

MINUTES
 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION
 FOR THE GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA

John R. “Jack” Durrance Auditorium and
 Via Communications Media Technology
 Gainesville, Florida

April 26, 2021
 3:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT
 IN PERSON
 Charles Chestnut IV, Chair
 David Arreola
 Ken Cornell
 Lauren Poe
 Anna Prizzia
 Reina Saco
 Harvey Ward

MEMBERS ABSENT
 Mary Alford
 Gloria James
 Gigi Simmons
 Marihelen Wheeler

OTHERS PRESENT
 VIA COMMUNICATIONS
 MEDIA TECHNOLOGY
 See Exhibit A

STAFF PRESENT
 VIA COMMUNICATIONS
 MEDIA TECHNOLOGY
 Michael Escalante
 Scott Koons

MEMBERS PRESENT
 VIA COMMUNICATIONS
 MEDIA TECHNOLOGY
 Linda Dixon/Curtis Reynolds
 Adrian Hayes-Santos
 Gail Johnson
 Karen Taulbee/Greg Evans

CALL TO ORDER

After recognizing a quorum was present in the John R. “Jack” Durrance Auditorium, Chair Charles Chestnut IV called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Scott Koons, Executive Director, asked for a declaration of extraordinary circumstance in order to conduct the meeting as a hybrid meeting enabling members that are not present in-person to participate in the meeting via communications media technology.

MOTION: Commissioner Ward moved to declare an extraordinary circumstance due to the COVID-19 pandemic and to conduct the meeting as a hybrid meeting enabling members that are not present in-person to participate in the meeting via communications media technology. Commissioner Prizzia seconded the motion. Mr. Koons conducted a roll call vote of the seven members present in the John R. “Jack” Durrance Auditorium.

City Member	Yes	No	County Member	Yes	No
David ARREOLA	X				
			Ken CORNELL	X	
Lauren POE	X				
Reina SACO	X				
			Anna PRIZZIA	X	
Harvey WARD	X				
			Charles CHESTNUT IV	X	
Totals	4	0		3	0

Motion passed unanimously.

I. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

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

Mr. Koons recommended an additional item for the agenda, V.B. Regional Transit System Special Populations Fare-Free Pilot Study - Status Report.

MOTION: Mayor Poe moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Meeting Agenda amended to add item V.B. Regional Transit System Special Populations Fare-Free Pilot Study - Status Report. Commissioner Prizzia seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

II. BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY BOARD - VACANT POSITIONS

Mr. Koons stated that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization needs to fill two vacant positions on the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board. He noted that the two positions have a term ending December 31, 2023. He reported that there were two applicants at this time.

MOTION: Commissioner Cornell moved to appoint Thomas Knapp and Gina van Blokland to the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board for terms ending December 31, 2023. Commissioner Ward seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

III. CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE- VACANT POSITIONS

Mr. Koons stated that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization needs to fill four vacant positions on its Citizens Advisory Committee. He reported that one position has a term ending December 31, 2021; two positions have a term ending December 31, 2022; and one position has a term ending December 31, 2023. He noted that there is only one applicant at this time.

MOTION: Mayor Poe moved to appoint Charles Covey to the Citizens Advisory Committee for a term ending December 31, 2023. Commissioner Cornell seconded; motion passed unanimously.

IV. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM EMERGENCY AMENDMENTS - VARIOUS PROJECTS

Mr. Koons stated that, per authority of Resolution No. 2020-02, the Chair and Executive Director approved the two following Florida Department of Transportation-requested emergency Fiscal Year 2020-21 to Fiscal Year 2024-25 Transportation Improvement Program amendments:

- Federal Transit Administration Section 5339 Operating Grant award [4425771] in Fiscal Year 2020-21; and
- Interstate 75 (State Road 93) right-of-way acquisition [4230713] in Fiscal Years 2020-21 and 2021-22.

He asked the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization to ratify these amendments

MOTION: Commissioner Cornell moved to ratify the Fiscal Year 2020-21 to Fiscal Year 2024-25 Transportation Improvement Program Emergency Amendments for:

- **Federal Transit Administration Section 5339 Operating Grant award [4425771] in Fiscal Year 2020-21; and**
- **Interstate 75 (State Road 93) right-of-way acquisition [4230713] in Fiscal Years 2020-21 and 2021-22.**

Mayor Poe seconded; Chair Chestnut asked for and received no public comment. Mr. Koons conducted a roll call vote.

City Member	Yes	No	County Member	Yes	No
David ARREOLA	X				
			Ken CORNELL	X	
Adrian HAYES-SANTOS	X				
Gail JOHNSON	X				
Lauren POE	X				
Reina SACO	X				
			Anna PRIZZIA	X	
Harvey WARD	X				
			Charles CHESTNUT IV	X	
Totals	6	0		3	0

Motion passed unanimously.

V. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENTS - VARIOUS PROJECTS

Mr. Koons stated that the Florida Department of Transportation has requested four Fiscal Year 2020-21 to 2024-25 Transportation Improvement Program amendments to be added in Fiscal Year 2021-22:

- State Road 222 (NW 39th Avenue) at NW 97th Boulevard Intersection Modification Project [4474751];
- State Road 222 (NW 39th Avenue) Resurfacing Project [4470321] from NW 92nd Court to NW 95th Boulevard;
- State Road 331 (Williston Road) Resurfacing Project [4479621] from U.S. Highway 441 (State Road 25/SW 13th Street) to State Road 26 (University Avenue); and
- City of Gainesville Multiple Locations Americans with Disabilities Act Sidewalk Modifications Project [4472331].

MOTION: Commissioner Cornell moved to amend the Fiscal Years 2020-21 to 2024-25 Transportation Improvement Program to add the following projects in Fiscal Year 2021-22:

- **State Road 222 (NW 39th Avenue) at NW 97th Boulevard Intersection Modification Project [4474751];**
- **State Road 222 (NW 39th Avenue) Resurfacing Project [4470321] from NW 92nd Court to NW 95th Boulevard;**
- **State Road 331 (Williston Road) Resurfacing Project [4479621] from U.S. Highway 441 (State Road 25/SW 13th Street) to State Road 26 (University Avenue); and**
- **City of Gainesville Multiple Locations Americans with Disabilities Act Sidewalk Modifications Project [4472331].**

Mayor Poe seconded;

A member asked about the status of the Downtown Connector Rail/Trail Crossing at State Road 331 (Williston Road).

Lee Feldman, City Manager, City of Gainesville, discussed the status of the Downtown Connector Rail/Trail Crossing modifications at State Road 331 (Williston Road).

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT:

Mayor Poe requested that the motion include a request of the Florida Department of Transportation that the State Road 331 (Williston Road) Resurfacing Project [4479621] from U.S. Highway 441 (State Road 25/SW 13th Street) to State Road 26 (University Avenue) include:

- **Evaluation of the Downtown Connector Rail/Trail Crossing modifications; and**
- **Any additional safety modifications as determined by the evaluation.**

MOTION AS AMENDED:

Commissioner Cornell moved to:

1. **Amend the Fiscal Years 2020-21 to 2024-25 Transportation Improvement Program to add the following projects in Fiscal Year 2021-22:**
 - **State Road 222 (NW 39th Avenue) at NW 97th Boulevard Intersection Modification Project [4474751];**
 - **State Road 222 (NW 39th Avenue) Resurfacing Project [4470321] from NW 92nd Court to NW 95th Boulevard;**
 - **State Road 331 (Williston Road) Resurfacing Project [4479621] from U.S. Highway 441 (State Road 25/SW 13th Street) to State Road 26 (University Avenue); and**
 - **City of Gainesville Multiple Locations Americans with Disabilities Act Sidewalk Modifications Project [4472331].**

2. **Request of the Florida Department of Transportation that the State Road 331 (Williston Road) Resurfacing Project [4479621] from U.S. Highway 441 (State Road 25/SW 13th Street) to State Road 26 (University Avenue) include:**
 - **Evaluation of the Downtown Connector Rail/Trail Crossing modifications; and**
 - **Any additional safety modifications as determined by the evaluation.**

Mayor Poe seconded; Chair Chestnut asked for and received no public comment. Mr. Koons conducted a roll call vote.

City Member	Yes	No	County Member	Yes	No
David ARREOLA	X				
			Ken CORNELL	X	
Adrian HAYES-SANTOS	X				
Gail JOHNSON	X				
Lauren POE	X				
Reina SACO	X				
			Anna PRIZZIA	X	
Harvey WARD	X				
			Charles CHESTNUT IV	X	
Totals	6	0		3	0

Motion passed unanimously.

V.B. REGIONAL TRANSIT SYSTEM SPECIAL POPULATIONS FARE-FREE PILOT STUDY - STATUS REPORT

Mr. Koons stated that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization, at its February 22, 2021 meeting, discussed the Regional Transit System fare-free structure for three special populations and the possibility of a joint Alachua County-City of Gainesville financial participation for a special population fare-free pilot project and approved a motion:

“To have a joint Alachua County-City of Gainesville-funded pilot project undertaken for a fare-free transit structure for persons under 18-years old, persons 65-years old and older, and disabled persons for the City of Gainesville Regional Transit System.”

He added that the Regional Transit System staff has provided information indicating that this special population fare-box revenue to be covered by additional local resources is approximately \$230,000 per year.

Jesus Gomez, Regional Transit System Director, discussed fare box revenue and answered questions.

A member discussed ridership data concerns.

A member suggested outreach to the Children’s Trust and ElderCare.

Kristen Young, Gainesville Citizens for Active Transportation Vice-President, spoke in support of the special population fare-free proposal.

MOTION: Commissioner Arreola moved to:

- **Conduct a Special Population Fare-Free Pilot Study for a one-year beginning October 1, 2021;**
- **Provide fare-free main bus transit service for the special populations consisting of persons under 18 years-old, persons 65 years-old and older, and disabled persons for a one year pilot study;**
- **Request Alachua County and City of Gainesville to each fund \$115,000 as 50 percent participation to offset the \$230,000 estimated fare box reduced revenue impact; and**
- **Establish a system to track special population ridership data.**

VI. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION REPORT

Mr. Koons stated that the Florida Department of Transportation District 2 staff requested an opportunity to provide a report.

Mari Schwabacher, Florida Department of Transportation District 2 Liaison, discussed the status of State Road 26 (University Avenue) safety modifications and Transportation Improvement Program deadlines and answered questions.

VII. NEXT METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION MEETING

Chair Chestnut announced that the next Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization meeting is scheduled for June 21, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

VIII. COMMENTS

A. METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION MEMBERS

A member discussed expansion of subsidized-fare transit service.

A member discussed safety concerns for the SW 20th Avenue corridor.

A member requested a Regional Transit System presentation for the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners.

B. CITIZENS

Amy Grass-Gilmore discussed the State Road 26 (University Avenue) safety modifications and possible jurisdictional transfer.

Mr. Feldman stated that the City of Gainesville has contracted with HDR Engineering to conduct a five-month concept study for State Road 26 (University Avenue) from NW 22nd Street to U.S. Highway 441 (State Road 25/West 13th Street).

C. CHAIR'S REPORT

There was no Chair's Report.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

Date July 14, 2021


Mary Alford, Secretary/Treasurer



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

**John R. "Jack" Durrance Auditorium and
Via Communications Media Technology
Gainesville, Florida**

**3:00 p.m.
April 26, 2021**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

- Page #7 CA. 1 Minutes - February 22, 2021 APPROVE MINUTES**
- This set of Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization minutes is ready for review.
- Page #23 CA. 2 Transit Safety Performance Measures and Targets - 2021 APPROVE JOINT RECOMMENDATION**
- The Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization needs to set transit safety performance measures and targets consistent with those set by the Regional Transit System (see Exhibit 1).
- Page #29 CA. 3 Certification - Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process Certification Statement AUTHORIZE CHAIR SIGNATURE**
- Each year, the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization and the Florida Department of Transportation are required by federal law and regulation to jointly certify the transportation planning process.
- Page #33 CA. 4 Federal Transit Administration Section 5305(d) Grant Application APPROVE JOINT RECOMMENDATION**
- The Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization needs to approve a Section 5305(d) Grant Application and Standard Assurances and Certifications in order to receive Federal Transit Administration planning funds for Fiscal Year 2021-22.
- Page #45 CA. 5 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment Fiscal Year 2020-21 and Fiscal Year 2021-22 APPROVE JOINT RECOMMENDATION**
- The Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization needs to amend its Unified Planning Work Program to include an application for Fiscal Year 2021-22 Federal Transportation Administration planning funds.

Page #53 CA. 6 Emergency Approval Authority for Transportation Improvement Program Amendments APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The Florida Department of Transportation makes requests for emergency Transportation Improvement Program amendments that due to its Work Program schedule need to be approved prior to a regularly scheduled Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization meeting.

Page #59 CA. 7 Title VI/Nondiscrimination Policy Statement FOR INFORMATION ONLY

On April 2, 2012, the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization authorized the Chief Staff Official to sign this policy statement each year.

Page #63 CA. 8 Florida Department of Transportation Performance Management Fact Sheets FOR INFORMATION ONLY

The Florida Department of Transportation has provided updated Performance Management Fact Sheets.

Page #77 CA. 9 Transportation Disadvantaged Program - Alachua County Transportation Disadvantaged Board Coordinating Board Membership Certification AUTHORIZE CHAIR SIGNATURE

The Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization is required to annually certify the membership composition of the Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.

Page #81 CA. 10 Transportation Disadvantaged Program - Status Report NO ACTION REQUIRED

The Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization has requested regular status reports concerning this program.

EXHIBIT 1

**Metropolitan transportation Planning Organization
for the Gainesville Urbanized Area
Transit Safety Targets
April 26, 2021**

Performance Measure	Performance Measurement		Target	
	Total	Rate [Vehicle Revenue Miles]	Nominal	Rate
Injuries	Zero	100,000	Zero	0.1
Fatalities	Zero	100,000	Zero	Zero
Safety Events	Zero	100,000	Zero	1.5
System Reliability	-	100,000	-	7