

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

Jack Durrance Auditorium
Alachua County Administration Building
Gainesville, Florida

6:00 p.m.
Tuesday
February 17, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT

Scherwin Henry, Chair
James Bennett/Charles Baldwin
Mike Byerly
Paula DeLaney, Vice Chair
Jack Donovan
Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan
Thomas Hawkins
Rodney Long
Lee Pinkoson
Lauren Poe

MEMBERS ABSENT

Cynthia Moore Chestnut
Craig Lowe
John Martin
Jeanna Mastrodicasa
Ed Poppell

OTHERS PRESENT

See Exhibit A

STAFF PRESENT

Marlie Sanderson
Michael Escalante
Luis Lopez-Rivera

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Scherwin Henry called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Mr. Marlie Sanderson, MTPO Director of Transportation Planning, asked for approval of the meeting agenda. He discussed the Federal American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009 and the need for this emergency MTPO meeting.

ACTION: Commissioner DeLaney moved to approve the Meeting Agenda. Commissioner Hawkins seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sanderson stated that there were visitors from the City of Newberry that wanted to discuss a project in Newberry. He suggested that the City of Newberry representatives could discuss their concerns after the MTPO completes Agenda Item III. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments.

Chair Henry stated that the Project Priorities for Federal American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009- Rural Alachua County could be discussed after the MTPO completes Agenda Item III. TIP Amendments.

II. PROJECT PRIORITIES FOR FEDERAL AMERICAN RECOVERY & REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

Mr. Sanderson stated that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has requested that the MTPO provide prioritized lists of transportation (including transit) and transit-only projects for funding under the Federal American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009. He discussed draft transportation and transit project priority lists and answered questions.

Mr. James Bennett, FDOT District 2 Planning Manager, discussed the Federal American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009. He noted that eligible projects had to be “shovel ready” within 120 days.

Ms. Teresa Scott, City of Gainesville Public Works Director, discussed the City’s project recommendations and answered questions.

Mr. Jesus Gomez, Regional Transit System (RTS) Director, discussed the transit project priorities and answered questions.

Mr. Sanderson reported that, at this time, there are no funding estimates for transit projects.

A member of the MTPO requested removal of the Bus Rapid Transit corridor references from the transit priority recommendations.

Mr. Gomez and Ms. Scott continued discussion of transit project priorities and answered questions.

Mr. Bennett suggested using the term “transit vehicle purchase” in lieu of “purchase replacement buses.” He said that there would have to be FDOT Work Program, State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and MTPO Transportation Improvement Program amendments for projects that meet the 120-day time limit. He discussed the Main Street roundabout project. He noted that the roundabout design plans are not “shovel ready.”

Mr. Allan Penksa, Gainesville Regional Airport Director, discussed the Airport Access Road project and two airport resurfacing projects and answered questions.

Mr. Bennett noted that the airport projects are not federal aid-eligible facilities and, therefore, not eligible for Stimulus funding. He also discussed the Stimulus funds reporting requirements.

Chair Henry stated he had to leave and passed the gavel to Vice Chair DeLaney.

Mr. Sanderson reported that there are no additional “shovel ready” projects in the MTPO List of Priority Projects and TIP.

A member of the MTPO suggested adding transit vehicle purchase to Exhibit 2, since those funds could be flexed.

Mr. Michael Fay, Alachua County Program Development Manager, suggested adding the “shovel ready” Fort Clarke Boulevard Milling and Resurfacing Project which costs \$2 million.

Mr. Bennett noted that there was no relaxation of federal funding requirements with the exception of the waiver of local match.

Mr. Randall Reid, Alachua County Manager, asked that the County Commission approve the rural Alachua County project priority list.

ACTION: Mayor Hanrahan moved to approve, for funding under the Federal American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009, the:

1. transit priority list, as amended to revise priority RTS-7 to delete references to specific Bus Rapid Transit corridors; and
2. non-transit priority list, as amended to add:
 - A. Priority 5- transit vehicle purchase at a \$5 million funding level; and
 - B. Priority 6- Ft. Clarke Boulevard resurfacing project.

Commissioner Hawkins seconded.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT:

Commissioner Donovan moved to revise transit priority RTS-1 to refer to transit vehicles in lieu of replacement buses. Both Mayor Hanrahan and Commissioner Hawkins accepted the amendment.

Mr. Keith Ashby, City of Newberry Manager, discussed the Advanced Nutrient Food (ANF)-Techcom Project in Newberry. He noted that, while Newberry is not in the Gainesville Metropolitan Area, there are countywide economic impacts from the ANF-Techcom Project.

ORIGINAL ACTION AS AMENDED:

Mayor Hanrahan moved to approve, for funding under the Federal American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009, the:

1. transit priority list, as amended (see Exhibit 1) to revise priorities:
 - A. RTS-1 to refer to transit vehicles in lieu of replacement buses; and
 - B. RTS-7 to delete references to specific Bus Rapid Transit corridors; and
2. non-transit priority list, as amended (see Exhibit 2) to add:
 - A. Priority 5- transit vehicle purchase at a \$5 million funding level; and
 - B. Priority 6- Ft. Clarke Boulevard Resurfacing Project.

Commissioner Pinkoson seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Reid stated that there was not a publicly-noticed County Commission meeting.

Mr. Dave Schwartz, MTPO Attorney, stated that the County Commissioners, as MTPO members, could discuss the rural area project list.

III. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENTS

Mr. Sanderson asked that the MTPO amend the TIP before discussion on rural Alachua County priority projects. He said that these amendments would be contingent upon funding being provided under the Federal American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009.

ACTION: Commissioner Byerly moved to amend the TIP to include the project priorities in Exhibit 1 and Exhibit 2 in Fiscal Year 2008/2009 contingent upon project priorities being funding under the Federal American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009. Commissioner Long seconded. Mr. Sanderson conducted a rollcall vote. The results of the vote follows:

	<u>CITY</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>
Commissioner Donovan	Yes	
Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan	Yes	
Commissioner Hawkins	Yes	
Commissioner Long		Yes
Commissioner Poe	Yes	
Commissioner Pinkoson		Yes
Commissioner Byerly		Yes
Commissioner DeLaney		Yes

Motion passed.

Mr. Sanderson introduced Mr. Luis Lopez, Federal Highway Administration Professional Development Program Intern.

IV. PROJECT PRIORITIES FOR FEDERAL AMERICAN RECOVERY & REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009- RURAL ALACHUA COUNTY

Mr. Sanderson noted that Commissioner John Martin, MTPO Rural Advisor, could not attend this MTPO meeting. He reported Commissioner Martin's endorsement of the City of Newberry and City of Waldo project recommendations for funding under the Federal American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009.

ACTION: Commissioner Pinkoson moved to recommend that the MTPO:

- 1. send a letter to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) stating that the MTPO endorses the Alachua County staff recommendations for project priorities within rural Alachua County for funding under the Federal American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009 as shown in the attached Exhibit 3; and**

2. **direct staff to prepare Federal American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009 project priorities materials for the Thursday, February 19, 2009 Alachua County Commission meeting.**

Commissioner Long seconded.

Vice Chair DeLaney asked about the status of the 4-laning of Archer Road to the City of Archer.

Mr. Sanderson stated that 4-laning of Archer Road was in the MTPO's Long Range Transportation Plan. He noted that it was not in the Cost Feasible Plan.

Mr. Fay discussed the Archer Road project. He noted that it was the County's number one road construction priority. He also discussed the SW 91st Street Resurfacing Project. He noted that it was not "shovel ready."

Mr. Bennett stated that the County is not required to recommend funding projects outside the Gainesville Metropolitan Area.

Mr. Reid noted that a portion of a rural resurfacing project on the federal aid highway system could be recommended for Stimulus funding.

Mr. Dave Cerlanek, Alachua County Assistant Public Works Director, discussed the County's project priorities and answered questions.

Mayor John Glanzer, City of Newberry, and Mr. Ashby discussed the ANF project.

Mr. Ron Carpenter spoke in support of the creation of jobs.

Mr. Bennett reported that, due to the time constraint placed on FDOT District 2, he would submit recommendations regarding rural Alachua County to FDOT Central Office on Thursday, February 19, 2009 with or without input from the County Commission.

SUBSTITUTE ACTION:

Commissioner Byerly moved send a letter to the FDOT stating that the MTPO endorses the milling and resurfacing of a section of SW 122nd Street for \$1.3 million. Commissioner Donovan seconded; motion failed 1 to 7.

Mr. Ashby noted that the project was non-union because no unions have been involved.

ORIGINAL ACTION RESTATED:

Commissioner Pinkoson moved to recommend that the MTPO:

- 1. send a letter to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) stating that the MTPO endorses the Alachua County staff recommendations for project priorities within rural Alachua County for funding under the Federal American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009 (as shown in the attached Exhibit 3); and**
- 2. direct staff to prepare Federal American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009 project priorities materials for the Thursday, February 19, 2009 Alachua County Commission meeting.**

Commissioner Long seconded; motion passed 7 to 1.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair DeLaney adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

3/4/2009
Date

William Thomas Hawkins + Janice
William Thomas Hawkins, Secretary/Treasurer

EXHIBIT A

<u>Interested Citizens</u>	<u>Alachua County</u>	<u>City of Gainesville</u>	<u>Florida Department of Transportation</u>
Keith Ashby	Dave Cerlanek	Russ Blackburn	
Ron Carpenter	Michael Fay	Paul Folker	
Doug Dycus	Jeff Hays	Jesus Gomez	
Lowell Garrett	Randall Reid	Teresa Scott	
John Glanzer	Dave Schwartz		
Allan Penksa			

* By telephone

Provided written comments

EXHIBIT 1
RTS Economic Stimulus Projects

#	Project Title	Amount	Description
RTS1	Transit Vehicle Purchase	\$ 20,000,000	Purchase of transit vehicles. RTS currently operates 50 buses that are eligible for retirement, with an average fleet age of 15.2 years and an annual maintenance cost of approximately \$45,000 per bus (\$2,250,000 in maintenance costs per year).
RTS2	Facility Expansion	\$ 30,000,000	This project includes expansion of operations and maintenance facility. The project includes acquisition of property and construction of new facility.
RTS3	Alternative Fuel Vehicles (Buses and Support Vehicles)	\$ 20,000,000	RTS has made efforts to promote the use of alternative fuels, but want to further advance community sustainability initiatives.
RTS4	Intelligent Transportation System (ITS): Automated Vehicle Location (AVL) and Automated Passenger Counter (APC)	\$ 2,000,000	Purchase of an Automated Vehicle Location (AVL) system to better monitor on-time performance (service reliability), gather data to improve system performance, and response time in emergency situations. Automatic Passenger Counters (APCs) equipment to track boarding and alighting (by stop and time of day), monitoring route running time, and identifying bus overload situations. APCs can also be used to collect National Transit Database data.
RTS5	Shelter & Passenger Amenities	\$ 2,500,000	Purchase of passenger shelters and amenities throughout the RTS service area.
RTS6	Scheduling Software	\$ 1,500,000	Purchase of scheduling software for fixed route operations with web trip planner integration system.
RTS7	Transfer Stations	\$ 10,000,000	Construction of Transfer stations at the University of Florida, Oaks Mall, Butler Plaza, Gainesville Eastside Area and Santa Fe College
RTS8	Multimodal Building	\$ 5,000,000	Construction of new Multimodal Building at the Rosa Parks RTS Downtown station.
RTS9	Bus Rapid Transit	\$ 30,000,000	Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project consists of a five (5) mile corridor with dedicated lanes, signal priority, articulated buses, advanced passenger stations, etc.
RTS10	Support Vehicles	\$ 2,000,000	Purchase of replacement and expansion autos/vans for supervisory personnel monitoring service on the street. Purchases of lift-equipped vans for paratransit service. Purchase of vans to start a vanpool and commuter assistance program in Alachua County
RTS11	Revenue Collection System	\$ 2,000,000	Purchase of new revenue collection system including new fareboxes, ticket machines, and new data system.
Total		\$ 125,000,000	

EXHIBIT 2
Proposed America Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Projects
MTPO Area
Transportation Priorities (Includes Transit)

Priority	Project and Location	Description	Amount	Obligated in 120 days?	Federal-Aid Eligible	LRTP	TIP	ROW ready	NEPA ready
1	W. 6th Street Rail Trail From: Downtown Connector To: NW 16 Avenue (City Project)	Rail Trail construction.	\$ 1,000,000	Yes	Yes (Ped/Bike walkways)	Yes	Yes p. 26	Yes	Yes
2	N. Main Street From: NW 8th Avenue To: NW 23rd Avenue (County Project)	Mill and Resurface only.	\$ 1,100,000	Yes	Yes	Not Needed	Yes p. 35	Yes	?
3	NE 8th Avenue From: Main Street To: East Boulevard (City Project)	Mill/Resurface and bring up to ADA standards.	\$ 300,000	Yes	Yes	Not Needed	No	Yes	Not Applicable
4	NW 34th Street From: NW 39th Avenue To: US 441 (City Project)	Construct ADA-compliant concrete sidewalk on east side.	\$ 1,000,000	Yes	Yes	Not Needed	No	Yes	Not Applicable
5	Transit Vehicles Purchase	Purchase Transit Vehicles.	\$ 5,000,000	Yes	Yes	Not Needed	Yes	Not Needed	Not Applicable
6	Fort Clark Boulevard From: Newberry Road To: NW 23rd Avenue	Mill and Resurface only.	\$ 2,000,000	Yes	Yes	Not Needed	No	Yes	Not Applicable

EXHIBIT 3

Alachua County Public Works		Transportation Potential Economic Stimulus Projects Outside MTPo Area		2/17/2009
Road	Location	Type	Est. Cost	
1 SR 45 in Newberry	@ SW 30th Avenue	Turn-Lane Improvements, Phase 1	\$811,000	
2 Median Enhancement in Waldo	@US 301 (2) and SR 45 (1)	Median Landscaping	\$50,000	
3 SW 122nd Street	SW 24th Avenue to SR 24	Mill and Resurface	\$3,400,000	
4 NW CR 236	US 441 to I-75	Mill and Resurface	\$3,500,000	
5 SR 45 in Newberry	@ Archery Facility	Turn-Lane Improvements	\$153,000	
6 NE CR 231	SR 121 to SR 235	Mill and Resurface	\$5,600,000	
7 NW 78th Ave (CR 232)	County Line to US27-41	Mill and Resurface	\$2,400,000	
8 SE CR 325	CR346 to SR20	Mill and Resurface	\$5,300,000	
Totals			\$21,214,000	

