MINUTES

GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MTPO)
technical advisory committee (TAC)

General Purpose Meeting Room
Gainesville Regional Utilities Administration Building
Gainesville, Florida

2:00 p.m.
Thursday
February 26, 2004

MEMBERS PRESENT
Dean Mimms, Chair
Linda Dixon
Steve Dopp
Greg DuBois
Kathy Fanning
John Gifford
Bill Lecher
Shenley Neely
Suraya Teeple
Shawn Woodin

MEMBERS ABSENT
Jennifer Auger
David Deas
Brian Kanely
Mac McEachern
Geoff Sample

OTHERS PRESENT
Doreen Joyner-Howard
Fred Wright

STAFF PRESENT
Marlie Sanderson
Michael Escalante

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dean Mimms, City of Gainesville Chief of Comprehensive Planning, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Mimms asked everyone to introduce themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Chair Mimms asked the TAC to approve the agenda.

ACTION: Doreen Joyner-Howard moved to approve the meeting agenda. Shawn Woodin seconded; motion passed unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

ACTION: Shawn Woodin moved to approve the January 14, 2004 minutes. Kathy Fanning seconded; motion passed unanimously.
IV. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Mr. Marlie Sanderson, MTPO Director of Transportation Planning, announced that the next MTPO meeting is scheduled for March 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the Jack Durrance Auditorium. He said that the next TAC meeting is scheduled for March 17. He added that there has been some changes to the September meeting schedules for the MTPO and its Advisory Committees. He said that the MTPO will meet September 2 and the TAC would meet on August 18 and September 29.

V. WEST UNIVERSITY AVENUE- DESIGN SPEED ISSUES

Mr. Sanderson discussed West University Avenue design speed issues and answered questions. He reported the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee recommendation to consider coloration of the bike lanes along West University Avenue.

Mr. Fred Wright, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Consultant Project Manager, discussed the consideration of the coloration of the bike lanes along West University Avenue. He said that the West University Avenue Resurfacing Project contract has been let and therefore that section could not be tinted at this time. He added that FDOT is looking that traffic calming concerns for this corridor. He added that a variance was not applicable to the horizontal alignment correction.

Mr. Sanderson noted that MTPO and FDOT staff will be at the Mr. Stout’s property to mark the right-of-way along the corridor.

ACTION: Linda Dixon moved to support the existing design due to the recognition that the design speed cannot be changed and that the motor vehicle travel lanes will not be significantly closer to the home owned by the Stout family. Doreen Joyner-Howard seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VI. UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

Mr. Sanderson stated that the staff services agreement between the MTPO and the Regional Planning Council (RPC) requires the annual submission of the budget for the support of the transportation planning staff. He said that the UPWP outlines and describes planning efforts to be undertaken by participating agencies to maintain a comprehensive, cooperative and continuing transportation planning program in the Gainesville Metropolitan Area. He discussed the draft UPWP and answered questions.

Ms. Linda Dixon, University of Florida Planning Office Manager, noted that the UPWP could include the same inkind funding amounts as last year.

Ms. Doreen Joyner-Howard, FDOT Transportation Specialist, noted that FDOT contributes $150,000 for the MTPO long range transportation plan.
ACTION: Linda Dixon moved to recommend that the MTPO:

1. include in the draft Unified Planning Work Program the same University of Florida inkind contributions as stated in the current Unified Planning Work Program;

2. approve the draft Unified Planning Work Program, but permit MTPO staff to make administrative changes to the document based on agency comments and recommendations;

3. authorize the MTPO Chair to enter into the Section 5303 Joint Participation Agreement;

4. authorize the MTPO to financially participate in the Section 5303 agreement including the $10,525 contribution of MTPO funds; and

5. authorize the MTPO Chair to sign the Section 5303 Joint Participation Agreement;

John Gifford seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VII. INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM (ITS)- CONSORTIUM

Mr. Sanderson stated that FDOT is recommending that the MTPO appoint an ITS Consortium similar to the one that the First Coast MPO has for the Jacksonville area. He noted that the purpose of the consortium is to meet about twice a year to review and discuss proposed ITS projects in the Gainesville Metropolitan Area.

ACTION: Bill Lecher moved to recommend that the MTPO appoint the agency representatives identified in Exhibit 1 to its ITS Consortium. John Gifford seconded; motion passed unanimously

VIII. STRATEGIC INTERMODAL SYSTEM (SIS) LETTER

Mr. Sanderson stated that the MTPO requested that its staff develop a draft letter regarding the equity of the Florida SIS. He discussed the draft letter and answered questions.

IX. ENHANCEMENT APPLICATIONS- 2004

Mr. Sanderson stated that, according to FDOT District 2 staff, the deadline this year for applications for transportation enhancement projects from the MTPO is May 1. He discussed the Transportation Enhancement projects criteria and answered questions. He noted that there are some Enhancement-funded projects currently in the Work Program and recommended that there be no new applications for this year.
ACTION: Linda Dixon moved to recommend that the MTPO retain its current priority list and not request any enhancement project applications this year. John Gifford seconded; motion passed unanimously.

XI. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Sanderson stated that it was time to select a new committee chair and vice-chair.

ACTION: Linda Dixon moved to appoint Bill Lecher as TAC Chair. Steve Dopp seconded; motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Doreen Joyner-Howard moved to appoint Dean Mimms as TAC Vice-Chair. Linda Dixon seconded; motion passed unanimously.

XII. DRAFT LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS- 2004

Mr. Sanderson stated that FDOT has informed the MTPO that its List of Priority Projects must be submitted by July 1. He discussed the schedule for the MTPO and its advisory committees to complete the List of Priority Projects by the FDOT deadline. He noted that requests for priority information have already be sent to Alachua County, City of Gainesville and University of Florida staffs and the Alachua County Traffic Safety Team.

Ms. Dixon discussed Safety Fund criteria.

XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS

Chair Mimms thanked MTPO staff for the Anthony Downs article included in the meeting packet.

Mr. Sanderson discussed the St. John’s River Water Management District-required enlargement of the retention pond behind the Westgate Publix grocery store for the State Road 26/26A projects and answered questions.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

_________________________________________  _______________________________________
Date                                               Bill Lecher, Chair