

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  
August 8, 2002

MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert Hutchinson, Chair  
Ed Braddy  
Mayor Tom Bussing  
Chuck Chestnut IV  
Mike Byerly  
Tony Domenech  
Dave Newport  
Warren Nielsen  
Ed Poppell  
Aage Schroder  
Penny Wheat

MEMBERS ABSENT

Rodney Long

OTHERS PRESENT

See Exhibit 1

STAFF PRESENT

Marlie Sanderson  
Gerry Dedenbach  
Mike Escalante  
Ryan Hulslander

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Robert Hutchinson called the meeting to order at 7:03 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.

**ACTION: Mayor Bussing moved to approve the consent agenda and the meeting agenda, with one revision to place consent agenda item CA.5, Citizens Advisory Committee Vacant Positions, on the regular meeting agenda after agenda item IV. Commissioner Wheat seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

## II. LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS

Mr. Sanderson stated that, each year, the MTPO develops recommended transportation priorities for projects that are needed but not currently funded. He said that this information is used by FDOT each fall to develop its Tentative Five Year Work Program. He added that, by Florida Statute, the MTPO's "List of Priority Projects" must be submitted to FDOT by October 1, 2002. He noted that FDOT staff has asked for the MTPO's Fiscal Year 2002 List of Priority Projects as soon as possible so that it may begin development of its Tentative Five Year Work Program. He said that the draft document includes the recommendations from the Alachua County Traffic Safety Team, Alachua County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board staff, Gainesville Regional Airport staff, Regional Transit System staff, City of Gainesville and Alachua County Public Works Department staffs and MTPO Advisory Committees and staff. He discussed the priorities document, MTPO Advisory Committee recommendations and answered questions.

**ACTION: Commissioner Wheat moved to refer to the MTPO Advisory Committees the creation of a matrix of future charrettes and for staff to make a presentation to the MTPO concerning previous charrettes. Commissioner Byerly seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. James Dees, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District 2 Planning Manager, discussed fund accumulation for projects which cannot be funded in a single year and answered questions.

**ACTION: Commissioner Byerly moved to approve Table 1- CAC-TAC-Staff, Capacity Modification Priorities, amended to reverse priorities 3 and 4. Commissioner Wheat seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Dees discussed the availability of enhancement funds.

Mr. Matt Dominy, Alachua County Public Works Department (ACPWD) Director, and Mr. David Welch, MTPO Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board (B/PAB) representative, discussed the Countywide Bicycle Master Plan.

**ACTION: Mayor Bussing moved to approve Table 2- CAC-TAC-Staff, Enhancement Priorities, and the formation of a working group of interested MTPO Advisory Committee members to work over the coming year to identify specific projects from the Countywide Bicycle Master Plan to recommend as enhancement priorities for next year's List of Priority Projects. Commissioner Wheat seconded.**

**AMENDMENT: Commissioner Byerly moved to delete priority number 3 from the enhancement table. Mayor Bussing seconded. Chair Hutchinson requested a rollcall vote:**

	<u>City</u>	<u>County</u>
Commissioner Domenech	No	
Commissioner Newport		No
Commissioner Nielsen	No	
Commissioner Wheat		Yes
Commissioner Braddy	Yes	
Mayor Bussing	Yes	
Commissioner Byerly		Yes
Commissioner Chestnut	No	
Commissioner Hutchinson		Yes

**Amendment failed because a majority of City Commissioners did not vote in favor of the motion.**

**ORIGINAL ACTION RESTATED:**

**Mayor Bussing moved to approve Table 2- CAC-TAC-Staff, Enhancement Priorities, and the formation of a working group of interested MTPO Advisory Committee members to work over the coming year to identify specific projects from the Countywide Bicycle Master Plan to recommend as enhancement priorities for next year's List of Priority Projects. Commissioner Wheat seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Rick Crider, Gainesville Regional Airport Director of Aviation, discussed the intermodal connectivity priorities and answered questions.

**ACTION: Mayor Bussing moved to approve Table 3- CAC-TAC-Staff, Intermodal Connectivity Priorities. Commissioner Domenech seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

**ACTION: Commissioner Newport moved to approve Table 4- Consensus, Public Transportation Priorities. Commissioner Byerly seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Aage Schroder, FDOT District 2 Secretary, Mr. Brian Kanely, City of Gainesville Transportation Services Manager, and Ms. Gina Buscher, Alachua County Traffic Safety Team (ACTST) representative, discussed safety priority projects and answered questions.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Nielsen moved to approve Table 5- Consensus, Safety Priorities, amended to add as priority number 3, the ACTST/CAC joint recommendation to support a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study to be conducted for the State Road 26/26A 1-way pair option. Commissioner Newport seconded.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Wheat moved to divide the motion. Mayor Bussing seconded; motion passed unanimously.

**SEPARATED AMENDMENT:**

Commissioner Nielsen moved to amend Table 5- Consensus, Safety Priorities, to add as priority number 3, the ACTST/CAC joint recommendation to support a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study to be conducted for the State Road 26/26A 1-way pair option. Commissioner Newport seconded. Chair Hutchinson requested a rollcall vote:

	<u>City</u>	<u>County</u>
Commissioner Newport		Yes
Commissioner Nielsen	Yes	
Commissioner Wheat		No
Commissioner Braddy	No	
Mayor Bussing	No	
Commissioner Byerly		Yes
Commissioner Chestnut	No	
Commissioner Domenech	No	
Commissioner Hutchinson		Yes

Amendment failed because a majority of City Commissioners did not vote in favor of the motion.

**ACTION WITHOUT AMENDMENT RESTATED:**

Commissioner Nielsen moved to approve Table 5- Consensus, Safety Priorities. Commissioner Newport seconded; motion passed unanimously.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Byerly moved to amend Table 6, Traffic Operations Priorities, to revise the description of priorities 8 and 9 to note that these projects are to be consistent with the Alachua County North Main Street reconstruction design plans. Commissioner Wheat seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bill Lecher, ACPWD Civil Engineer II, and Mr. Kanely discussed traffic operations priorities and answered questions.

Mr. Welch discussed his concern about traffic safety issues along the West University Avenue corridor between West 34<sup>th</sup> Street and NW 22<sup>nd</sup> Street. He requested that the MTPO add the following three intersections to the List of Priority Projects document, Traffic Operations Priorities:

1. West University Avenue and West 32<sup>nd</sup> Street;
2. West University Avenue and West 26<sup>th</sup> Street; and
3. West University Avenue and West 25<sup>th</sup> Street.

**ACTION: Mayor Bussing moved to:**

1. **approve Table 6- CAC-TAC-Staff, Traffic Operations Priorities, amended to revise the description of priorities 8 and 9 to note that these projects are to be consistent with the Alachua County North Main Street reconstruction design plans; and**
2. **refer the traffic safety issues presented by Mr. Welch to the MTPO Advisory Committees for review and recommendations.**

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

**ACTION: Commissioner Byerly moved to approve Table 7- Consensus, Transportation Disadvantaged Priorities- Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund. Commissioner Wheat seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

**ACTION: Mayor Bussing moved to approve Table 8- Consensus, Transportation Disadvantaged Priorities- Federal Transit Administration Section 5311- Nonurbanized Area Formula Program. Commissioner Byerly seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

### III. SW 24<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE

Mr. Sanderson stated that the Alachua County Public Works Department presented 60 percent plans to the MTPO Advisory Committees at their last meeting.

Mr. Lecher, Mr. Chuck Pigeon, Berryman & Henigar Project Manager, and Mr. Dominy discussed the proposed SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue road construction project and answered questions.

**ACTION: Commissioner Domenech moved to approve the SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue 60 percent design plans with the following conditions:**

**A. revise the landscape plans to:**

1. **maximize preservation of existing trees;**
2. **incorporate the written comments of the City Arborist;**

3. **balance plant diversity and streetscape continuity;**
  4. **replace median trees with shade-tree species; and**
  5. **coordinate the tree-planting plan with the streetlighting plan;**
- B. consult with Mr. Michael Wallwork to review the roundabout plan for possible over-design, including over-exaggerated sidewalk curvature;**
- C. move the pedestrian crossing in the roundabout closer to the yield line consistent with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) guidelines;**
- D. provide a signalized intersection at State Road 121; and**
- E. install Cobrahead lights, that meet City of Gainesville standards, with black fixtures and black concrete aggregate poles.**

**Commissioner Byerly; motion passed unanimously.**

IV. REGIONAL TRANSIT SYSTEM (RTS)  
COMPREHENSIVE OPERATIONAL ANALYSIS (COA)

Mr. Jeff Logan, RTS Director, discussed the RTS Comprehensive Operational Analysis report and answered questions.

Mr. Sanderson reported the CAC recommendation to have MTPO and RTS staffs work to develop cost estimates and investigate potential funding sources to provide transit service to outlying municipalities in Alachua County, including grant programs that may be available from the Community Transportation Association of America. He said that, since the CAC meeting, MTPO staff has discussed this recommendation with RTS staff and has met with the County's Poverty Reduction Program Director regarding public transportation service needs for rural Alachua County.

Mr. John Skelly, Alachua County Poverty Reduction Program Director and CAC member, discussed public transportation service needs for rural Alachua County.

**ACTION: Commissioner Wheat moved to have MTPO staff continue to work with the County's Poverty Reduction Program to investigate potential funding sources to provide transit service to outlying municipalities in Alachua County. Commissioner Domenech seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

CA.5 CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE VACANT POSITIONS

Mr. Sanderson stated that there were three vacancies on the CAC and that there were three applicants, Ms. Darcelle Covert, Mr. Robert Reller and Mr. Mike Wright, for these vacancies.

**ACTION: Commissioner Byerly moved to appoint:**

- 1. Mr. Wright to a term expiring December 2004; and**
- 2. Ms. Convert and Mr. Reller to terms expiring December 2003.**

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

V. PLAN EAST GAINESVILLE STATUS REPORT

Mr. Gerry Dedenbach, MTPO Senior Transportation Planner, discussed the status of the Plan East Gainesville project and answered questions. He also announced the date, time and location for the upcoming August 19<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting.

VI STRATEGIC INTERMODAL SYSTEM

Mr. Sanderson stated that FDOT staff requested an opportunity to present a video on the Florida Strategic Intermodal System (FSIS).

The MTPO viewed the FSIS video.

VII. NEXT MTPO MEETING

Mr. Sanderson discussed the status of the MTPO staff review of the 2000 census' impact on the MTPO jurisdictional boundaries and answered questions. He noted that there were no items requiring action by the MTPO in September.

**It was a consensus of the MTPO members present:**

- 1. to not meet in September;**
- 2. to have MTPO staff forward the report on the MTPO planning boundaries information, in September, to each MTPO member directly, with an agenda item at the October 10 meeting to discuss this material; and**
- 3. that the report include:**
  - A. the advantages and disadvantages of expanding the MTPO planning boundaries to include all of Alachua County; and**
  - B. options concerning revising the voting membership to include representation from other municipalities in Alachua County and the University of Florida.**

Mr. Sanderson noted that MTPO staff is on the agenda for the October 22 League of Cities meeting in Archer to update the League concerning all of these issues. He stated that the next MTPO meeting is scheduled for October 10 at 1:30 p.m. in the Jack Durrance Auditorium.

## VIII. COMMENTS

### A. MTPO MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no comments.

### B. CITIZENS COMMENTS

There were no comments.

### C. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Hutchinson discussed signs for small businesses in rural Alachua County communities, such as Evinston and Cross Creek. He noted that these signs would be similar to the logo signs along Interstate 75, but would be more aesthetic. He added that he would present this issue to the Alachua County Commission and thought that the MTPO Roadway Signage and Traffic Review Subcommittee might also be interested.

## ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hutchinson adjourned the meeting at 10:05 p.m.

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Date

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Mike Byerly, Secretary/Treasurer



**EXHIBIT 1**

<b><u>Interested Citizens</u></b>	<b><u>Florida Department of Transportation</u></b>	<b><u>Alachua County</u></b>	<b><u>City of Gainesville</u></b>
Craig Hedgecock	James Dees	Ron Crider	Dakova Batey
Peter Moore	Gina Buscher	Matt Dominy	Brian Kanely
Bruce Pagel	Doreen Joyner-Howard	Bill Lecher	Jeff Logan
Chuck Pigeon	Karen Taulbee	John Skelly	
David Welch			