

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

Jack Durrance Auditorium  
Alachua County Administration Building  
Gainesville, Florida

5:00 p.m.  
Monday  
December 12, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT

Thomas Hawkins, Chair  
Mike Byerly, Vice Chair  
Susan Baird  
Susan Bottcher  
Todd Chase  
Paula DeLaney  
Scherwin Henry  
Jeanna Mastrodicasa  
Lee Pinkoson  
Linda Dixon/Bernard Machen

MEMBERS ABSENT

Gib Coerper  
Rodney Long  
Craig Lowe  
Nick Tsengas  
Randy Wells

OTHERS PRESENT

See Exhibit A

STAFF PRESENT

Scott Koons  
Marlie Sanderson  
Michael Escalante

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Thomas Hawkins called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Marlie Sanderson, MTPO Director of Transportation Planning, recommended approval of the consent agenda and meeting agenda.

Chair Hawkins noted that in the Consent Agenda was a transportation disadvantaged matrix that tracked customer service and on-time performance issues. He added that he received a complaint from a constituent regarding MV Transportation's on-time performance

**MOTION: Commissioner DeLaney moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Meeting Agenda. Commissioner Bottcher seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

II. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENTS

Mr. Sanderson stated that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has requested three amendments to the Fiscal Years 2012/2013 - 2016/2017 TIP including the deletion of the I-75 interchange right-of-way purchase at State Road 26, adding \$11,249,000 for the Transit Maintenance Facility expansion and adding \$3,600,000 for the purchase of new biodeisel buses and conversions of existing biodeisel buses, a new project.

Mr. Jesus Gomez, Regional Transit System Director, discussed the Transit Maintenance Facility expansion funding and answered questions.

**MOTION: Commissioner Pinkoson moved to amend its Transportation Improvement Program:**

- 1. to delete the I-75 @ SR 26 (Newberry Road) NW Quadrant Right-Of-Way Purchase Project [FIN # 4278251];**
- 2. to add \$9,000,000 Federal Transit Administration funding and \$2,249,000 local funding to the Regional Transit System Maintenance Facility Expansion- Phase 2 to Fiscal Year 2011/2012 [FIN # 4305471]; and**
- 3. to add \$3,000,000 Federal Transit Administration Section 5308 Clean Fuels Grant/Section 5309 Bus and Bus Facilities Program funding and \$750,000 local match funding to procure HE Biodiesel buses and electric cooling system conversions for existing biodiesel buses [FIN # 4320341].**

**Commissioner DeLaney seconded. Chair Hawkins conducted a show-of-hands vote; motion passed unanimously.**

### III. DEPOT RAIL TRAIL/WALDO RAIL TRAIL BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN CONNECTION

Mr. Sanderson stated that, at its October 3rd meeting, the MTPO requested information concerning ways to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety at the Waldo Road and East University Avenue intersection. He and Ms. Karen Taulbee, FDOT Transportation Specialist, discussed the alternatives and answered questions.

**MOTION: Commissioner Byerly moved to approve Alternative 5 (Safety Priority #6) modified to include elimination of all three sliplanes, extension of the Waldo Rail/Trail to the northeast corner and moving the stop bars further back. Commissioner DeLaney seconded.**

**Commissioner Pinkoson requested that the motion be split to vote on including the Alternative 5 pedestrian refuges and eliminating the three sliplanes.**

**SPLIT MOTION #1: Commissioner Byerly moved to approve Alternative 5 (Safety Priority #6), modified to:**

- 1. exclude the pedestrian refuges; and**
- 2. include extension of the Waldo Rail/Trail to the northeast corner and moving the stop bars further back.**

**Commissioner DeLaney seconded; motion passed 7 to 2.**

**Commissioner Henry requested that the motion be split to vote separately on including the Alternative 5 pedestrian refuges and elimination of all three sliplanes.**

**SPLIT MOTION #2: Commissioner Byerly moved to approve the Alternative 5 (Safety Priority #6) pedestrian refuges. Commissioner DeLaney seconded; motion failed due to lack of a County Commission majority.**

**SPLIT MOTION #3: Commissioner Byerly moved to approve the elimination of the three sliplanes. Commissioner DeLaney seconded; motion failed due to lack of a County Commission majority.**

**MOTION: Commissioner Byerly moved that the MTPO be provided in its next meeting packet:**

- 1. an explanation regarding the rationale behind requiring that pedestrians have to push a button in order to get the “walk or countdown signal” and, if doing so, does the pedestrian get a longer signal that gives them additional time to make the crossing; and**
- 2. a list of the top ten most dangerous intersections within the Gainesville Metropolitan Area.**

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

#### IV. INTERSTATE 75 INTERCHANGE SIGNS

Mr. Sanderson stated that, at its August 1st meeting, the MTPO discussed providing local roadway names on the interchange signage. He discussed the information provided and answered questions.

Ms. Taulbee discussed FDOT costs estimates for replacing the signs and answered questions.

Mr. Bryan Herrington thanked FDOT and MTPO staff for the interchange signage information. He asked that signage modifications be considered as part of the NW 39th Avenue project and future projects at the other three interchanges within the Gainesville Metropolitan Area.

**MOTION: Commissioner Mastrodicasa moved to ask that the Florida Department of Transportation incorporate adding the local street name designation to the Interstate 75 exit signs at State Road 222/NW 39th Avenue as part of the next interchange modification project and at every subsequent interchange modification project within the Gainesville Metropolitan Area. Commissioner Pinkoson seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

#### V. FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORIZATION BILL- U.S. SENATE DRAFT LEGISLATION

Mr. Sanderson stated that the U.S. Senate has proposed legislation for a new federal transportation bill that would eliminate MPOs that are less than 200,000 population. He noted that the latest population estimate for the MTPO’s area was about 180,000. He discussed the bill and answered questions.

A member of the MTPO recommended that others read Earl Swift’s The Big Roads.

VI. NEXT MTPO MEETING

Mr. Sanderson noted that MTPO elections were done at the previous meeting.

Vice Chair Byerly presented Chair Hawkins with a plaque commemorating his service as Chair in 2011.

Chair Hawkins thanked MTPO staff.

Mr. Sanderson announced that the next MTPO meeting, if necessary, is scheduled for February 6th at 3:00 p.m.

VII. COMMENTS

A. MTPO MEMBERS

There were no MTPO member comments.

B. CITIZENS

There were no citizen comments.

C. CHAIR'S REPORT

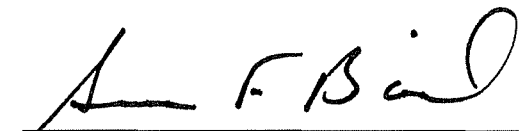
There was no Chair's Report.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hawkins adjourned the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

Date

4/9/12

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Baird, MTPO Secretary/Treasurer

**EXHIBIT A**

**Interested Citizens**

Bryan Herrington

**Alachua County**

Mike Fay

Jeff Hays

Randall Reid

Dave Schwartz

**City of Gainesville**

Russ Blackburn

Paul Folkers

Jesus Gomez

Debbie Leistner

Doug Robinson

**Florida Department  
of Transportation**

Karen Taulbee

Doreen Joyner-Howard

\* By telephone

# Spoke and provided written comments



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**CONSENT AGENDA  
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
FOR THE GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA**

**Jack Durrance Auditorium  
Alachua County Administration Building  
Gainesville, Florida**

**Monday, 5:00 p.m.  
December 12, 2011**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

- |                 |              |   |   |
|-----------------|--------------|---|---|
| <b>Page #7</b>  | <b>CA. 1</b> | <b>MTPO Minutes- October 3, 2011</b>  | <b>APPROVE MINUTES</b>                  |
|                 |              | <u>This set of MTPO minutes is ready for review</u>   |   |
| <b>Page #15</b> | <b>CA. 2</b> | <b>Year 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan-<br/>Administrative Modifications</b>   | <b>APPROVE MODIFICATIONS</b>            |
|                 |              | <u>Several administrative modifications to the Year 2035 Cost Feasible Plan are needed to account for additional funding for the Regional Transit System Bus Maintenance Facility</u> |   |
| <b>Page #23</b> | <b>CA. 3</b> | <b>Unified Planning Work Program Revisions-<br/>Task 3.6 Air Quality</b>  | <b>APPROVE REVISIONS</b>                |
|                 |              | <u>MTPO staff is requesting that half of the federal planning funds in this task be transferred to Task 1.2 and the other half transferred to Task 2.2</u>                            |   |
| <b>Page #25</b> | <b>CA. 4</b> | <b>Plan East Gainesville Steering Committee<br/>Meeting- Community Redevelopment Area</b>   | <b>APPROVE STAFF<br/>RECOMMENDATION</b> |
|                 |              | <u>Alachua County is seeking the input of this Committee concerning the establishment of a community redevelopment area (CRA) in the vicinity of Eastside High School</u>             |   |
| <b>Page #29</b> | <b>CA. 5</b> | <b>Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board<br/>Member Appointment</b>   | <b>APPROVE STAFF<br/>RECOMMENDATION</b> |
|                 |              | <u>The MTPO is being asked to fill one position on the Alachua County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board</u>   |   |

**Page #33 CA. 6 Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating  
Board Membership Certification**

**APPROVE STAFF  
RECOMMENDATION**

Each year, the MTPO certifies that this Board contains the appropriate parties and represents a cross section of the community

**Page #37 CA. 7 Transportation Disadvantaged Program-  
Status Report**

**NO ACTION REQUIRED**

The MTPO has asked for regular status reports concerning this program

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