



TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA

**Wednesday, April 9, 2014
Regular Meeting, 1:30 p.m.**

**1616 South 14th Street
Leesburg, Florida 34748
Phone (352) 315-0170 – Fax (352) 315-0993**

OPENING

Call to Order
Proper Noticing
Determination of Quorum

I. REPORTS

- A. Florida Department of Transportation: Vickie Wyche, MPO Liaison
- B. Florida's Turnpike Enterprise
- C. County Reports
- D. MPO Staff: T.J. Fish, Executive Director; Pam Richmond, MPO Project Manager; Mike Woods, Transportation Planner; Olga Marcondes, Transportation Planner; and Francis Franco, GIS Manager
- E. TAC: Members Comments and Reports

II. AGENDA UPDATE

Proposed revisions to today's agenda

III. COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC ON ANY AGENDA ITEMS

IV. ACTION ITEMS

A. Recommend Adoption of FY 2014/15 – 2015/16 Unified Planning Work Program

In February, MPO committees and the Governing Board reviewed and acted to approve the draft UPWP, which focused on the tasks proposed to be accomplished by the MPO between July 2014 and June 2016. Since that time, MPO staff has refined the text of the document and added the updated financial information provided by state and federal agencies regarding planning grants to the MPO. The document is now being presented for final approval. Committees are requested to provide any final comments on the document and recommend approval of the UPWP to the Governing Board.

B. Recommend Approval of Draft FY 2014/15 – 2018/19 Transportation Improvement Program and for the Governing Board to Open Public Review Period

The draft TIP document is based on several funding sources, especially the FDOT Tentative Work Program. In order to provide sufficient time for the public to review the

draft five-year program, the MPO is required to approve a draft in April, with the final document to be approved in June. The final dollar amounts, or the fiscal years in which a phase of a project is funded, may be adjusted when the final TIP is presented for approval in June. The TIP covers the next five fiscal years of funding from all sources: federal, state, regional, local and private. The TIP is consistently impacted by changes to the FDOT Work Program. Recommendation to the Governing Board is to also include opening the required public comment period on the new TIP. A resolution for adoption will be presented in June.

C. Recommend Approval to Amend FY 2018/19 – 2034/35 List of Priority Projects

Two projects are proposed to be added to the MPO's List of Priority Projects. CR 466A, Phase 3, a Lake County project in Fruitland Park, is proposed for addition to the LOPP in light of its unfunded status. Phase 1 of the CR 466A project is funded for right-of-way acquisition and construction. CR 466A, Phase 2, is funded for the right-of-way acquisition phase, with construction funding pending an agreement with The Villages. CR 466A, Phase 3, is funded for neither right-of-way nor construction. Therefore, the phase is proposed to be added to the LOPP as a state grant candidate with the local match coming from a blending of private and public dollars.

The second project proposed for addition to the LOPP, the SR 19/CR 561 intersection, is requested by the City of Tavares. The intersection of state arterial SR 19 and Lake County collector CR 561 is an awkwardly-configured confluence of two regionally-significant roadways. With development potential on the western side of the intersection, it is likely that a signal warrant would be triggered should the property to the west be developed as a commercial center. Therefore, the intersection is proposed for addition to the LOPP in order to request of FDOT to commence planning for a reconfiguration of the intersection. Should a signal be installed, additional changes would also be needed such as the addition of dual left turns for southbound SR 19 onto CR 561. Additional right-of-way may also be needed. The City of Tavares has proposed that the intersection be treated as a proportionate share public-private partnership, with private funds covering the cost of the signal installation and public funds utilized to address the reconfiguration issues relative to the regional nature of the intersection.

D. Create Subcommittee for FY 2019/20 – 2034/35 List of Priority Projects

In light of suggestions that emerged during the 2013 development of the LOPP, staff is proposing to create a subcommittee to oversee the development of the new LOPP. The subcommittee would help guide the transition of the LOPP to the new phase-based format. The subcommittee would also advise on the criteria and factors that affect prioritization of projects. Staff proposes that the subcommittee consist of five members: three from the Technical Advisory Committee, one from the Citizens' Advisory Committee and one from the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee. The committee is requested to provide feedback and to recommend to create the subcommittee, along with recommending member appointment(s).

E. SR 40 Pending Easement

FDOT is coordinating with the U.S. Forestry Service for the establishment of a legal easement for SR 40 through the Ocala National Forest. The current status of SR 40 places the roadway within a strip legally defined in a Special Use Permit issued by the U.S. Forestry Service. As FDOT is seeking to establish legal easement, the width of the easement is to be determined. When the permit was issued, the documents defined a 132-foot-wide strip for SR 40. When the strip was surveyed and markers were placed, the strip was surveyed at 100 feet in width. In light of the plan to develop a trail along SR 40 from Ocala in Marion County east through Lake County to Volusia County, the MPO

could request of FDOT to pursue a 132-foot-wide easement rather than a 100-foot-wide easement. Staff requests a recommendation for the chairman to issue a letter of request for a 132-foot-wide easement.

F. SR 44/Waycross Avenue – Signal Request

The MPO received a letter from Mount Dora Mayor Cathy Hoechst concerning the placement of a traffic signal at the intersection of SR 44 and Waycross Avenue. This intersection is along the 1.8-mile segment of SR 44 prioritized for widening to four lanes between US 441 and Orange Avenue/SR 44. According to FDOT, the signal is not warranted at this time. FDOT is considering programming funds in the five-year program to cover construction costs for the widening project. Once the widening is complete, the intersection can be reevaluated for a signal warrant. Staff is prepared to transmit a letter of response to Mount Dora or to accept direction on coordinating on this issue with FDOT.

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. FY 2019/20 – 2034/35 List of Priority Projects

Last year, the LOPP was adopted in August in the traditional format that has been in place since the inception of the MPO. In October, the MPO approved to add as an appendix a new format for the LOPP that lists priorities for each phase of project development: construction (CST), right-of-way acquisition (ROW), design/engineering (PE), project development and environmental study (PD&E), and special studies/analyses. For discussion, MPO staff is providing the Appendix A from the LOPP. The format of the appendix is proposed as the new permanent format for the LOPP. In May, staff will work with committees and the Governing Board to review changes to the LOPP due to the funding of or advancement of funding for various projects. In June, MPO staff will present a formal draft LOPP for committee recommendation and Governing Board approval. In August the LOPP will be brought before the MPO for adoption following a 60-day public comment period.

B. Legislative Update

Staff continues to monitor proposed legislation impacting transportation in Sumter and Lake Counties. Staff will provide an update on bills addressing items such as the Central Florida Expressway Authority, hazardous walking conditions around schools, and the Central Florida Coast-to-Coast Trail.

C. Lake County Sales Tax

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners is having on-going discussions on the potential renewal of the one-cent sales tax dedicated to capital projects. The Lake BCC is to meet in a retreat in the coming weeks to solidify the timing of a referendum for the public to decide whether to renew the sales tax. At this time, the discussion has focused on a 2015 referendum, with the renewed sales tax to be divided in thirds among the Lake County School District, the 14 municipalities of Lake County, and county government. Currently, the third of the sales tax received by Lake County is divided equally between transportation capital projects and facility capital projects.

D. Lake County Gas Tax Distribution Formula

With the required majority of municipalities supporting a new formula for distributing the municipal portion of the First Local Option Gas Tax, an interlocal agreement is being distributed by the Lake County Board of County Commissioners. The Lake BCC is seeking approval of the interlocal agreements by May 20.

E. Central Florida Safe Routes to Schools Web Portal

An overview will be provided of an interactive website containing information on the Safe Routes to School program in Central Florida. The site is based on a template established when the MPO developed lakesumtersafeschools.com.

F. Transportation Fiscal Cliff and Cash Management Overview

A presentation is included for informational purposes to illustrate the effects uncertainty at the federal level is having on managing transportation projects at the state and local levels.

VI. PRESENTATION

A. FDOT District Five Transportation System Management & Operation (TSM&O) – Supported by SHRP2

FDOT District Five has set forth to integrate and optimize a program which utilizes a management and operations approach combined with set of cost-effective strategies for the development and continuous upgrade of a well-maintained district-wide intermodal system. This system will support mode choice, minimization of connection gaps, and full-system reliability. FDOT representative, John Moore, will present the progress, to date, of this initiative and the next steps in achieving this unified vision for Central Florida transportation.

VII. PROJECT UPDATES

- A.** US 441 Corridor Alternatives Analysis (Orange Blossom Express Study)
- B.** Lake-Orange Parkway and Wellness Way Sector Plan
- C.** Sumter County Interchanges: C-468 and CR 514
- D.** Minneola Interchange
- E.** Trails: South Lake Trail, South Sumter Connector Trail, Wekiva Trail

VIII. CONFIRMATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATTENDING GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

April 23, 2014, 2 p.m. at the Lake~Sumter MPO.

IX. ADJOURNMENT - NEXT MEETING: May 14, 2014, 1:30 p.m. @ Lake~Sumter MPO

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 286, Florida Statutes, Section 286.0105, if any person decides to appeal any decision made by the Lake~Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization with respect to any matter considered at the meeting, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. All interested citizens are welcome to attend. Persons with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of the proceedings should contact the Lake~Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization at (352) 315-0170, 48 hours in advance of the meeting.