

MINUTES

Lake~Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization Northwest Lake Task Force Meeting

Wednesday, June 18, 2014

Lake~Sumter MPO

1616 South 14th Street, Leesburg, Florida

Governing Board

Commissioner Tim Sullivan, Lake County, D1
Commissioner Jimmy Conner, Lake County, D3
Commissioner Welton Cadwell, Lake County, D5
Commissioner Sharon Kelly, City of Fruitland Park
★Commissioner Jim Richards, Town of Lady Lake
Commissioner David Knowles, City of Leesburg

Administrators

David Heath, Lake County
★Gary La Venia, City of Fruitland Park
Kris Kollgaard, Town of Lady Lake
Al Minner, City of Leesburg

TAC (staff)

Chris Schmidt
Fred Schneider
Dottie Keedy
Ken Harley
★Thad Carroll
★DC Maudlin
Bill Wiley

CAC (citizens)

Steve Ferrell
Ted Wicks
Richard Nelson
John Schaller
Regis LeClerc

BPAC (bike/ped)

Scot Hartle
Machelle Koonce
Mike Burske

★ Member Present

OPENING

Commissioner Jim Richards called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and verified that the meeting was properly noticed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

TASK FORCE ITEMS

1. LakeXpress – Implementation of the Transit Development Plan

Mike Woods provided an update on the TDP including the required items and proposed changes and reviewed the Revised 10-Year Implementation Schedule. The update included the past year's accomplishments, an analysis of any discrepancies between the plan and its implementation for the past year and the steps that will be taken to attain original goals and objectives.

a. Potential Changes to Route 1 – The Villages Hospital

Mike Woods led the discussion stating that currently, the transfer location is in the Spanish Springs but Sumter County will cease their Village Shuttle service starting October 1. Ideally, the Villages Hospital would be the final destination on this route but with the current configuration of route 1 we are maxed-out on mileage. Jim Richards stated that the hospital has a parking and shuttle service in the St. Timothy's Church located on Avenida Central, which could be an option in shorting the miles deficit. Mr. Woods stated that the route has a history of delays due not only to the construction, but also due to the flag stops. He said that staff would like to accelerate the permitting process for ADA compliant bus stops along the route.

b. Potential Changes to Route 2 – Fruitland Park

Mike Woods discussed the proposed changes to route 2. DC Maudlin stated that there many of the complaints from the local businesses community is due to the number of flag stops on US 27.

c. Pending Policy on Bus Shelter Matching Funds Program

Staff has drafted a policy that will be presented to the committees for comments. Lake County staff is also reviewing it along with the County Attorney. T.J. Fish explained that Lake County would set aside a portion of the 5307 funds to be used in the program to install new bus stops and shelters. It would be up to each municipality to participate with a 50% match. Federal funds would be used for bus shelters based on priority; however, no new shelters would be installed without a local match.

2. Status of State Road Projects and Funding

a. US 27/441 6-Lane Project – Lady Lake, The Villages

Programmed at Year 5. In the new list of priority projects, the MPO is asking FDOT to advance the project if the funds are available sooner.

b. US 441 6-Lake Project – Leesburg

Asking the city to keep it shovel-ready but it would be placed lower on the list of priority projects until the utility relocation issues can be worked out.

c. US 27/SR 44 Intersection - Leesburg

Intersection is under study. DC Maudlin reported on to issues and comments received from the public meeting. Pam Richmond suggested that maybe the MPO and the City of Leesburg could host a visioning meeting in the summer before the next public meeting.

d. I-75 Widening Project – Hernando County to Florida's Turnpike

Programmed as a 2-phase project.

e. I-75/Turnpike Interchange Project

Added as part of the widening project, it will improve the interchange at SR 44.

f. US 301 (Sumter County) – SR 44 (Wildwood) to C-470 West (Sumterville)

FDOT is moving forward with the US 301 Study.

g. Change in Priorities: Florida's Turnpike/C-468 Interchange & Florida's Turnpike/US 301 Interchange

T.J. Fish discussed the effects on the roadway network, particularly with the extension of Morse Blvd to SR 44 and the resulting increase in traffic volumes since residents in The Villages would use Morse Blvd as a preferred path to reach the Turnpike.

3. Status of County Road Projects and Funding

a. CR 466A, Phase I – US 27/441 West to Sunny Court

Briefly discussed.

b. CR 466A, Phase 2A – Sumter County Line East to Cutoff Road

Briefly discussed.

c. CR 466A, Phase 2B – Timbertop Road East to Sunny Court

The ROW is funded.

- d. CR 466A, Phase 3 – Timbertop Road East to Sunny Court
Not funded. Discussion on funding sources and tax-sales renewal and the possibility of getting a state grant.
- e. Rolling Acres Road – CR 466 North to US 27/411
Design Needed.
- f. CR 48 – East of US 27 (Includes Palatlahaha Bridge) West to CR 33
Designed but not funded.
- g. CR 470 – CR 48 West to Leesburg Commerce Park
Designed but not funded.
- h. CR 470 – Leesburg Commerce Park West to Sumter County Line
Designed and ROW dedicated. Priority is to get project to shovel-ready status. Possible candidate for state grant.
- i. C-470 – Lake/Sumter County Line West to I-75
Briefly discussed.
- j. Potential Jurisdictional Exchange with FDOT – 470/48 Corridor from US 27 West to I-75
Discussion on the potential ramifications for exchange.

4. Implementation of Safe School Access Study

Study is posted online. A matrix database was built to prioritize needs for all schools and it is already generating responses with the cities and districts. Mike Woods discussed the changes in the federal funding and that we are looking at local funding sources to program sidewalk projects.

Dan Vincent commented on the sidewalk program in Lady Lake and stated that the number of people using the sidewalks was surprising and that it was a worthy investment for the town.

5. Trail Projects

Briefly discussed the Coast to Coast gaps in the MPO area.

6. Leesburg International Airport

DC Maudlin reported on completed and upcoming projects. He also briefly discussed the economic development task force that aim to focus in economic opportunities to the area.

TASK FORCE MEMBER REPORTS/COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m.