

MINUTES

GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MTPO) TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

Gainesville Regional Utilities General Purpose Room
301 SE 4th Avenue
Gainesville, Florida

2:00 p.m.
Wednesday
January 30, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dean Mimms, Chair
Doug Robinson, Vice Chair
Dekova Batey
Linda Dixon
Steve Dopp
Ron Fuller
John Gifford
Steven Hofstetter
Michael Iguina
Debbie Leistner
Ha Nguyen
Jonathan Paul
Karen Taulbee

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ed Gable

OTHERS PRESENT

Jesus Gomez
Jeffrey Hays
Rachel Henry
Jeff Scott

STAFF PRESENT

Michael Escalante
Ursula Garfield

CALL TO ORDER

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

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Mimms introduced himself and asked others to introduce themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Chair Mimms asked for approval of the meeting agenda.

Mr. Michael Escalante, MTPO Senior Planner, noted that Agenda Item VI. Bus Rapid Transit Feasibility Study and System Master Plan would be discussed by the TAC. He suggested that the agenda be amended to place Agenda Item XII Year 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan Update- Base Year Socioeconomic Information after Agenda Item XIV. Information Items. He said that this item is for discussion by the TAC Working Group for the Year 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan Update.

ACTION: Steve Dopp moved to approve the meeting agenda amended to place Agenda Item XII Year 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan Update- Base Year Socioeconomic Information after Agenda Item XIV. Information Items. Debbie Leistner seconded; motion passed unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

Chair Mimms asked for approval of the November 28, 2007 TAC meeting minutes.

ACTION: Steve Dopp moved to approve the November 28, 2007 TAC meeting minutes. Debbie Leistner seconded; motion passed unanimously.

IV. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Mr. Escalante announced that the next MTPO meeting is scheduled for February 14th at 3:00 p.m. in the Jack Durrance Auditorium. He said that the TAC's next meeting is scheduled for February 27th at the Regional Planning Council.

V. AIRPORT ACCESS ROAD- 30 PERCENT DESIGN PLANS

Chair Mimms stated that the Airport Access Road 30 Percent Design Plans have been submitted for review and comment. He discussed the Design Team recommendation and answered questions.

Ms. Rachel Henry, RW Armstrong Senior Engineer, discussed the Airport Access Road 30 Percent Design Plans and answered questions.

ACTION: Jonathan Paul moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the Gainesville Regional Airport Entrance Road 30 Percent Design Plans with one revision to widen the travel lanes in the curb and gutter cross-section from 12 feet to 16 feet with striping for a 4-foot paved shoulder or bikelane. Steve Dopp seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VI. BUS RAPID TRANSIT FEASIBILITY STUDY AND SYSTEM MASTER PLAN

Mr. Escalante stated that Regional Transit System (RTS) staff has submitted a draft project scope for the Bus Rapid Transit Feasibility (BRT) Study and System Master Plan. He reviewed the MTPO staff recommendation.

Mr. Doug Robinson, RTS Chief Transit Planner and Mr. Jesus Gomez, RTS Director, discussed the BRT Study project scope and answered questions.

Mr. Brad Stith commented on the BRT study.

ACTION: Linda Dixon moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the enclosed Project Scope with flexibility to add other corridors as needed in Task 4 and 5 and the following proposed process that will be used to review draft products produced at key milestones of the Bus Rapid Transit Feasibility Study:

- 1. the MTPO Advisory Committees will develop recommendations that are forwarded to the MTPO and its Plan East Gainesville Subcommittee;**
- 2. the Plan East Gainesville Subcommittee will forward its recommendations to the MTPO; and**
- 3. Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board (BPAB) members will be invited to attend consultant presentations made to the Technical and Citizens Advisory Committees (since these committees meet on the same day), rather than have the consultant travel to Gainesville on a separate day to make presentations to the BPAB.**

Steve Dopp seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VII. YEAR 2035 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE- ALTERNATIVE NETWORKS

Mr. Escalante stated that the MTPO must update its long range transportation plan by November, 2010. He said the MTPO will be asked to approve the scope of work for this plan update at its March meeting. He added that this scope of work will include four alternative future transportation networks that are proposed for testing and evaluation. He reported the Long Range Transportation Plan Working Group's recommendations and answered questions.

ACTION: Linda Dixon moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the following four proposed alternative networks:

- 1. One alternative network will be created that includes a mix of highway and transit solutions, but will primarily consider transit related modifications. This network alternative will include some highway modifications, but will consist primarily of a future bus rapid transit system, new and/or extended regular and express bus routes, bus ways and other transit related modifications.**
- 2. A second alternative network will be created that includes a mix of highway and transit solutions, but will primarily consider highway related modifications that expand the grid network of roads. This network alternative will include transit modifications, but will consist primarily of new roads or projects that add capacity to existing roads. This alternative will also include the projects in the currently adopted Year 2025 Livable Communities Reinvestment Plan Cost Feasible Plan.**

3. **A third alternative network will be created that includes a mix of highway and transit solutions, but will primarily consider transit related modifications. This network alternative will include some highway modifications, but will consist primarily of a future bus rapid transit system, new and/or extended regular and express bus routes, bus ways and other transit related modifications. In this alternative network, a future light rail system will be tested and evaluated.**
4. **A fourth alternative network will be created that includes a combination of effective approaches identified in the previous three tasks.**

Steve Dopp seconded; motion passed unanimously.

IX. LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS- TRAFFIC OPERATIONS PRIORITIES

Mr. Escalante stated that MTPO staff is developing the draft MTPO List of Priority Projects. He asked that Alachua County and City of Gainesville Public Works Department staffs provide MTPO staff with traffic operations priorities for the next TAC meeting.

X. LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS- TRIP PRIORITIES

Mr. Escalante stated that MTPO staff is developing the draft MTPO List of Priority Projects. He asked that Alachua County and City of Gainesville Public Works Department staffs provide MTPO staff with Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) project priorities for the next TAC meeting.

Ms. Ha Kurz, Alachua County Contract/Design Manager, noted that the County was interested in TRIP funding the 4-laning of Archer Road from the Levy Countyline to Tower Road.

XI. PATTERNED-TEXTURED CROSSWALKS- STATE ROAD 121 RESURFACING PROJECT (NW 5TH AVENUE TO US 441)

Mr. Escalante stated that the City and County have been notified by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) that it would proceed on several resurfacing projects without enhanced crosswalks as part of the project.

Ms. Karen Taulbee, FDOT Transportation Specialist, discussed the status of the enhanced crosswalks on State-maintained facilities.

XIII. COMMITTEE OFFICER ELECTIONS

Mr. Escalante stated that it was time to select committee officers. He said that Dean Mimms is the TAC Chair and Doug Robinson is the TAC Vice Chair.

ACTION: Linda Dixon moved to nominate Doug Robinson as TAC Chair and Jonathan Paul as TAC Vice Chair. John Gifford seconded; motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Debbie Leistner moved to close nominations. Karen Taulbee seconded; motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Linda Dixon moved to appoint Doug Robinson as TAC Chair and Jonathan Paul as TAC Vice Chair. Ha Kurz seconded; motion passed unanimously.

XIV. INFORMATION ITEMS

Ms. Linda Dixon announced that there would be an American Planning Association presentation at the Regional Planning Council at 4:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Date

Doug Robinson, Chair