

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 11, 2002

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

Penny Wheat

OTHERS PRESENT

See Exhibit 1

STAFF PRESENT

Marlie Sanderson
Gerry Dedenbach
Michael Escalante
Lynn Franson-Godfrey

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Warren Nielsen called the meeting to order at 1:36 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 meeting agenda amending item III to include State Roads (SR) 26/26A lighting alternatives between items III.A and III.B and reversing items III.D and III.E.

ACTION: Commissioner Long moved to:

- 1. approve the consent agenda and meeting agenda amending item III to include State Roads (SR) 26/26A lighting alternatives between items III. A and III. B and reversing items III. D and III. E; and**
- 2. item IV. C of the February 27, 2002 minutes to identify Commissioner Nielsen as the seconder of the motion.**

Commissioner Newport seconded; motion passed unanimously.

II. US 441 BICYCLE SAFETY STUDY

Mr. Sanderson stated that, at its last meeting, the MTPO discussed the draft U.S. 441/Payne's Prairie Bicycle Safety Study prepared by Sprinkle Consulting, Inc. He said that the purpose of this study is to develop and recommend physical design alternatives that will enhance bicycle and motor vehicle safety through the U.S. 441- Paynes Prairie Basin. He noted that FDOT has stated that any lane-reduction alternative would not be acceptable to State and Federal officials. He reported that, during its discussion, the MTPO approved a motion to table the following motion until the next MTPO meeting:

“to request that FDOT construct the Seven-Foot Shoulder Option (five-foot bikelane with two-foot rumble strip) as soon as possible because it meets budget and safety eligibility.”

Mr. Bruce Landis, Sprinkle Consulting, Inc. Vice President, discussed the US 441 Bicycle Safety Study and answered questions.

Mr. Aage Schroder, FDOT District 2 Secretary, and Mr. Tom Cavin, FDOT District 2 Safety Engineer, discussed the US 441 Bicycle Safety Study and answered questions.

The following persons spoke concerning the US 441 Bicycle Safety Study:

Chandler Otis Cindy Smith

ACTION: Commissioner Newport moved to take the motion tabled at the last meeting off the table. Commissioner Long seconded; motion passed unanimously.

ORIGINAL ACTION:

Commissioner Newport moved to request that FDOT construct the Seven-Foot Shoulder Option (five-foot bikelane with two-foot rumble strip) as soon as possible because it meets budget and safety eligibility. Commissioner Chestnut seconded.

SUBSTITUTE ACTION:

Commissioner Byerly moved to request that staff bring back to the next MTPO meeting information on a sidepath option without the parking lots at the ends of the prairie and an evaluation on the engineering issues of the side path option. Commissioner Barrow seconded.

ACTION: Commissioner Byerly moved to table the substitute action. Commissioner Barrow seconded; motion failed due to a lack of a majority of County Commissioners.

SUBSTITUTE ACTION (RESTATED):

Commissioner Byerly moved to request that staff bring back to the next MTPO meeting information on a sidepath option without the parking lots at the ends of the prairie and an evaluation on the engineering issues of the side path option. Commissioner Barrow seconded. Vice Chair Nielsen requested a rollcall vote:

	City	County
Commissioner Byerly		Yes
Commissioner Chestnut	No	
Commissioner Hanrahan	Yes	
Commissioner Long		No
Commissioner Newport		No
Commissioner Barrow	No	
Mayor Bussing	Yes	
Commissioner Hutchinson		Yes
Vice Chair Nielsen	Yes	

Motion failed due to a lack of a majority of County Commissioners.

ORIGINAL ACTION (RESTATED):

Commissioner Newport moved to request that FDOT construct the Seven-Foot Shoulder Option (five-foot bikelane with two-foot rumble strip) as soon as possible because it meets budget and safety eligibility. Commissioner Chestnut seconded.

ACTION: Commissioner Byerly moved to table the original action. Commissioner Barrow seconded; motion failed due to a lack of a majority of County Commissioners.

ORIGINAL ACTION (SECOND RESTATEMENT):

Commissioner Newport moved to request that FDOT construct the Seven-Foot Shoulder Option (five-foot bikelane with two-foot rumble strip) as soon as possible because it meets budget and safety eligibility. Commissioner Chestnut seconded.

Vice Chair Nielsen requested a rollcall vote:

	City	County
Commissioner Chestnut	Yes	
Commissioner Hanrahan	No	
Commissioner Long		Yes
Commissioner Newport		Yes
Commissioner Barrow	Yes	
Mayor Bussing	No	
Commissioner Byerly		No
Commissioner Hutchinson		Yes
Vice Chair Nielsen	Yes	

Motion passed.

ACTION: Commissioner Barrow moved to request that the Old Florida Heritage Highway Corridor Management Council discuss the linear park issues along this corridor and recommend a long-term solution. Commissioner Newport seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Vice Chair Nielsen passed the gavel to Chair Robert Hutchinson.

III. STATE ROAD 26/26A ISSUES

C. FORECAST TRAFFIC VOLUMES

Mr. Sanderson stated that the MTPO, at its March 14 meeting, requested that staff estimate the impact of the SW 62nd Boulevard-SW 24th Avenue corridor on the right turn movement activity from SW 2nd Avenue onto SW 34th Street. He discussed the impacts derived from the long range plan model analysis and FDOT traffic forecasts.

E. STATE ROAD 26A- OPTIONS

Mr. Sanderson stated that staff has developed several options for the MTPO's consideration regarding the State Road 26A project. He reviewed a letter from Secretary Schroder concerning the MTPO requested design changes for State Road 26A from W. 38th Street east to SW 34th Street. He discussed the advantages and disadvantages for the MTPO to consider before deciding how to proceed for the following options:

1. Approve Scope of Work;
2. Informal Inquiry;
3. City or County Assumes Ownership; or
4. Approve FDOT Design.

He noted that this issue developed after the latest set of MTPO Advisory Committee meetings, and therefore, there are no MTPO Advisory Committee recommendations to report.

**ACTION: Commissioner Newport moved approve Option 2- Informal Inquiry.
Commissioner Chestnut seconded.**

Mr. Brian Kanely, City of Gainesville Transportation Services Manager, and Mr. John Sabatella, Alachua County Public Works Department Senior Planner, stated that their respective staffs preferred not to be involved in the informal review.

Ms. Thelma Carlyle, Council of University Neighborhood Association, Inc. (CUNA) delegate, discussed CUNA's support of the Livable Community Reinvestment Plan as it related to the State Roads 26/26A projects. She noted that the CUNA supports an independent review of this project.

Secretary Schroder discussed the SR 26A project informal inquiry option and answered questions.

SUBSTITUTE ACTION:

**Commissioner Newport moved to approve Option 1- Approve Scope of Work.
Commissioner Hanrahan seconded.**

Secretary Schroder discussed the SR 26A project City or County Assumes Ownership option and answered questions.

SECOND SUBSTITUTE ACTION:

Commissioner Byerly moved to have MTPO, City of Gainesville and Alachua County staffs work with FDOT to develop information regarding Option 3. City or County Assumes Ownership. Commissioner Newport seconded; motion passed unanimously.

There was no longer a quorum of the MTPO.

A. UNDERGROUND UTILITIES

Mr. Sanderson stated that Gainesville Regional Utilities staff was present to discuss the undergrounding of utilities concurrent with the State Roads 26/26A reconstruction projects.

Mr. Reid Rivers, GRU Engineering Manager for Energy Delivery, stated he could make his presentation at the next MTPO meeting.

It was a consensus of the MTPO members present to defer discussion of the State Roads 26/26A undergrounding of utilities and the City design for western confluence until the next MTPO meeting.

F. SR 26/26A LIGHTING

Mr. Gerry Dedenbach, MTPO Senior Transportation Planner, discussed SR 26/26A lighting options and answered questions.

Ms. Smith discussed some lighting alternative diagrams.

IV. PLAN EAST GAINESVILLE PROJECT

Chair Hutchinson requested that the Plan East Gainesville report be deferred until the next MTPO meeting.

V. NEXT MTPO MEETING

Mr. Sanderson stated that the next MTPO meeting is scheduled for May 16 at 1:30 p.m. in the Gainesville City Hall.

VI. COMMENTS

A. MTPO MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no MTPO member comments.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Cindy Smith discussed her disappointment with FDOT regarding the bike study.

Mr. Chandler Otis discussed his concern for using rumble strips throughout the US 441 8-mile project and not just in the prairie basin. He suggested that a short demonstration rumble strip for riders to test be constructed.

C. MTPO CHAIR'S REPORT

There was no MTPO Chair's report.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hutchinson adjourned the meeting at 4:12 p.m.

Date

Mike Byerly
Secretary/Treasurer

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EXHIBIT 1

Interested Citizens

Dakova Batey
Wayne Bowers
Thelma Carlyle
Matt Dominy
Kim Holland
Steve Kincaid
Steve Lachnight
Bruce Landis
Jeff Logan
Chandler Otis
Russell Ottenberg
Randall Reid
Reid Rivers
John Sabatella
Teresa Scott
Chris Simoneaux
Cindy Smith

Florida Department of Transportation

Kristee Booth
Gina Buscher
Tom Cavin
James Dees
Doreen Joyner-Howard
Karen Taulbee
Suraya Teeple
Fred Wright