



**SOUTH LAKE TASKFORCE
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, February 28, 2008
Clermont City Hall
685 W. Montrose St.
Clermont, Florida 34711**

Members Present:

Commissioner Elaine Renick
Council Member Ray Goodgame
Mayor David Yeager
Commissioner Judy Tice
Councilmember James Gearhart for Councilmember Allen Sherrod
Councilor Bonnie Nebel

Representing:

Lake County
City of Clermont
City of Minneola
Town of Astatula
City of Groveland
Town of Howey-in-the-Hills

Members Absent:

Commissioner Debbie Stivender
Mayor Felix Ramirez
Town Councilman Joe Wynkoop

Representing:

Lake County
City of Mascotte
Town of Montverde

Staff:

T. J. Fish
Sandy Minkoff
Susan Goldfuss

Executive Director
Attorney
Executive Assistant

Council Member Ray Goodgame, MPO Chairman-Elect, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and noted that the meeting was properly noticed.

I. Status of Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority Financial Feasibility Study

T.J. Fish briefed the taskforce on the presentation that was given by the OOCEA's consultant to the governing board yesterday, and stated that the study does not have local support. The taskforce agreed that since the road proposed by the Karlton Corporation is not supported by Clermont, Lake County or Orange County; that something still needs to be done to alleviate Hartwood Marsh Rd and SR 50. Brief discussion reference the West Orange South Lake Transportation Taskforce not being a viable option for a proposal. However, Mr. Fish requested guidance as to how to plan a 4 lane reliever south of SR 50 and Hartwood Marsh Rd. It was later agreed for Mr. Fish and Mayor Yeager to meet with the City of Winter Garden for a unified approach.

II. Status of SR 50 Funding

Discussion as to what happens if the Plaza Collina TRIP (Transportation Regional Incentive Program) match falls through. David Marsh, FDOT MPO Liaison, stated that that portion of SR 50 would still be widened to 6 lanes, but without the turn lanes and signals. Mr. Marsh stated that FDOT management met this morning reference extending the SR 50 widening currently slated to start in March, 2008; however, he had not received the results of that meeting yet. Mr. Fish reiterated the proposal of a Pioneer Agreement he had suggested at the previous taskforce meeting of an agreement that would go before the Lake County BCC by resolution that could replace the Plaza Collina TRIP match. Discussion reference Hancock to US 27 being over capacity and not meeting concurrency; and a group strategy needed for the county and cities to come up with a local match. Brief discussion reference the TRIP funds and what happens if they are not expended timely. Mr. Fish reviewed the map of SR 50 projects and explained the status of each phase.

III. Status of US 27 Funding

Mr. Fish reviewed the map of US 27 projects in South Lake County and explained the status of each phase. Discussion led to the US 27 / SR 50 interchange that is not in the FDOT work program. It was suggested for the MPO, Lake County and the municipalities to send letters to the legislators for the funding of that interchange. Discussion reference municipality annexation coinciding with proportionate fair share; and no development order approvals until the MPO has given a letter of transportation concurrency.

IV. Recommendation on North Minneola PD&E Study

T.J. Fish reviewed the Hills of Minneola DRI on the Conceptual Roadway Network map provided. The City of Minneola is requesting a PD&E Study west of the development for the need for better connectivity, and wants to use impact fees to fund the study. The taskforce was in support of that request to be made to the Lake County BCC.

V. Minneola Turnpike Interchange and Supporting Roadway Network

Bruce Duncan, President of Family Dynamics, explained the terms of a Memo of Understanding with Florida's Turnpike Enterprise. The turnpike had been advised by the MPO and Minneola as to the regional impact and the benefit of the interchange that would potentially relieve the US 27 / SR 50 intersection along with alleviating long term maintenance of those two major roads. Mr. Fish requested direction to be able to communicate with landowners and developers for a proportionate fair share for the turnpike interchange. Brief discussion getting developers on board. Mr. Fish clarified the direction of the taskforce to move forward.

VI. Staff Report / Comments

Mr. Fish discussed the PD&E Study being requested by the Town of Astatula for the widening of CR 561. He explained that FDOT has agreed to do a ETDM (Efficient Transportation Decision Making) planning screen for SR 19 from Tavares through Howey to the turnpike (to include the Little Lake Harris Bridge); CR 48 from SR 19 to US 27; and CR 561 from SR 19 to US 27 in Minneola. Brief discussion.

Mr. Fish brought up the request for a traffic signal at Sawgrass Bay and US 27. The study completed by FDOT Traffic Operations noted that a signal was not warranted; however, a resolution for this is needed as school officials and parents are adamant to resolve the safety concerns. It was suggested for Mr. Fish to meet with District 5 Secretary Noranne Downs as she is the only one who can override the study results.

VII. Taskforce Members / Comments

None

VIII. Public Comments

John Moore, a member of the Lake County Transportation Alternative Funding Taskforce, stated he found this meeting to be very informative; and requested assistance for a study for a signal on a county road which Noble Olasimbo, Lake County Public Works, will assist him with.

Ray San Fratello, President of South Lake Chamber, agreed that this meeting was informative and will continue to attend.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.