

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
January 18, 2001

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Barrow, Chair
Mike Byerly
Chuck Chestnut IV
Mayor Paula DeLaney
Pegeen Hanrahan
Robert Hutchinson
Rodney Long
Warren Nielsen
Dave Newport
Ed Poppell
Penny Wheat

MEMBERS ABSENT

Huey Hawkins

OTHERS PRESENT

See Exhibit 1

STAFF PRESENT

Marlie Sanderson
Gerry Dedenbach
Michael Escalante
Lynn Franson-Godfrey

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, asked the MTPO to approve the consent agenda and the meeting agenda amended to add a discussion of the State Road 26 project to occur at a time certain of 3:00 p.m. and a City of Gainesville consultant presentation regarding walkable town centers added to the end of the agenda.

ACTION: Commissioner Wheat moved to approve the consent agenda and the meeting agenda amended to add discussion of the State Road 26 project to occur at a time certain of 3:00 p.m. and a City of Gainesville consultant presentation regarding walkable town centers added to the end of the agenda. Commissioner Hanrahan seconded; motion passed unanimously.

II. FLORIDA'S TRAVEL CHOICES AWARD

Dr. Linda Crider, University of Florida Research Scientist, discussed the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Florida's Travel Choices Award program. She stated that the University of Florida was the recipient of a runner-up award. She presented Mr. Ed Poppell, Interim University of Florida Vice President for Administrative Affairs, with the Florida's Travel Choices Award.

III. MAIN STREET JURISDICTIONAL CHANGES

Mr. Sanderson stated that, at its June 8 meeting, the MTPO amended its Year 2020 Long Range Transportation Plan to reduce the number of travel lanes on Main Street, from Depot Avenue to N. 8th Avenue, from four to two. He said that the MTPO's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) appointed the City and County Public Works Department Directors and the FDOT District 2 Planning Manager to a TAC Working Group to discuss University Avenue and Main Street lane reduction issues. He noted that, after discussing these issues, this Working Group decided to only move forward with jurisdictional changes to Main Street because of the upcoming reconstruction project in Fiscal Years 2002/2003. He reported the following TAC Working Group recommendation-

“That Alachua County execute an agreement with FDOT to accept ownership of Main Street from State Road 331 north to University Avenue. There will be a concurrent interlocal agreement executed between the City of Gainesville and Alachua County confirming that the City will maintain Main Street from Depot Avenue north to University Avenue.”

Mr. James Dees, FDOT District 2 Planning Manager, and Ms. Teresa Scott, City of Gainesville Public Works Director, discussed the Main Street jurisdictional changes and answered questions.

Mr. Hubert Presto and Reverend Bobby Bennett spoke concerning this agenda item.

ACTION: Mayor DeLaney moved to refer the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Working Group recommendation to the Alachua County and Gainesville City Commissions for approval and to make the necessary arrangements for this transfer to occur. Commissioner Hanrahan seconded; motion passed unanimously.

IV. SOUTHEAST CONNECTOR CHARRETTE AND CORRIDOR PLANNING STUDY

Mr. Sanderson stated that, at its December 14 meeting, the MTPO appointed an MTPO Southeast Connector Subcommittee to work with staff, the community and FDOT in reference to the charrette and corridor planning study and to have staff present the MTPO with a proposal concerning implementing this community involvement process. He requested that the MTPO appoint members to this subcommittee.

ACTION: Commissioner Wheat moved to appoint Commissioners Chestnut, Long, Hutchinson and Nielsen to the MTPO Southeast Connector Subcommittee. Mayor DeLaney seconded; motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Commissioner Wheat moved to:

- 1. request that the Subcommittee work with staff to develop a scope of services and a timeline concerning the proposed charrette; and**
- 2. conduct the charrette first and use its results to guide development of the FDOT corridor planning study.**

Commissioner Newport seconded; motion passed unanimously.

It was a consensus of the MTPO that Subcommittee meetings be held in public meeting facilities in southeast Gainesville, such as churches, Lincoln Middle School and the T.B. McPherson Center.

V. DOWNTOWN BICYCLE ROUTES

Mr. Sanderson stated that the City Commission has requested that the proposed downtown bike route system be presented to the MTPO for consideration for joint funding opportunities with Alachua County and FDOT.

Ms. Linda Dixon, City of Gainesville Transportation Planning Analyst, discussed the downtown bicycle routes and answered questions.

A member of the MTPO suggested that the City Public Works Department contact the County regarding the production of the signs.

The following individuals spoke concerning this agenda item:

Julia Reiskind	Cindy Smith	Linda Crider	Chandler Otis
George Edwards			

ACTION: Commissioner Newport moved to:

- 1. support, in concept, the downtown bicycle route proposal;**
- 2. authorize the MTPO Chair to send a letter to the City and County to request that the City and County jointly fund the production of the Bike Route signs; and**
- 3. ask the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board (B/PAB) to:**
 - A. refine the proposed Bike Route sign with consideration given to reducing the logo size and adding a bike route map to the front of the sign; and**
 - B. develop this system around connecting offroad bicycle routes and designated instreet bikelanes.**

Commissioner Hanrahan seconded.

Ms. Dixon discussed the draft Bicycle Master Plan and answered questions.

SUBSTITUTE ACTION:

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to support, in concept, the downtown bicycle route proposal. Commissioner Newport seconded; motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Commissioner Nielsen moved to form an MTPO Signage Review Subcommittee to include representatives of the City of Gainesville, Alachua County, FDOT and the University of Florida to develop a wholistic vision for signs and research ways to improve signage and reduce sign clutter within the Gainesville Metropolitan Area. Commissioner Wheat seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Commissioners Byerly, Hanrahan, Nielsen and Wheat volunteered to serve on this Subcommittee.

A member of the MTPO asked FDOT to review the necessity for the numerous “no parking” signs adjacent to Bivens Arm since a guardrail has been installed.

VI. ARCHER ROAD/SW 23RD TERRACE TREES

Mr. Gerry Dedenbach, MTPO Senior Transportation Planner, stated that, at its July 13 meeting, the MTPO referred discussion of opportunities for tree plantings along Archer Road and SW 23rd Terrace to its Advisory Committees, for their review and comment. He said that, within a few months, the City of Gainesville will be planting approximately 50 trees, as phase one of their 210 tree recommendation, along SW 23rd Terrace as part of the 2000-2002 “Treemendous Gainesville” program and that all of these trees will be located within the City of Gainesville. He reported the City of Gainesville Arborist recommendations that were supported by the MTPO’s Advisory Committees.

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchinson moved to:

- 1. request that the City of Gainesville plant 210 trees on SW 23rd Terrace as part of the 2000-2002 “Treemendous Gainesville” program;**
- 2. request that Alachua County work together with the City of Gainesville in planting and maintaining trees along the Old Archer Road corridor;**
- 3. encourage the City Commission to authorize City staff to work outside the city limits on this project; and**
- 4. encourage public participation (“adopt a tree”) and tree mitigation banking to provide additional trees for this project.**

Commissioner Nielsen seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VI₂. STATE ROAD 26 PROJECT FUNDING

Mr. Sanderson stated that, at its Tuesday meeting, the MTPO Design Team was informed by FDOT that the State Road 26 project does not include all of the design elements requested by the MTPO.

Mr. Dees discussed the aspects of the State Road 26 project which are not currently funded in the FDOT Tentative Work Program and answered questions.

Mr. Wayne Bowers, Gainesville City Manager, and Mr. Bill Lecher, Alachua County Public Works Department Assistant Director, discussed the status of the Campus Development Agreement funding and answered questions.

Mr. Randall Reid, Alachua County Manager, discussed the funding of the State Road 26 project and the SW 62nd Boulevard/SW 24th Avenue Project.

Mr. Poppell discussed the University’s concerns regarding the funding of these projects. Mr. Dave Wagner, MTPO Attorney, discussed the MTPO’s status regarding the University of Florida Campus Development Agreement and answered questions.

ACTION: Commissioner Byerly moved to maintain the commitment of University Campus Development Agreement funds to the State Roads 26 and 26A projects until these projects are constructed as recommended by the MTPO. Commissioner Hanrahan seconded.

SUBSTITUTE ACTION:

Commissioner Wheat moved to:

1. request that the City of Gainesville and Alachua County Commissions maintain the commitment of University Campus Development Agreement funds to the State Roads 26 and 26A projects until these projects are constructed as approved by the MTPO and not amend the University of Florida Campus Development Agreement; and
2. request that the Alachua County Commission:
 - A. not advance funds for the SW 24th Avenue project; and
 - B. not approve the interlocal agreement with FDOT on the SW 62nd Boulevard project.

Commissioner Hanrahan seconded.

A member of the MTPO requested that staff prepare a timeline of recent events concerning the State Roads 26/26A project.

The following persons spoke on this agenda item:

Lakay Banks Julia Reiskind Cindy Smith David Welch Susan Wright

SECOND SUBSTITUTE MOTION:

Commissioner Long moved to authorize the Chair to send a letter to compel FDOT to find funding to implement the MTPO-approved State Road 26 project. Mayor DeLaney seconded.

Commissioner Hutchinson called the question; question call failed. A rollcall vote was requested:

	<u>City</u>	<u>County</u>
Commissioner Nielsen	Yes	
Commissioner Wheat		No
Commissioner Byerly		No
Commissioner Chestnut IV	Yes	
Mayor DeLaney	Yes	
Commissioner Hanrahan	No	
Commissioner Hutchinson		Yes
Commissioner Long		Yes
Commissioner Newport		No
Commissioner Barrow	Yes	

Motion failed.

ACTION: Commissioner Wheat moved to:

- 1. reaffirm the commitment of the MTPO to use University of Florida Campus Development Agreement funds for the State Roads 26 and 26A projects until these projects are constructed as approved by the MTPO;**
- 2. request that the City of Gainesville and the Alachua County Commissions only amend the University of Florida Campus Development Agreement to reflect the MTPO-approved plan for the State Roads 26 and 26A projects; and**
- 3. authorize the MTPO Chair to participate in follow-up meetings with FDOT, University of Florida, City of Gainesville and Alachua County regarding adequately funding the MTPO-approved plan for the State Roads 26 and 26A projects.**

Commissioner Byerly seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sanderson stated that there were three remaining agenda items that required MTPO action at this meeting and that the other items could be deferred to a future meeting.

It was a consensus of the MTPO to discuss the three remaining agenda items that required MTPO action at this meeting and defer the remaining items to a future meeting.

VIII. REGIONAL TRANSIT SYSTEM (RTS) ISSUES

2. COMPREHENSIVE OPERATIONAL ANALYSIS (COA)

Mr. Sanderson stated that a member of the MTPO has requested that the MTPO discuss the issue of whether the scope of work for the proposed Regional Transit System Comprehensive Operational Analysis should include all of Alachua County or expanded to include other counties.

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchinson moved to refer to its Advisory Committees for review and comment the issue of whether the proposed Regional Transit System Comprehensive Operational Analysis scope of work should include all of Alachua County or expanded to include other counties. Commissioner Long seconded; motion passed unanimously.

XI. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SECTION 5311 GRANT PROGRAM

Ms. Lynn Franson-Godfrey, MTPO Senior Transportation Planner, discussed the Section 5311 Grant that she had recently submitted for the MTPO.

ACTION: Commissioner Nielsen moved to ask the MTPO Attorney to research the responsibilities and liabilities of the MTPO if they are awarded the FDOT Section 5311 funds and to advise the MTPO whether to enter into a joint participation agreement with FDOT to accept these funds if they are awarded. Commissioner Chestnut seconded; motion passed unanimously.

XII. CITY OF GAINESVILLE "WALKABLE SHOPPING CENTERS" PRESENTATION

Mr. Sanderson stated that the City is requesting that the MTPO meet on March 1 at 6:00 p.m. to receive two presentations. He said that the City has contracted with the Gibbs Planning Group and Dover Kohl & Partners to present a workshop on converting conventional shopping centers into walkable town centers.

A member of the MTPO said that this type of presentation is really directed to the stakeholders, such as owners and developers of shopping centers, and that they need to be personally invited to the workshop. He noted that MTPO staff needs to ensure that there is appropriate notification to the owners and developers of shopping centers of the presentation.

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchinson moved to:

- 1. schedule a workshop for March 1 at 6:00 p.m. in order to receive the presentation from the Gibbs Planning Group and Dover Kohl & Partners concerning converting conventional shopping centers into walkable town centers; and**
- 2. authorize the MTPO Chair to invite stakeholders to the meeting.**

Mayor DeLaney seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mayor DeLaney stated that she would send invitation letters to owners and developers of shopping centers and groups such as the Florida Homebuilders Association. She asked for assistance in developing a list of who should be sent these letters.

Mr. Sanderson stated that, for clarification, the MTPO will merely be the host for the workshop and that any funding for public noticing of the workshop would be the responsibility of the local governments. He said that MTPO staff would work with City and County staffs to reach out and ensure that the appropriate stakeholders are invited to the workshop.

Chair Barrow suggested that the Alachua County Commission Chair also send letters of invitation regarding this workshop.

XIII. NEXT MTPO MEETING

Mr. Sanderson stated that the next MTPO meeting is currently scheduled for February 15 at 1:30 p.m.

XIV. COMMENTS

- A. MTPO MEMBERS- There were no MTPO member comments.
- B. CITIZENS- There were no citizen comments.
- C. CHAIR'S REPORT- There was no Chair's report.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Barrow adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Date

Warren Nielsen
Secretary/Treasurer

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