

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
May 16, 2007

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dean Mimms, Chair
Doug Robinson, Vice Chair
Dekova Batey
Steve Dopp
Kathy Fanning
John Gifford
Brian Kanely
Jonathan Paul
John Sabatella
Karen Taulbee

MEMBERS ABSENT

Michelle Danisofzky
Linda Dixon
Ron Fuller
Steve Githens

OTHERS PRESENT

Jordan Green
Doreen Joyner-Howard
Debbie Leistner

STAFF PRESENT

Marlie Sanderson
Michael Escalante

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Dean Mimms City of Gainesville Chief of Comprehensive Planning, called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m.

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Mimms introduced himself and asked others to introduce themselves. He noted that Mr. Brian Kanely, City of Gainesville Transportation Services Manager, was leaving his position with the City and that Mr. Tom Saunders, City of Gainesville, Community Development Director, was leaving the City to take a position in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Kanely stated that he was retiring after 34 years with the City and taking a position with Volper.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Mr. Sanderson noted that agenda item VIII. Unfunded Priority Projects was a Citizens Advisory Committee-only item and asked for approval of the meeting agenda.

ACTION: Kathy Fanning moved to approve the meeting agenda. Steve Dopp seconded; motion passed unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

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

**ACTION: Steve Dopp moved to approve the March 28, 2007 TAC meeting minutes.
Jonathan Paul seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Sanderson announced that the next MTPO meeting is scheduled for May 31st at 3:00 p.m. in the Jack Durrance Auditorium. He said that the TAC's next meeting is scheduled for June 13th.

V. INTERSTATE 75 MASTER PLAN

Mr. Sanderson stated that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) staff requested an opportunity to discuss the Interstate 75 Master Plan update.

Mr. Jordan Green, FDOT Project Manager, discussed the Interstate 75 Master Plan update and answered questions. He noted that there would be a public meeting on July 17th at the Best Western Gateway Grand.

Mr. Sanderson noted that at the MTPO Agenda Review meeting, Chair Craig Lowe requested that an item requesting that FDOT perform a speed study for Interstate 75 in the Gainesville Metropolitan Area be included in the MTPO May 31st meeting agenda.

VI. INTERSTATE 75 AT NEWBERRY ROAD INTERCHANGE

Mr. Sanderson stated that FDOT staff has requested an amendment to the MTPO's Fiscal Years 2006/2007 - 2010/2011 Transportation Improvement Program.

Ms. Karen Taulbee, FDOT Transportation Specialist, stated that FDOT would like to advance the Interstate 75 at Newberry Road Interchange Safety Project.

Mr. Jonathan Paul, Alachua County Impact Fee Administrator, requested that local governments be involved in scoping the project because there are some proposed large developments that are dependent on the operation of the interchange.

**ACTION: Steve Dopp moved to recommend that the MTPO amend its Fiscal Years 2006/2007 - 2010/2011 Transportation Improvement Program to include the Interstate 75 at Newberry Road Interchange Safety Project described in Exhibit 1.
Brian Kanely seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

VII. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Mr. Sanderson stated that the TIP is the most important document that is approved annually by the MTPO. He said that the TIP is a staged implementation program of transportation projects consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with adopted comprehensive plans of Alachua County and the City of Gainesville. He added that, in order for Federal transportation funds to be spent in the Gainesville Metropolitan Area, they must be approved by the MTPO and included in this report. He noted that this year's document authorizes about \$11.8 million in Federal funds for projects within the Gainesville Metropolitan Area over the next fiscal year.

ACTION: Jonathan Paul moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the Fiscal Years 2007/2008 - 2011/2012 Transportation Improvement Program with any necessary administrative changes. Kathy Fanning seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VII . UNFUNDED PRIORITY PROJECTS.

Mr. Kanely stated that the City of Gainesville Community Redevelopment Agency has identified an additional project to add to the MTPO List of Priority Projects.

ACTION: Brian Kanely moved to add as Traffic Operations Priority #12 a project to replace the five existing galvanized mast arm traffic signals with MTPO Design Manual criteria mast arm signals on University Avenue at the following intersections: West 3rd Street; West 2nd Street; West 1st Street; East 1st Street; and East 3rd Street. John Sabatella seconded; motion passed unanimously.

IX. LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AMENDMENT

Mr. Sanderson stated that the University of Florida has requested that the MTPO Year 2025 Livable Community Reinvestment Cost Feasible Plan be amended to include Project F, reconfiguration of the Archer Road at SW 16th Avenue intersection, from the Year 2025 Needs plan. He said that the UF has offered to fund the construction of the new road connecting Archer Road to SW 16th Avenue.

ACTION: Steve Dopp moved to recommend that the MTPO amend its Year 2025 Cost Feasible Plan to add Project F, reconfiguration of the Archer Road at SW 16th Avenue intersection, from the Year 2025 Needs plan, showing the construction of the new road connecting Archer Road to SW 16th Avenue. John Sabatella seconded; motion unanimously.

X. MTPO MAST ARM POLICY- PROPOSED REVISIONS

Mr. Sanderson stated that, last fall, FDOT requested a waiver to the mast arm requirement for a new signal at the intersection of SW 62nd Avenue and Williston Road (State Road 121). He said the MTPO, at its December 14th meeting, approved the following motion to:

“Direct the TAC to consider whether exceptions to Policy 7.2.1 of the MTPO Urban Design Manual should be considered. If exceptions are recommended, criteria for these exceptions should be developed.”

He said that this policy has been reviewed by the MTPO Advisory Committees. He discussed proposed changes to Policy 7.2.1 and answered questions.

ACTION: John Gifford moved to recommend that the MTPO approve the following changes

to Policy 7.2.1 of the *MTPO Urban Design Policy Manual* for review and recommendation:

“~~FDOT staff shall install mast arms with~~ All new signals within Gainesville Metropolitan Area shall be mast arms with horizontal signal heads ~~on all~~ FDOT projects from this date forward. This policy was approved on March 9, 1995. Exceptions to this policy may be granted if all three of the following conditions are met:

- **the intersection is located in unincorporated Alachua County and outside the Gainesville Urbanized Area;**
- **one of the intersecting roads has not been built to an urban, four-lane cross-section; and**
- **the intersection must satisfy the Manual Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) warrant number seven crash experience.**

Exceptions for installing post-mounted signals or vertical heads on mast arms may be granted on a case-by-case basis.

Steve Dopp seconded; motion passed unanimously.

XI. INFORMATION ITEMS

There was no discussion of the information items.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Date

Dean Mimms, Chair