

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  
February 20, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT

Warren Nielsen, Chair  
Ed Braddy  
Mayor Tom Bussing  
Mike Byerly  
Chuck Chestnut IV  
Cynthia Moore Chestnut  
Tony Domenech  
Rodney Long  
Ed Poppell  
Lee Pinkoson

MEMBERS ABSENT

Penny Wheat  
Aage Schroder

OTHERS PRESENT

See Exhibit 1

STAFF PRESENT

Charles Justice  
Marlie Sanderson  
Thomas Hill  
Mike Escalante

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Warren Nielsen called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

II. DR. KERMIT SIGMON CITIZEN PARTICIPATION AWARD

Mr. Marlie Sanderson, MTPO Director of Transportation Planning, discussed the history of the award. He announced that the MTPO's Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) had selected Mr. Gerry Dedenbach to be the recipient of this year's Dr. Kermit Sigmon Citizen Participation Award.

Chair Nielsen presented the award to Mr. Dedenbach.

Mr. Dedenbach thanked the MTPO, CAC and his family. He recognized the efforts of Dr. Sigmon.

I. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Mr. Marlie Sanderson, MTPO Director of Transportation Planning, asked the MTPO to approve the meeting agenda.

**ACTION: Commissioner Pinkoson moved to approve the meeting agenda. Commissioner Domenech seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

II. LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN-  
YEAR 2020 COST FEASIBLE PLAN PUBLIC HEARING

A. WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Chair Nielsen welcomed everyone to the public hearing.

B. PROPOSED BUS RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEM AMENDMENT

Mr. Sanderson stated that the MTPO, at its February 13 meeting, approved the Plan East Gainesville Final Report as a completed planning document. He said that the Plan East Gainesville Transportation Plan includes the establishment of a bus rapid transit (BRT) system that connects East Gainesville with downtown and the Archer Road corridor. He noted that, at upcoming meetings in Washington D.C., requests will be made to obtain special federal earmarked funds for this project. He reported the joint MTPO Advisory Committee and staff recommendation.

Mr. Whit Blanton, Renaissance Planning Group Vice President, discussed the Plan East Gainesville BRT system and answered questions.

Chair Nielsen opened the public hearing on the proposed Plan East Gainesville BRT system amendment to the Livable Community Reinvestment Plan and asked if anyone wanted to speak on the proposed amendment.

Ms. Pattie Glenn spoke regarding the proposed Plan East Gainesville BRT system amendment to the Livable Community Reinvestment Plan.

**ACTION: Commissioner Long moved to amend the long range transportation plan to include the proposed Bus Rapid Transit System as the last project in the Needs Plan. Commissioner Domenech seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

A member of the MTPO requested that MTPO staff work with Ms. Glenn to arrange a meeting with Ms. Evett Francis, Executive Director of the Fannie Mae North Central Florida Partnership Office, during the week of March 20.

C. CONSTRUCT FOUR-LANE DIVIDED ROADWAYS ON  
SW 62<sup>ND</sup> BOULEVARD AND/OR SW 24<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE

Mr. Sanderson stated that the MTPO, at its December 12 meeting, decided to:

1. *schedule a public hearing to consider amending the long range transportation plan;*
2. *contract with Renaissance Planning Group to test alternative road networks both with and without the proposed Butler Plaza expansion that includes four-lane and two-lane alternatives for SW 62<sup>nd</sup> Boulevard and SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue; and*
3. *request that Alachua County Public Works Department staff develop cost estimates for the alternatives tested.*

He presented MTPO Staff concerns regarding the traffic projections identified in the *Analysis for Potential Amendment to the 2020 Transportation Plan Summary Report*. He also reported MTPO Advisory Committee and staff recommendations.

Mr. Blanton responded to the traffic forecast concerns presented by MTPO staff. He discussed the SW 62<sup>nd</sup> Boulevard and SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue corridor *Analysis for Potential Amendment to the 2020 Transportation Plan Summary Report* and answered questions.

Chair Nielsen opened the public hearing on the proposed SW 62<sup>nd</sup> Boulevard and SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue corridor amendment to the Livable Community Reinvestment Plan and asked if anyone wanted to speak on the proposed amendment.

The following persons spoke regarding the proposed SW 62<sup>nd</sup> Boulevard and SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue corridor amendment to the Livable Community Reinvestment Plan:

Sgt. Bella Randolph	Thomas Walker	Jim Quincy
Howard Wallace	David Miller	Ovela Williams
Rafael Bustillo	Ron Shema	Chandler Otis
Joe Wilson	Joe Joyce	Roger Brower
David Bruderly	Lakay Banks	Betsy Whitaker
Bob Reller	Evelyn Fox	

Chair Nielsen closed the public hearing.

Mr. Ed Poppell, University of Florida Vice President for Administrative Affairs, stated that the University of Florida is committed to recommending to the State of Florida Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund that right-of-way be provided for the extension of SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue east to Archer Road.

**ACTION: Commissioner Pinkoson moved to:**

- 1. amend the MTPO's Long Range Transportation Plan for:**
  - A. Project #1- SW 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue Charrette to construct SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue as a four-lane divided roadway from SW 43<sup>rd</sup> Street east to SW 34<sup>th</sup> Street; and**
  - B. Project #2- SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue extension to construct this facility as a four-lane divided roadway from SW 34<sup>th</sup> Street east to Archer Road.**
- 2. request that the Alachua County Commission direct its staff to:**
  - A. negotiate an equitable cost-sharing agreement with Butler Enterprises to design, construct and acquire right-of-way for that segment of SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue, from SW 34<sup>th</sup> Street west to SW 43<sup>rd</sup> Street, as a four-lane divided roadway (including the eastern 1,000 feet of SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue at the intersection with SW 34<sup>th</sup> Street) and to design, construct and acquire the right-of-way for SW 38<sup>th</sup> Terrace as a two-lane roadway between SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue and SW 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue;**
  - B. work with the University of Florida and the City of Gainesville to amend the Campus Development Agreement to assure the feasibility of an east-west transportation corridor; and**
  - C. work with the Florida Department of Transportation to redesign the SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue and SW 34<sup>th</sup> Street intersection, as well as the Windmeadows Boulevard and SW 34<sup>th</sup> Street intersection, to ensure public safety.**

**Commissioner Domenech seconded.**

**Chair Nielsen requested a rollcall vote. The results were as follows:**

	<u>City</u>	<u>County</u>
<b>Mayor Bussing</b>	<b>No</b>	
<b>Commissioner Byerly</b>		<b>No</b>
<b>Commissioner Chestnut IV</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Commissioner Chestnut</b>		<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Domenech</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Commissioner Long</b>		<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Pinkoson</b>		<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Braddy</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Commissioner Nielsen</b>	<b>No</b>	

**Motion passed with a majority of each commission.**

### III. NEXT MTPO MEETING

Mr. Sanderson stated that the next MTPO meeting is scheduled for March 13 at 1:30 p.m. in the Jack Durrance Auditorium. He stated that there are no agenda items that require MTPO action in March.

**ACTION: Commissioner Pinkoson moved to cancel the March 13 MTPO meeting.  
Commissioner Chestnut seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

### IV. COMMENTS

#### A. MTPO MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no comments.

#### B. CITIZENS COMMENTS

There were no comments.

#### C. CHAIR'S REPORT

There were no comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Nielsen adjourned the meeting at 10:38 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chuck Chestnut, Secretary/Treasurer

**EXHIBIT 1**

**Interested Citizens**

Lakay Banks

Whit Blanton

Roger Brower

David Bruderly

Rafael Bustillo

Gerry Dedenbach

Elizabeth Dedenbach

Laura Dedenbach

Evelyn Fox

Pattie Glenn

Joe Joyce

Kenneth McClellan\*

David Miller

Chandler Otis

Kathleen Pagan\*

Kris Pagenkopf\*

Michael Pellett\*

Jim Quincy

Sgt. Bella Randolph

Robert Reller

Ron Shema

Harold Saive\*

Tim Strauser\*

Leah Tomlinson

Tim Trometin

Thomas Walker

Howard Wallace

Betsy Whitaker

Ovela Williams

Joe Wilson

**Florida Department  
of Transportation**

Doreen Joyner-Howard

Karen Taulbee

**Alachua County**

Michael Fay

Bill Lecher

Sgt. Bella Randolph

Randall Reid

John Sabatella

Dave Schwartz

**City of Gainesville**

Dakova Batey

Wayne Bowers

Jeff Logan

Teresa Scott

\* By telephone