

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

Meeting Room
Gainesville Regional Utilities
Gainesville, Florida

2:00 p.m.
Wednesday
January 31, 2000

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	OTHERS PRESENT	STAFF PRESENT
Dean Mimms, Chair Joye Brown Linda Dixon Greg DuBois Bob Elmore John Gifford Charles Justice Brian K anely Bill Lecher Jeff Logan John Maruniak Melissa Norman Patricia Reynolds	Barbara Hatchitt Rick Drummond Mac McEachern	Maria Savoia	Marlie Sanderson Gerry Dedenbach Andrea Vogler

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dean Mimms, City of Gainesville Chief of Comprehensive Planning, called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m.

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Mimms introduced himself and asked those present to introduce themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Mr. Gerry Dedenbach, MTPO Senior Transportation Planner, requested that the TAC amend the meeting agenda as follows:

1. add a new agenda Item III., Election of Officers;
2. change agenda Item V.D., Regional Transit System (RTS), to Item VI.A.;

3. add agenda Item VI.F., US 441 Bicycle Safety Issues, to discuss action taken by the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board (B/PAB) concerning the recent and past fatalities on US 441 at Paynes Prairie; and
4. add agenda Item VI.G., Hull Road Right-of-Way, in order for Mr. Bill Lecher, Alachua County Public Works Department (ACPWD) Assistant Director, and staff to provide a status report concerning this project.

ACTION: Jeff Logan moved to approve the meeting agenda with the following changes:

1. add a new Item III., Election of Officers;
2. change agenda Item V.D., RTS, to Item VI.A.;
3. add Item VI.F., US 441 Bicycle Safety Issues; and
4. add Item VI.G., Hull Road Right-of-Way.

Joye Brown seconded; motion passed unanimously.

III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Dedenbach stated that it was time to elect a new TAC Chair and Vice-Chair. He said that, currently, Mr. Mimms is the Chair and Mr. Lecher is the Vice-Chair.

ACTION: Jeff Logan moved to nominate Dean Mimms as Chair and Bill Lecher as Vice-Chair. Joye Brown seconded.

ACTION: Charles Justice moved to close the nominations and adopt the slate. Jeff Logan seconded; motion passed unanimously.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 29, 2000 MINUTES

ACTION: Joye Brown moved to approve the November 29, 2000 minutes. Patricia Reynolds seconded; motion passed unanimously.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Dedenbach announced that the next MTPO meeting is scheduled for February 15. He stated that the next TAC meeting is scheduled for February 14. He said that, due to the Valentine's Day holiday, the CAC has rescheduled its February 14 meeting for February 21. He requested that the TAC reschedule its February 14 meeting for February 21. He noted that the February 21 meeting would be held at the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council.

It was a consensus of the TAC to reschedule the February 14 meeting to February 21 at the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council.

VI. AGENDA ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED- LISTED IN ORDER OF IMPORTANCE

A. RTS

1. OVERVIEW PRESENTATION

Mr. Jeff Logan, RTS Director, provided an overview of RTS operations and answered questions.

2. COMPREHENSIVE OPERATIONAL ANALYSIS (COA)

Mr. Marlie Sanderson, MTPO Director of Transportation Planning, stated that, at its January 18 meeting, the MTPO referred the proposed COA to its Advisory Committees for review and comment. He said that the MTPO is requesting direction concerning whether the COA should address such issues as the provision of express bus service to outlying municipalities, as adopted in the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), and the inclusion of other counties in the scope of the analysis.

Mr. Logan discussed the proposed COA and answered questions. He explained that park and ride and express bus service, as adopted in the LRTP, have been included in the scope of the analysis. He said that, currently, there are not sufficient funds to include other counties in the scope of the proposed COA. However, he noted, the scope of the proposed COA includes an analysis of whether RTS should be expanded to a county-wide transit authority.

ACTION: Greg DuBois moved to recommend that the MTPO approve conducting the COA as recommended by RTS staff with the understanding that park and ride and express bus service to outlying municipalities and whether RTS should be expanded to a county-wide transit authority are included in the scope of the analysis. Joye Brown seconded; motion passed unanimously.

B. MAIN STREET RECONSTRUCTION

Mr. Dedenbach reviewed action taken by the MTPO, Design Team and B/PAB concerning the Main Street reconstruction project. He stated that staff recommends that the TAC approve the Design Team and B/PAB recommendations.

ACTION: Linda Dixon moved to recommend that the MTPO:

- 1. approve the Main Street design plans as presented by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) with the understanding that:
 - A. FDOT and the City of Gainesville will further research signalization alternatives, such as mast arms and post-mounted signals, throughout the Main Street reconstruction project corridor; and**
 - B. landscape details are to be determined once design details are finalized;****
- 2. request that the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners consider reconstructing Main Street, from N 8th Avenue to N 16th Avenue, with two travel lanes, a center turn lane and instreet bike lanes; and**
- 3. request that FDOT investigate the use of brick-hued, non-textured, bicycle lanes throughout the project.**

Brian Kanely seconded; motion passed unanimously.

C. STATE ROAD (SR) 24 DESIGN PLANS

Mr. Dedenbach stated that, at the January 18 Design Team meeting, FDOT presented 90 percent plans for the resurfacing of SR 24 from Fred Bear Drive to SW 40th Boulevard that included horizontal mast arms. He said that FDOT also agreed to construct this project with textured and hued pedestrian crosswalks. He noted that this project does not include replacing the medians because this is a relatively small resurfacing project and issuing a change order would be costly and would adversely affect the project's scope.

Ms. Linda Dixon, City of Gainesville Transportation Planning Analyst, reviewed action taken by the B/PAB concerning this issue.

ACTION: Linda Dixon moved to recommend that the MTPO:

- 1. approve the SR 24 resurfacing project with textured and hued pedestrian crosswalks and horizontal mast arms; and**
- 2. request that FDOT research the feasibility of constructing continuous bikelanes throughout the project corridor and report their findings to the MTPO.**

Brian Kanely seconded; motion passed unanimously.

D. US 441 DESIGN PLANS

Mr. Dedenbach reviewed action taken by the MTPO, Design Team and B/PAB concerning the US 441, from NW 16th Avenue to NW 21st Avenue, design plans. He stated that staff recommends that the TAC approve the Design Team and B/PAB recommendations.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the FDOT design plans for the US 441 at Gainesville High School between NW 16th Avenue and NW 21st Avenue Safety Project. Linda Dixon seconded; motion passed unanimously.

E. GRANT AVAILABILITY

Mr. Dedenbach stated that, at the October 12 MTPO meeting, a member of the CAC requested that the MTPO ask FDOT to provide information about the transportation grants process and how communities can become more involved. He said that it was a consensus of the MTPO that this information be discussed at a future meeting. He said that staff is requesting policy direction from the TAC concerning whether grant applications should be submitted for all projects, regardless of their ranking in the MTPO's adopted List of Priority Projects, or if grant applications should be submitted for projects in priority order only.

Ms. Joye Brown, FDOT District 2 Assistant Planning Manager, discussed grants that the MTPO is eligible to apply for and answered questions.

ACTION: Linda Dixon moved to recommend that MTPO provide flexibility to apply for grants based on their particular timeline and evaluation criteria without requiring strict adherence to the MTPO priority ranking, with the understanding that MTPO will be informed of the grant application as soon as possible. Patricia Reynolds seconded; motion passed unanimously.

F. US 441 BICYCLE SAFETY ISSUES

Ms. Dixon stated that, at their January 30 meeting, the B/PAB discussed bicycle safety on US 441, at Paynes Prairie, due to recent and past fatalities. She reviewed action taken by the B/PAB concerning this issue.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO:

- 1. request that FDOT fund a short-term study of the US 441 corridor focused in the area across Paynes Prairie where bicycle fatalities have occurred;**
- 2. keep the US 441 bicycle project as the first unfunded safety project when the MTPO List of Priority Projects is approved this September;**

3. **request that FDOT program construction funds for this project in its next Work Program, noting that this project has been on the MTPO's priority list for the past two years; and**
4. **support the designation of US 441 as a Scenic Highway and include funding for bicycle safety projects in this corridor as part of that designation.**

Joye Brown seconded; motion passed unanimously.

G. HULL ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY

Mr. Dedenbach stated that, at its December meeting, the MTPO referred the Hull Road extension back to the Design Team. He said that the University of Florida requested further discussion of the Hull Road extension right-of-way so that the MTPO could coordinate the typical cross-section for the Hull Road extension with the University's siting of the Orthopaedic Center. He said that Mr. Lecher was also present to discuss proposed Hull Road extension right-of-way issues.

Mr. Lecher discussed the proposed Hull Road right-of-way and answered questions. He stated that plans have been submitted to the County for an apartment complex adjacent to the proposed right-of-way for this project. Also, he said that Florida Power Corporation has right-of-first-refusal to the right-of-way. He said that the County is requesting that the MTPO continue to support efforts to acquire the recommended 150 feet of right-of-way for this project.

ACTION: Joye Brown moved to recommend that the MTPO:

1. **continue to endorse the need for 150' right-of-way for the proposed Hull Road alignment until circumstances arise which prevent the acquisition of this much right-of-way; and**
2. **request that FDOT research alternatives for the purchase and development of the right-of-way along the proposed Hull Road alignment as necessary.**

Charles Justice seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

There was no discussion of the information items.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.