

MINUTES
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION
FOR THE GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA

John R. "Jack" Durrance Auditorium
Alachua County Administration Building
Gainesville, Florida

June 24, 2019
5:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mike Byerly
Charles Chestnut IV
Ken Cornell, Chair
Linda Dixon/Curtis Reynolds
Adrian Hayes-Santos
Robert Hutchinson
Lauren Poe
Gigi Simmons
Mari Schwabacher/Greg Evans
Harvey Ward
Marihelen Wheeler

MEMBERS ABSENT

David Arreola, Vice-Chair
Gail Johnson
Doug Jones
Helen Warren

OTHERS PRESENT

See Exhibit A

STAFF PRESENT

Michael Escalante
Lynn Godfrey
Scott Koons

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ken Cornell called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Cornell asked for approval of the meeting agenda and consent agenda.

MOTION: Commissioner Ward moved to approve the:

- 1. Consent Agenda as amended to place CA.14 Multi-use Toll Facilities Legislation - Status Report on the Meeting Agenda; and**
- 2. Meeting Agenda as amended to place CA.14 Multi-use Toll Facilities Legislation - Status Report on the Meeting Agenda after item VI. U.S. Highway 441 (SW 13th Street) Charrette Implementation - Status Report.**

Commissioner Chestnut seconded; motion passed unanimously.

A member discussed his concern for maintenance of a quorum if there were to be action taken for the CA.14 Multi-use Toll Facilities Legislation - Status Report item on the Meeting Agenda.

By consensus the Meeting Agenda was amended to place CA.14 Multi-use Toll Facilities Legislation - Status Report on the Meeting Agenda as the next item for discussion.

CA.14 MULTI-USE TOLL FACILITIES LEGISLATION - STATUS REPORT

Scott Koons, Executive Director, discussed the status of legislation for multi-use toll facilities and answered questions.

A member discussed his concerns related to the Suncoast Parkway extension.

MOTION: Commissioner Ward moved to authorize the Chair to send a letter to Kevin J. Thibault, Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation, requesting that a member of the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area be appointed to the Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance Program Task Force concerning the extension of the Suncoast Parkway north to the Georgia border; Commissioner Hutchinson seconded and amended the motion to request that Commissioner Harvey Ward be appointed to the Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance Program Task Force concerning the extension of the Suncoast Parkway north to the Georgia border. Commissioner Ward accepted the amendment.

MOTION AS AMENDED:

Commissioner Ward moved to authorize the Chair to send a letter to Kevin J. Thibault, Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation, requesting that City of Gainesville Commissioner Harvey Ward, a member of the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area, be appointed to the Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance Program Task Force concerning the extension of the Suncoast Parkway north to the Georgia border. Commissioner Hutchinson seconded; motion passed unanimously.

II. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Koons stated that, each year, the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization reviews its Public Involvement Plan and revise it as needed. He discussed the proposed revisions to the plan for this year and answered questions.

MOTION: Commissioner Hutchinson moved to approve the Public Involvement Plan update; Commissioner Chestnut seconded; motion passed unanimously.

III. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Koons stated that the Transportation Improvement Program is the most important document that is approved each year by the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization. He said that the Transportation Improvement Program is a staged implementation program of transportation projects consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with adopted comprehensive plans of Alachua County and the City of Gainesville. He added that, in order for federal and state transportation funds to be spent in the Gainesville Metropolitan Area, they must be approved by the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization and included in this report. He discussed and answered questions regarding the following significant Fiscal Year 2019-20 projects:

- Airport - Airport Fuel Facility, Design and Construct Parking and Intermodal Transfer, Hangar Design and Construction and Tractor and Mower purchase;

- Bicycle/Pedestrian - State Road 24 (Archer Road) Bike Path/Trail, State Road 26 (Newberry Road) Sidewalk, NW 19th Lane Bike Path/Trail, NE 18th Avenue Sidewalk and SW 27th Street Bike Path/Trail;
- Intersection - Florida Department of Transportation/University of Florida Bike/Pedestrian Study, Main Street at State Road 331 (Williston Road) Safety Project and State Road 121 (SW 34 Street) at Westgate Roadway Realignment;
- Interstate - Managed Lane Study - Gainesville Metropolitan Area;
- Landscaping - State Road 226 (SW 16 Avenue) from State Road 24 (Archer Road) to U.S. Highway 441 (SW 13 Street);
- Maintenance - Lighting Agreement Countywide;
- Public Transportation - Regional Transit System Capital/Operations and Capital funding;
- Resurfacing - State Road 24 from City of Archer to SW 75th Street and State Road 20 (Hawthorne Road) from SE 26th Street to Lake Shore Drive and U.S. Highway 441 (SW 13th Street) from Marion County line to State Road 331 (Williston Road); and
- Road Construction - NW 23 Avenue Reconstruction from NW 83 Street to NW 58 Street, State Road 24 (Waldo Road) Lighting - State Road 26 (University Avenue) to State Road 222 (NE 39th Avenue) and SW 62nd Boulevard Connector Project from Clark Butler Boulevard to SW 20th Avenue.

A member discussed context sensitive design and requested discussion of context sensitive design at a future meeting.

Mr. Koons stated that context sensitive design could be referred to the advisory committees.

A member asked about the project description for the State Road 24 (Archer Road) SUNTrail-funded project.

Jeffrey Hays, Alachua County Transportation Planning Manager, discussed State Road 24 (Archer Road) SUNTrail-funded bicycle/pedestrian trail project and answered questions.

Kristen Young, representing Gainesville Citizens for Active Transportation, asked about the design of the State Road 121 (SW 34th Street) Traffic Operations project adjacent to the Westgate Shopping Center.

Mr. Koons described the proposed roadway realignment for the State Road 121 (SW 34th Street) Traffic Operations project.

MOTION: Mayor Poe moved to:

- **Approve the Fiscal Years 2019-20 to 2023-24 Transportation Improvement Program as modified to incorporate review agency comments;**
- **Request that the Florida Department of Transportation revise its Work Program and/or amend its State Transportation Improvement Program to advance the construction phase of the State Road 24 (Archer Road) at SW 23rd Terrace traffic signal update project [4343961] from Fiscal Year 2022-23 to Fiscal Year 2019-20 to coincide with the extension of Research Drive on the University of Florida campus south to State Road 24 (Archer Road); and**
- **Direct staff to work with the advisory committees to provide a presentation on context sensitive design within the Gainesville Metropolitan Area for later in the fall.**

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded. Mr. Koons conducted a show-of-hands vote.

City Member	Yes	No	County Member	Yes	No
			Mike BYERLY	X	
			Charles CHESTNUT IV	X	
Adrian HAYES-SANTOS	X				
			Robert HUTCHINSON	X	
Lauren POE	X				
Gigi SIMMONS	X				
Harvey WARD	X				
			Marihelen WHEELER	X	
			Ken CORNELL	X	
Totals	4	0		5	0

Motion passed unanimously.

IV. LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS

Mr. Koons stated that, each year, priorities for unfunded projects are submitted to the Florida Department of Transportation. He said that these priorities are used by the Department to develop its Tentative Work Program. He added that the draft List of Priority Projects for this year includes projects from the adopted Year 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan and from local agency recommendations. He discussed the project priorities and answered questions. He also suggested an extension of the U.S. Highway 441 (West 13th Street) Multimodal Emphasis Corridor Study be revised to be from State Road 331 (Williston Road) to State Road 120 (NW 23rd Avenue) in order to include the part of corridor in the SW 13th Street Charrette report. He noted that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization would have an opportunity to provide comments on the Department draft Tentative Work Program later in 2019.

A member asked about the State Road 24 (Archer Road) Midblock Crossings priority.

Deborah Leistner, Gainesville Transportation Planning Manager, discussed State Road 24 (Archer Road) Midblock Crossing priority and answered questions.

A member asked the about the State Roads 331/24 pedestrian safety priority.

Mr. Koons stated that this is a partially-funded priority. He said that light-emitting diode streetlights would replace the current streetlights.

A member asked what the pedestrian modifications are for SE 43rd Street.

Mr. Hays stated that the SE 43rd Street pedestrian modifications are to address sidewalk gaps in the corridor.

A member discussed lane width reduction.

Mr. Koons described and answered questions concerning the Multimodal Emphasis Corridor Study.

Ms. Young discussed concerns for the expense of the Downtown Connector Trail Grade-Separated Crossing priority. She spoke in support of the State Road 26 (Newberry Road) bikelane restriping project and discussed State Road 26 (Newberry Road) safety concerns. She also asked for clarification of the SW 62nd Boulevard Connector project priority. She suggested using maps in the presentation.

Bob Karp spoke in support of the State Road 26 (Newberry Road) bikelane restriping project and had concerns for project costs.

Julia Reiskind spoke in support of the State Road 26 (Newberry Road) bikelane restriping project. She reported her observations of vehicles parked in the SIMED medical complex. She asked for the cost of the three-mile NW 16th Avenue bikelane restriping project.

Damon Lamb discussed concern with the expense of the Downtown Connector Trail Grade-Separated Crossings priority and the State Road 24 (Archer Road) Midblock Crossings priority. He discussed safety concerns for South Main Street.

Mr. Hays reported that the three-mile NW 16th Avenue bikelane restriping project cost approximately \$115,000.

Mr. Koons stated that the SW 62nd Boulevard Connector project priority is a four-lane cross section in the Year 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan of which a two-lane interim project has been fully funded for construction.

Mr. Koons discussed the Downtown Connector Trail Grade-Separated Crossing priority. He noted the safety concerns for this crossing.

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Department of Transportation has proposed a \$5.0 million project to provide both instreet bikelanes and parking on State Road 26 (Newberry Road).

Chair Cornell stated that the Florida Department of Transportation is looking into an offstreet solution for the parking.

A member suggested installing metered parking in the State Road 26 (Newberry Road) corridor.

Ms. Leistner stated that the City of Gainesville could charge for parking on State Road 26 (Newberry Road).

MOTION: Commissioner Hayes-Santos moved to approve the List of Priority Projects Fiscal Years 2020-21 to 2024-25 with the limits of the U.S. Highway 441 (West 13th Street) Multimodal Emphasis Corridor Study priority being revised to be from State Road 331 (Williston Road) to State Road 120 (NW 23rd Avenue). Commissioner Simmons seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Following approval of the motion to approve the List of Priority Projects Fiscal Years 2020-21 to 2024-25, there was no longer a quorum of the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization.

V. FLORIDA'S TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED PROGRAM

Mr. Koons stated that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization, at its April 22, 2019 meeting, requested discussion of the transportation disadvantaged program. He introduced Lynn Godfrey, Senior Planner, who serves as staff to the Alachua County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board. He said that Ed Griffin, Gainesville General Manager, MV Contract Transportation, Inc., was also present.

Ms. Godfrey discussed the transportation disadvantaged program, including the role of the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization in the transportation disadvantaged program, and answered questions. She noted grant-funded innovative projects by other transportation disadvantaged programs in the state.

A member noted that some on-time concerns are attributable to driver availability. He discussed driver pay concerns.

Steve Trinkle, Vice-President Southeast Region, MV Contract Transportation, Inc., and Mr. Griffin, discussed transportation disadvantaged services and program implementation and answered questions. Mr. Trinkle also stated that base driver pay and other driver pay rates would be increased this summer. Mr. Griffin also stated that MV Contract Transportation, Inc. was looking into innovative grant opportunities.

VI. U.S. HIGHWAY 441 (SW 13TH STREET) CHARRETTE IMPLEMENTATION - STATUS REPORT

Mr. Koons reviewed the implementation of U.S. Highway 441 (SW 13th Street) Charrette recommendations.

Mari Schwabacher, Florida Department of Transportation District 2 Liaison, stated that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization needs to provide the Department specific project recommendations.

Penny Wheat, Rick Swenson, Ms. Young and Dick Stokes discussed concerns about pedestrian and bicycle safety, rural road designation, context sensitive design, multiple vehicles in median openings and project review by the public. Mr. Stokes also reported written traffic safety concerns provided by Beverly Giordano (Exhibit 1).

VII. NEXT METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION MEETING

Mr. Koons announced that the next Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization meeting is scheduled for August 26, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

VIII. COMMENTS

A. METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION MEMBERS

A member suggested that the Gainesville City Commission address the issue of parking on State Road 26 (Newberry Road).

B. CITIZENS

Ms. Young noted that Gainesville for All Health Care Committee supports farefree transit for children and urged the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners members to address the topic.

Fletcher Hope, City of Archer Commissioner, asked the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization to amend its Bylaws to require that its Rural Advisor be a sitting elected official.

Joshua Maseri discussed concerns of MV Contract Transportation, Inc. service for his father and its on-time performance reporting.

C. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Cornell reported on his and Mr. Koons' meeting with the Florida Department of Transportation District 2 Secretary Greg Evans, Urban Planning and Modal Administrator Jim Knight, and Liaison to the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization Mari Schwabacher. He noted that the items discussed included:

Item	Status
U. S. Highway 441 (State Road 25) Paynes Prairie linear park and guardrail installation	Standard design for guardrails due to deflection zone
State Road 26 (West Newberry Road) restriping for bike lanes	Off-site/off-street parking lot being considered
State Road 222 (NE 39th Avenue) crosswalk at NE 28th Drive	Waiver is being requested from Central Office in Tallahassee
Interstate 75 (State Road 93) safety concerns and operational efficiency, including managed lanes study	1. Separated interchange access lanes 2. Managed lanes study funded
U. S. Highway 441 (State Road 25) at State Road 26 (West University Avenue) intersection pedestrian scramble	To be evaluated

A member suggested that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization conduct a public workshop to discuss new and old ideas for the redesign of U.S. Highway 441 (SW 13th Street) with the preferred date being in October 2019. He also suggested that, prior to the public workshop, the U.S. Highway 441 (SW 13th Street) corridor be referred for written input and requests to present their recommendations at the public workshop to the:

- Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board;
- Florida Department of Transportation;
- Citizens Advisory Committee;
- Gainesville Citizens for Active Transportation;
- Technical Advisory Committee;
- University of Florida;
- adjacent neighborhood associations and businesses; and
- any other stakeholders.

A member discussed farefree transit service for persons under the age of 18 years old and persons above 65 years old.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

8/26/19
Date



Charles Chestnut IV, Secretary/Treasurer

EXHIBIT A

Interested Citizens

Ed Griffin
Lanier Harper -Dickson
Fletcher Hope
Robert Hyatt
Bob Karp
Damon Lamb
Dana Moser
Allan Penska
Julia Reiskind
Dick Stokes
Rick Swenson
Sharon Teraoka
Ewen Thomson
Steve Trinkle
Melanie Wells
Penny Wheat
Wade Wheeler
Kristen Young

Alachua County

Satori Days
Jeffrey Hays
Joshua Maseri
Candie Nixon
Sylvia Torres
Claudia Tuck

City of Gainesville

Millie Crawford
Jesus Gomez
Deborah Leistner

Florida Department of Transportation

None

* Via telephone

Spoke and provided written comments

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

**John R. "Jack" Durrance Auditorium
Alachua County Administration Building, Gainesville, Florida**

**5:00 p.m.
June 24, 2019**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

- Page #7 CA. 1 Minutes - April 22, 2019 APPROVE MINUTES**
This set of Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization minutes is ready for review.
- Page #19 CA. 2 Annual Transit Ridership Monitoring Report APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION**
This report is updated each year.
- Page #33 CA. 3 Florida Department of Transportation / Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council - Transportation Performance Measures Consensus Planning Agreement APPROVE RESOLUTION**
The Florida Department of Transportation collaborated with the Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council to develop the Transportation Performance Measures Consensus Planning Agreement for endorsement by all metropolitan planning organizations.
- Page #45 CA. 4 Auditor Selection Process APPOINT COMMISSIONER CHESTNUT**
Every three years, the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization needs to appoint a representative to serve as a member of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Audit Committee to select an auditor.
- Page #47 CA. 5 Grant Applications Letters of Support APPROVE RESOLUTION**
This resolution authorizes the Chair to sign letters of support for grant applications for projects that implement the Year 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan Cost Feasible Plan.
- Page #57 CA. 6 Prison Workers on State Highway System - Florida Department of Transportation Response FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
The Florida Department of Transportation has provided information concerning prison workers.

- Page #61 CA. 7 U.S. Highway 441 Pavement - Status Report FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
- The Florida Department of Transportation has provided information concerning recent resurfacing patches on U.S. Highway 441 south of State Road 331 (Williston Road).
- Page #65 CA. 8 Completion of the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Certification Process NO ACTION REQUIRED**
- The Florida Department of Transportation has recertified the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area metropolitan transportation planning process.
- Page #71 CA. 9 Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council - Governing Board Job Description FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
- The Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council has developed a job description for its Governing Board members.
- Page #77 CA. 10 Pedestrian Scramble Trial Study - Status Report FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
- The Florida Department of Transportation is coordinating with the City of Gainesville Department of Mobility to conduct a pedestrian scramble trial study at the State Road 26 (University Avenue) and U.S. Highway 441 (SW 13th Street) intersection.
- Page #83 CA. 11 Florida Department of Transportation Response - Interstate 75 and U.S. Highway 441 Safety Concerns FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
- The Florida Department of Transportation will conduct a safety study on Interstate 75 from the Marion County line to Interstate 10.
- Page #87 CA. 12 Florida Department of Transportation Response - State Road 121 (NW 34th Street) at NW 30th Place Turnlane FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
- The Florida Department of Transportation indicates that due to right-of-way acquisition requirements, a turnlane at NW 30th Place will not be programmed at this time.
- Page #91 CA. 13 Mobility Profile FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
- The Florida Department of Transportation Central Office has provided mobility profile information concerning the Gainesville Metropolitan Area.
- Page #105 CA. 15 Transportation Disadvantaged Program - Status Report FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
- The Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization has requested regular status reports concerning this program.

EXHIBIT 1

**Beverly P. Giordano
2560 SW 14th Drive
Bivens North Condominiums
Gainesville, FL 32608**

My observations about traffic/safety along SW 13th Street

I have been walking to and from work at UF (1.5 miles each way) for the past nine years. During this time, I have witnessed more traffic, causing increased risks for pedestrians who walk along SW 13th Street and SW 16th Avenue.

Last month, I hiked from the south rim to north rim of the Grand Canyon. That hike felt less dangerous than the walk I make to and from UF every day!

Pedestrians who cross SW 13th Street south of the UF campus must choose between using the traffic light crosswalks at 16th Avenue or 29th Place, which are 1.2 miles apart, or darting across 13th Street in the rare lulls in traffic. Visibility of oncoming traffic is impaired by the rise and fall of the road, making it dangerous indeed. (A traffic light with a crosswalk at 25th Place would improve this situation.)

I have to dodge bicyclists and students on skateboards who increasingly prefer the sidewalks to these risky streets. Cars and trucks tailgate, leaving motorists turning into businesses or side streets two choices: slow down for pedestrians (and get rear-ended) or make sharp turns and ignore the pedestrians who may be in the way. I also see more cars taking shortcuts through parking lots and side streets to avoid traffic lights. Many times, these motorists are so intent on saving a few minutes that they fail to pay attention to pedestrians and bicyclists.

The situations I have described will only worsen as more apartment complexes are built along 13th Street. It's past time for the MTPD to say NO to new development along these corridors and YES to safety.