects on the medians because contractors are required to replace any existing materials damaged with exact replacements.

Mr. Jay Nordqvist, B/PAB member, discussed the B/PAB's recommendations that FDOT pursue research funding to fund the bikelane coloring and research safety concerns of the SR 121 project that includes on and off-road bicycle counts and bicycle accident information for both the pre- and post-construction phases so that appropriate consideration of cost effectiveness can be determined.

Ms. Doreen Joyner-Howard, FDOT District 2 Transportation Planner, discussed the possibility of experimental funding availability for painting the bikelanes and answered questions.

**ACTION: Commissioner Hutchinson moved to:**

1. **approve FDOT's SR 121 revised cross-section with bikelanes;**
2. **request that FDOT:**
  - A. **consider adding the MTPO-approved color to the bikelanes; and**
  - B. **send a request for permission to experiment letter to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to add the MTPO-approved color to the bikelanes;**
3. **perform one bicycle count within the corridor upon completion of the project to compare with the most recent count in the MTPO's Bicycle Usage Trend Report; and**

**4. provide pre- and post-construction bicycle crash data.**

**Commissioner Hanrahan seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

VII. UNIVERSITY AVENUE / MAIN STREET COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

Mr. Sanderson stated that several members of the MTPO requested an agenda item, for the December MTPO meeting, concerning the need for a community workshop regarding lane reductions on University Avenue and Main Street. He said that the purpose of this workshop would be to give the public an opportunity to receive information about these proposed projects and ask questions. He noted that the MTPO Chair has also discussed the possibility of a field trip to visit other Florida cities that have reduced four-lane roads to two-lanes.

**ACTION: Commission Byerly moved to send MTPO staff on a field to collect information from other Florida cities that have reduced four-lane roads to two-lanes and to visit as many cities as staff determines is necessary. Commissioner Hutchinson seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

VIII. ELECTION OF MTPO OFFICERS

Mr. Sanderson stated that the MTPO needed to elect a Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary/Treasurer for the coming year. He identified the current officers and noted that the MTPO Chair traditionally alternates between the City Commission and County Commission.

**ACTION: Commissioner Hanrahan moved to appoint Commissioner Hutchinson as the MTPO Chair. Commissioner Nielsen seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

Chair Barrow passed the gavel to Commissioner Hutchinson. Chair Hutchinson presented Commissioner Barrow a plaque in recognition of his service as MTPO Chair.

**ACTION: Commissioner Hanrahan moved to appoint Commissioner Nielsen as the MTPO Vice-Chair. Commissioner Newport seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

**ACTION: Commissioner Newport moved to appoint Commissioner Byerly as the MTPO Secretary/Treasurer. Commissioner Hanrahan seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

IX. MTPO AUDIT REVIEW COMMITTEE

Mr. Sanderson requested that the MTPO appoint two members to an Audit Review Committee. He noted that the MTPO Secretary/Treasurer traditionally chairs this committee.

**ACTION: Commissioner Long moved to appoint Commissioner Byerly and Mayor Bussing to the MTPO Audit Review Committee and to have Commissioner Byerly serve as Committee Chair. Commissioner Hanrahan seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

X. METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (MPOAC)  
REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. Sanderson asked the MTPO to appoint voting and alternate representatives to the Florida MPOAC for calendar year 2002.

**ACTION: Commissioner Nielsen moved to appoint Commissioner Hanrahan as the MTPO's voting representative. Commissioner Newport seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

**ACTION: Commissioner Hanrahan moved to appoint Commissioner Byerly as the MTPO's alternate representative. Commissioner Newport seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

**ACTION: Commissioner Long moved to rescind the MTPO's nonparticipation policy regarding MPOAC meetings. Commissioner Hanrahan seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

XI. TRAFFIC AND ROADWAY CONTROL SIGNAGE SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Dedenbach stated that the MTPO Traffic and Roadway Control Signage Subcommittee, at its October meeting, discussed the co-location of traffic and roadway signage in order to reduce the total number of signs, and related support poles, along local roadways. He said that the Subcommittee also discussed possibly locating traffic and roadway control signs on existing Gainesville Regional Utilities poles located throughout the County.

**ACTION: Commissioner Byerly moved to:**

- 1. request that all agencies remove "center turn lane" signs in the Gainesville Metropolitan Area and insure proper striping where appropriate; and**
- 2. request that Alachua County and the City of Gainesville:**
  - A. co-locate as many signs a possible on existing utility poles and report legal concerns, regarding sign co-location, to the MTPO;**
  - B. co-locate "stop" and "street-name" signs during future normal maintenance activities, where feasible; and**

**C. consider developing a list of corridors where co-location of these signs would be appropriate; and**

- 3. include these recommendations concerning the co-location of signs and removal of “center turn lane” signs as policies in the Urban Design Policy Manual.**

**Commissioner Hanrahan seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

**ACTION: Commissioner Nielsen moved to refer to City, County and FDOT staff the redesign of a panel sign to replace the current signs at the intersection of US 441 and University Avenue. Commissioner Byerly seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

## XII. PLAN EAST GAINESVILLE PROJECT- SUBCOMMITTEE STATUS REPORT

MTPO Plan East Gainesville Subcommittee Chair Rodney Long discussed the status of the project and answered questions.

## XIII. NEXT MTPO MEETING

Mr. Sanderson stated that the next MTPO meeting is scheduled for January 17 at 2:00 p.m. in the Jack Durrance Auditorium.

## XIV. COMMENTS

### A. MTPO MEMBER COMMENTS

A member of the MTPO commended staff for its efforts regarding the Florida Communities Grant program application.

A member of the MTPO noted the efforts of Commissioner Hanrahan and City staff in acquiring Florida Communities Grant funding.

A member of the MTPO commended City, County and MTPO staffs for their efforts on the Plan East Gainesville Project.

### B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

C. MTPO CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Hutchinson stated that the MTPO had received a letter from the City of Gainesville Beautification Board regarding a review process for the placement of murals or "scenes" at various interstate highways and state roads in Gainesville and Alachua County.

**ACTION: Commissioner Hanrahan moved authorize the MTPO Chair to forward the City of Gainesville Beautification Board's letter to the Gainesville/Alachua County Art in Public Places Trust and to request its consideration and recommendation regarding a review process for the placement of murals or "scenes" at various interstate highways and state roads in Gainesville and Alachua County. Commissioner Long seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hutchinson adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

---

Date

\\Mike\Public2\em02\mtpo\minutes\dec13.wpd

---

Mike Byerly  
Secretary/Treasurer

## **EXHIBIT 1**

### Interested Citizens

Wayne Bowers  
Erin Buzzetti  
James Foust  
Ralph Hilliard  
Brian Kanely  
Roberta Lopez  
Shenley Neely  
Jay Nordqvist  
Arthur Otis  
Chandler Otis  
Kris Pagenkopf  
Randall Reid  
John Sabatella  
David Sconza  
Teresa Scott  
John Skelly  
Kathleen W. Pagan

### Florida Department of Transportation

Doreen Joyner-Howard  
Larry Parks  
Fred Wright