

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

Jack Durrance Auditorium  
Alachua County Administration Building  
Gainesville, Florida

1:30 p.m.  
Thursday  
April 12, 2001

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

John Barrow, Chair  
Mike Byerly  
Chuck Chestnut IV  
Pegeen Hanrahan  
Robert Hutchinson  
Rodney Long  
Warren Nielsen  
Ed Poppell

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Mayor Paula DeLaney  
Dave Newport  
Aage Schroder  
Penny Wheat

**OTHERS PRESENT**

See Exhibit 2

**STAFF PRESENT**

Marlie Sanderson  
Gerry Dedenbach  
Lynn Franson-Godfrey  
Andrea Vogler

**CALL TO ORDER**

MTPO Chair John Barrow called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

**I. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Marlie Sanderson, MTPO Director of Transportation Planning, requested the addition of the following items to the agenda:

1. new Agenda Item II., SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue/SW 62<sup>nd</sup> Boulevard Status Report; and
2. new Agenda Item III., Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment.

**ACTION: Commissioner Hanrahan moved to approve the meeting agenda and consent agenda with the addition of the following agenda items:**

1. new Item II., SW 62<sup>nd</sup> Boulevard/SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue Status Report; and
2. new Item III., Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment.

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

## **II. SW 62<sup>ND</sup> BOULEVARD/SW 24<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE- STATUS REPORT**

A member of the MTPO requested that Alachua County staff provide an overview of the current situation concerning funding for this project.

Mr. Bill Lecher, Alachua County Public Works Department Assistant Director, discussed funding for this project. He said that the estimated cost of this project is \$10.5 million. He noted that the County received a \$3.7 million grant from the State. He said that the County must provide 65 percent in matching funds for this grant. He explained that the Campus Development Agreement funds, from the State Road 26/26A project, which the County intended to use towards this match, will remain allocated toward State Road 26/26A. Therefore, he reported, the County is short approximately \$2 million for this project. In addition, he added that no land has been donated, as anticipated, for the required retention/detention basins for this project.

Mr. Clark Butler, Butler Enterprises President, gave a status report concerning the SW 62<sup>nd</sup> Boulevard/SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue project and the proposed Butler Plaza expansion and answered questions. He said that Butler Enterprises is willing to contribute up to \$2 million towards the cost of constructing SW 62<sup>nd</sup> Boulevard/SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue. He added that Butler Enterprises is willing to donate the additional right-of-way for the required retention/detention basins for this project.

Ms. Deborah Butler, Butler Enterprises, stated that Butler Enterprises looks forward to working with Alachua County to plan a development that the entire community can be proud of.

The MTPO discussed potential Development of Regional Impact (DRI) issues concerning the proposed Butler Plaza expansion. They noted that Mr. Butler needs to begin the development application process. They cautioned Mr. Butler that no agency, regardless of jurisdiction, can accept his donation and guarantee that they would be able to approve the design plans for the proposed Butler Plaza Expansion.

Mr. Ed Poppell, University of Florida Interim Vice President of Administrative Affairs, stated that it is the University's intention to support plans for this area that are consistent with the SW 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue charrette.

## **III. TIP AMENDMENT**

Mr. Sanderson stated that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is requesting an amendment to the MTPO's adopted TIP for a routine maintenance project on Interstate 75.

**ACTION: Commissioner Nielsen moved to amend the MTPO's adopted TIP to include FDOT project number 212949-4 to mill and resurface Interstate 75 from the Marion County line to the Santa Fe River Bridge in Fiscal Year 2001/2002. Commissioner Chestnut seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

#### **IV. SUMMARY OF AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) TRANSPORTATION TASK FORCE ACTIVITIES**

Ms. Ida Rawls, Alachua County Equal Opportunity Office Director, gave a presentation concerning the ADA Transportation Task Force and answered questions.

The MTPO discussed the Task Force report and thanked Ms. Rawls and members of the Task Force for their hard work and dedication to improving transit service for the disabled community.

#### **V. TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED (TD) PROGRAM- SENATE BILL 256 AND HOUSE BILL 79**

Mr. Sanderson stated that the Alachua County Coordinating Board is recommending that the MTPO send letters to the local Legislative Delegation supporting Senate Bill 256 and House Bill 79.

Ms. Lynn Franson-Godfrey, MTPO Senior Transportation Planner, discussed Senate Bill 256 and House Bill 79 and answered questions. She showed a video prepared by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged concerning the TD program.

The MTPO viewed a video concerning the TD program and noted that this is a needed and important program.

**ACTION: Commissioner Hanrahan moved to authorize the Chairman to send letters to the Alachua County Legislative Delegation requesting support of Senate Bill 256 and House Bill 79. Commissioner Hutchinson seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

#### **VI. U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)- DEMONSTRATION PROJECT APPLICATION**

Mr. Sanderson stated that, at last month's meeting, the MTPO discussed the EPA grant program entitled Clean Air Transportation Communities: Innovative Projects to Improve Air Quality and Reduce Greenhouse Gases. He said that Ms. Andrea Vogler, MTPO Associate Planner, will discuss what has happened concerning this grant since the last meeting.

Ms. Vogler gave a status report concerning the EPA grant and answered questions.

Mr. David Bruderly, Bruderly Engineering Principal, discussed the draft project scope and answered questions.

The MTPO discussed the EPA grant.

**ACTION: Commissioner Hutchinson moved to:**

- 1. request that the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council act as the lead agency for this project;**
- 2. request that the MTPO contribute up to \$750 to prepare the grant application; and**
- 3. authorize the MTPO Chair to sign letters:**
  - a. in support of the project; and**
  - b. to the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners and the University of Florida requesting that they each contribute \$250 to reimburse the MTPO concerning the grant application.**

**VII. PLAN EAST GAINESVILLE SUBCOMMITTEE- STATUS REPORT**

Mr. Gerry Dedenbach, MTPO Senior Transportation Planner, gave a status report on the activities of the Plan East Gainesville Subcommittee and answered questions.

Commissioner Long, Plan East Gainesville Subcommittee Chair, discussed the activities of the Subcommittee and stated that the Subcommittee will seek to establish partnerships to fund the development of these plans.

A member of the MTPO suggested that the Subcommittee establish partnerships with FDOT, the City of Gainesville, Alachua County, the University of Florida and Gainesville Regional Utilities.

**VIII. NEXT MTPO MEETING**

Mr. Sanderson stated that the next MTPO meeting is currently scheduled for May 10 at 1:30 p.m.

**IX. COMMENTS**

**A. MTPO MEMBERS**

A member of the MTPO requested further discussion of the SW 62<sup>nd</sup> Boulevard/SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue project in order to provide direction to staff concerning follow-up on that agenda item.

The MTPO continued to discuss the SW 62<sup>nd</sup> Boulevard/SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue project.

**ACTION: Commissioner Hutchinson moved to authorize the MTPO Chair to sign a letter to Butler Enterprises:**

- 1. thanking them for offering to:**
  - a. contribute \$2 million towards the construction of SW 62<sup>nd</sup> Boulevard/SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue;**
  - b. donate additional right-of-way for this project; and**
  - c. hire a nationally recognized planning firm for the design of the project;**
- 2. expressing the MTPO's concern that the DRI process must be followed and that no commitments are possible;**
- 3. explaining that neither the MTPO, nor any jurisdiction, can receive funds from Butler Enterprises until the appropriate proportional share for transportation impacts is determined; and**
- 4. urging them to move expeditiously in preparing a DRI application, consistent with the SW 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue charrette vision, so that State funds remains available.**

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

A member of the MTPO discussed FDOT's design plans for the Hogtown Creek drainage modifications, near University Avenue and SW 34<sup>th</sup> Street, and recommended that, in the future, FDOT present design plans for this area that are consistent with the MTPO's Urban Design Policies.

A member of the MTPO requested that staff provide, at a future meeting, a status report concerning the MTPO's request that the City and County amend their land development regulations to be consistent with the MTPO's adopted design policies concerning retention/detention basins.

## **B. CITIZENS**

Mr. Rob Lash , Moody & Salzman, P.A. Attorney-at-Law, discussed development issues concerning the proposed Hidden Forest Development and Hull Road extension.

C. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Barrow discussed the MTPO's public participation efforts concerning the Main Street reconstruction project and requested that a list of these efforts be posted on the Townsquare list serve.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Barrow adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

---

Date

---

Warren Nielsen  
Secretary/Treasurer

\\Mike\public\em01\mtpo\minutes\apr12.wpd