

MINUTES

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

Conference Room
North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Building
Gainesville, Florida
2:00 p.m.
Wednesday
June 30, 2004

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u>	<u>OTHERS PRESENT</u>	<u>STAFF PRESENT</u>
Bill Lecher, Chair Dean Mimms, Vice Chair Linda Dixon Steve Dopp Kathy Fanning John Gifford Doreen Joyner-Howard Brian Kanely Shenley Neely Kristen Nowicki Geoff Sample	Jennifer Auger David Deas Greg DuBois Allan Penska	Gerry Dedenbach Donnie Ellington Monique Heathcock Milton Locklear Sam Middleton Kathleen Pagan John Sabatella	Marlie Sanderson Thomas Hill Michael Escalante

CALL TO ORDER

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

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Vice Chair Mimms introduced himself and asked others to introduce themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Chair Bill Lecher, Alachua County Contract/Design Manager, asked for approval of the meeting agenda.

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

III. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

Chair Lecher asked for a consensus approval of the May 19, 2004 and May 26, 2004 TAC meeting minutes.

ACTION: Steve Dopp moved to approve the May 19, 2004 and May 26, 2004 TAC meeting minutes. Geoff Sample seconded; motion passed unanimously.

IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Sanderson announced that the next MTPO meeting is scheduled for July 15 at 1:30 p.m. in the Jack Durrance Auditorium. He said that the next TAC meeting is scheduled for May 26.

V. RESURFACING PROJECT- STATE ROAD 26 (NEWBERRY ROAD)-
FROM NW 109TH DRIVE EAST TO NW 80TH BOULEVARD

Mr. Thomas Hill, MTPO Senior Planner, stated that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has developed scoping concepts for the SR 26 from the 109th Drive to NW 80th Boulevard Resurfacing Project. He discussed the project area.

Ms. Doreen Joyner-Howard, FDOT Transportation Specialist, discussed the SR 26 from the 109th Drive to NW 80th Boulevard Resurfacing Project and answered questions.

ACTION: Doreen Joyner-Howard moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) resurfacing design concepts for State Road 26 (Newberry Road) from NW 109th Drive to NW 80th Boulevard, which is part of the Florida Intrastate Highway System, incorporating the following elements:

- 1. install the MTPO-approved stamped/colored crosswalks at the signalized intersections;**
- 2. improve any sidewalk sections that are not in compliance with FDOT and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards;**
- 3. examine existing access (driveway connections, median openings, etc.) for potential operational improvements.**

Brian Kanely seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VI. RESURFACING PROJECT- STATE ROAD 24 (WALDO ROAD)-
FROM EAST UNIVERSITY AVENUE NORTH TO NE 55TH PLACE

Mr. Hill stated that FDOT has developed scoping concepts for the SR 24 from East University Avenue to NE 55th Place Resurfacing Project. He discussed the project area.

Ms. Joyner-Howard discussed the SR 24 from East University Avenue to NE 55th Place Resurfacing Project and answered questions.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO:

- 1. approve the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) resurfacing design concepts for State Road 24 (Waldo Road) from East University Avenue to NE 55th Place, incorporating the following elements:**
 - A. install the MTPO-approved stamped/colored crosswalks at the signalized intersections;**
 - B. improve any sidewalk sections that are not in compliance with FDOT and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards;**
 - C. examine existing access (driveway connections, median openings, etc.) for potential operational improvements;**
 - D. extend the southbound double left turnlane at State Road 26; and**
- 2. request that FDOT incorporate raised medians, where feasible, between East University Avenue and NE 8th Avenue.**

Shenley Neely seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VII. TOWER ROAD 30 PERCENT DESIGN PLANS

Mr. Marlie Sanderson, MTPO Director of Transportation Planning, stated that Alachua County staff has submitted 30 percent design plans for Tower Road.

Ms. Monique Heathcock, Causseaux & Ellington Project Manager, discussed the Tower Road 30 Percent Design Plans and answered questions.

Mr. Sanderson requested that the consultant be available for the MTPO meeting on July 15.

VIII. ARCHER ROAD/S. 16TH AVENUE CHARRETTE

Mr. Sanderson stated that consultants were present to provide a status report on the Archer Road/S. 16th Avenue Charrette.

Mr. Gerry Dedenbach, Causseaux & Ellington Director of Planning and GIS Services, discussed the Archer Road/S. 16th Avenue Charrette and answered questions.

Mr. Sanderson and Mr. Dedenbach discussed the MTPO staff recommendation and City of Gainesville staff comments.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommended that the MTPO approve for final testing and evaluation, the option developed by the charrette participants, as described in Exhibit 1; Sam Middleton seconded; motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to have the City's comments, as described in Exhibit 2, forwarded to the MTPO, incorporating clarification of traffic routing on Archer Road. John Gifford seconded; motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO consider grade separated intersection at SW 16th Avenue and Archer Road. John Gifford seconded; motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO consider a limited grade separated intersection at SW 34th Street and Archer Road. Linda Dixon seconded; motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO have the grade separated intersection at SW 16th Avenue and Archer Road and SW 34th Street and Archer Road be modeled in the long range plan update. Linda Dixon seconded; motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: John Gifford moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the City of Gainesville staff recommendation that the proposed bus rapid transit (BRT) system operate on the Archer Road/Depot Avenue alignment for the following reasons:

1. the requirement for fixed, dedicated lanes can more easily be met on the Depot Avenue corridor because of the abandoned right-of-way that is available (which is currently being used for the bicycle/pedestrian path);
2. the ability to link with the proposed Depot Avenue Multimodal facility (Greyhound Station and RTS Transfer Station) that is being planned for Depot Avenue just north of the Old Train Depot; and
3. this is the best corridor to connect high intensity commercial development at the University/Medical Facilities to future high density residential developments along Depot Avenue and to East Gainesville development.

Brian Kanely seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Kanely thanked Mr. Dedenbach for his efforts on this difficult issue.

IX. YEAR 2025 TRANSPORTATION PLAN- SOCIOECONOMIC DATA

Mr. Sanderson stated that MTPO staff has completed the socioeconomic data for the Year 2025 Transportation Plan update. He said that this information is necessary for the development of the plan, including its model validation.

Mr. Hill discussed the socioeconomic data and answered questions.

Ms. Linda Dixon noted that the model was updated to incorporated changes to the University of Florida traffic analysis zones.

Ms. Kathleen Pagan, Alachua County Senior Planner, discussed her concerns regarding the hotel vacancy and parking data.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the Gainesville Urbanized Area Transportation Study Socioeconomic Report Technical Memorandum Number One. John Gifford seconded; motion passed unanimously.

X. TAC ATTENDANCE/QUORUM ISSUES

Mr. Sanderson stated that a quorum was not present for the May 19th TAC meeting. He said that, previously, MTPO staff conducted TAC meetings, although a quorum was not present, and reported the TAC recommendations as consensus of members present. He reported that MTPO staff discussed this issue with the MTPO Attorney. He said that the MTPO Attorney stated that, when a scheduled meeting is not attended by at least a quorum of the TAC members or alternates present in order to make recommendations to the MTPO, it should be adjourned.

Mr. Sanderson stated that he would contact those agencies with attendance policy violations regarding their TAC meeting absenteeism.

XII. INFORMATION ITEMS

There was no discussion of the information items.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Date

Bill Lecher, Chair

EXHIBIT 1

**ARCHER ROAD/S. 16TH AVENUE AREA CHARRETTE
PARTICIPANT RECOMMENDATIONS**

The participants in the Archer Road/S. 16th Avenue Area Charrette proposed a tiered plan of recommendations with viable milestones. These milestones included:

TIMELINE	MILESTONE
Now	Pedestrian safety enhancements throughout the corridor
	SW 23 rd Terrace extension into the University of Florida campus should be examined as part of the Campus Master Plan update process
	Add transit service to existing routes such as Routes 35, 36 and 9, that are not meeting demand
	State Roads 24/226 Intersection Realignment Study Prioritization, as described in Exhibit 2
5 Years	SW 16 th Avenue inner road network and North-South Drive extension
	Consider mix of uses in “Little Gandy” area with redevelopment, including residential, to reduce private automobile trips.
10 Years	Enhance eastern connection of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) type service and S 16 th Avenue multimodal connection
	Consider mix of uses in “Little Gandy” area with redevelopment, including residential, to reduce private automobile trips.
	Connections to other growth areas- SW 20 th Avenue, Student Village, future commercial and Oaks Mall Park-and-Ride
20 Years	Continue study of SE 16 th Avenue extension- 3-lane/4-lane from State Road 329 to State Road 331

EXHIBIT 2

ARCHER ROAD AND SW 16TH AVENUE INTERSECTION REALIGNMENT STUDY

The purpose of the study is to explore and identify the issues involved with realignment of the intersection of Archer Road and SW 16th Avenue. Objectives of the study are as follows:

- Reroute through traffic (particularly trucks) currently using Archer Road onto SW 16th Avenue. This will reduce traffic volumes in the Shands/VA corridor, creating a more pedestrian and bicycle friendly environment.
- Create a gateway entrance to the University of Florida in the vicinity of Archer Road and SW 16th Avenue.
- Facilitate an extension of North-South Drive south to SW 16th Avenue.
- Improve accessibility to Shands/VA for emergency vehicles and Regional Transit System (RTS) buses.
- Improve pedestrian and bicycle mobility in the area impacted by roadway reconstruction.
- No reduction in the number of lanes on Archer Road

The study needs to include the following components:

- Affected area bordered by Archer Road, SW 16th Avenue and the extension of North-South Drive.
- Need to examine all signalized intersections included in this boundary.
- Need to maintain accessibility to hospitals for emergency vehicles and RTS.
- Options for roadway alignments should be discussed with staff before analysis is performed.
- Options should include possibility of roundabouts with/without bypass lanes.
- Routes for bicycles and pedestrians through the area must be included.
- Clear, defined access to parking facilities must be maintained.
- Must provide opportunities for directional signage for visitors.
- Consider grade separated intersection at SW 16th Avenue and Archer Road.
- Consider limited grade separated intersection at SW 34th Street and Archer Road.