

MINUTES

Lake~Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting

Wednesday, February 12, 2014
Lake~Sumter MPO
1616 South 14th Street, Leesburg, Florida

OPENING

Chairman Thad Carroll called the meeting to order at 1:36 p.m. and noted that the meeting was properly noticed, and that a quorum was present.

Members Present

Thad Carroll, Chairman	Town of Lady Lake
Fred Schneider	Lake County
Ken Harley	Lake County/Public Transportation
Debbie Nelson	Sumter County Transit
Denise Lee	City of Bushnell
Jim Hitt	City of Clermont
Dianne Kramer	City of Eustis
Gary La Venia	City of Fruitland Park
Catherine Howard	City of Groveland
Cindy Watson	Town of Howey-in-the-Hills
DC Maudlin	City of Leesburg
Aaron Mercer	City of Minneola
Richard Hatfield	City of Umatilla
Jason McHugh, Vice-Chairman	City of Wildwood

Members Absent

Dawn McDonald	Lake County Schools
Scott Cottrell	Sumter County
Mark Reggentin	City of Mount Dora
Alisha Maraviglia	City of Tavares

Staff Present

T.J. Fish	Executive Director
Pam Richmond	MPO Project Manager
Mike Woods	Transportation Planner
Francis Franco	GIS Manager
Olga Marcondes	Transportation Planner/Recording Secretary

Others Present

Vickie Wyche	FDOT
Karl Holley	Sumter County
Chris Thompson	City of Tavares
Christopher Schultz	Town of Howey-in-the-Hills
Melanie Peavy	City of Wildwood

REPORTS

A. Florida Department of Transportation

Ms. Vickie Wyche, MPO Liaison, gave an update on the construction projects in the Lake and Sumter areas.

B. Florida's Turnpike Enterprise

None

C. County Reports

Fred Schneider, Lake County Engineering Director, stated that recently they have sent to the municipalities the notification about the Impact Fee Program and request for projects.

D. MPO Staff

Pam Richmond reported that they are taking traffic counts at this time and wanted to let members know that she was not aware that we needed to send out a notice to the municipalities. She will be doing that in the future and that if anyone get calls from concerned citizens that you can direct them to contact her. She also stated that we do have a schedule that she would be happy to share if anyone requests it. Pam also mentioned that we are seeing a lot of comprehensive plan amendments coming through and one of the services the MPO provides is to review them. She stated that the MPO has been working with FDOT to develop a methodology to aid in expediting the process. If you know of an amendment that would require a traffic impact study, either from a staff or from the private sector, to please ask them to contact us so that we can discuss the methodology. Olga Marcondes asked the members to review the traffic review report included with the agenda for any missing projects and to please let her know if any projects have been approved so that she can update the database. Francis Franco reported on some of the updates to our website. He mentioned that the 2013 crash data reports are available on the maps section and is using a new platform for displaying the data and to overcome some of the limitations with Google Earth. He proceeded to give a brief demonstration how the new interface work. T.J. Fish reported that the MPO Board has approved the TMS budget and that it is being distributed to all jurisdictions to allow each local government to incorporate the new budget amounts for the next fiscal year.

E. TAC: Members Comments and Reports

None

AGENDA UPDATE

None

COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC ON ANY AGENDA ITEMS

None

ACTION ITEM

A. January 8, 2014 Meeting Minutes

MOTION was made by Jim Hitt to approve the January 8, 2014 minutes as presented; seconded by Denise Lee -- **motion passed 14-0.**

B. Draft FY 2014/15 – 2015/16 Unified Planning Work Program

T.J. Fish explained the process of updating the UPWP and that the committee had a copy of the updated UPWP tasks. He stated that the planning effort is broken into seven chapters and that we would welcome any suggestions. Discussion ensued. **MOTION** was made by Jim Hitt to recommend to the board to approve the draft FY 2014/15 – 2015/16 Unified Planning Work Program and to open the public review period; seconded by Denise Lee -- **motion passed 14-0.**

C. Request of FDOT to Take Lead Role on Coast-to-Coast Trail through Lake and Sumter Counties

T.J. Fish explained that this draft resolution is to clarify the need for FDOT to take a lead role instead of each portion of the project be treated as a local agency programmed project. Discussion ensued. **MOTION** was made by Jim Hitt to submit the drafted resolution to the Board; seconded by Catherine Howard -- **motion passed 14-0.**

D. Lake County Policy on Bus Stops and Shelters

T.J. Fish explained that before this policy is presented to the Lake County of Board Commissioners that it would be tested through the MPO committees and task forces before being presented to the MPO Board. Discussion ensued. **MOTION** was made by Ken Harley to recommend that the Lake County Policy on Bus Stops and Shelters be submitted to the Board; seconded by Jim Hitt -- **motion passed 12-2, with DC Maudlin and Dianne Kramer opposed.**

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. 2013 Transportation Management System Annual Report

T.J. Fish stated that the 2013 TMS Annual Report was produced and presented to the Governing Board at the January meeting. He provided an overview of the report including a discussion on the layers of data, including traffic counts, reserved trips, levels of service, and crash locations.

B. Process to Develop *Transportation 2040*

T.J. Fish provided an overview of the process to develop a long-range transportation plan for the two-county MPO Area by first giving a brief history of how past LRTPs were developed and how the focus has changed from widening roads to emphasizing traffic management alternatives. For the *Transportation 2040*, the MPO will be producing it in-house and only using consultants to supplement our efforts. Pam Richmond will be project manager for the plan.

PRESENTATION

A. Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Strategy

Mandy Rodriguez, FDOT, presented the process FDOT is using to develop the district-wide ITS architecture and the MPO's role in the process.

PROJECT UPDATES

A. Rail Initiatives

Mr. Fish updated the committee on the upgrade of the tracks. Construction is near completion; continuous-weld and tracks are placed all the way to Eustis. Final ties should be completed next month. The alternative analysis is focusing on three potential modes, commuter rail, Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and express bus. Commuter rail and express bus are the two modes that are most feasible.

B. Lake-Orange Parkway and Wellness Way Sector Plan

Mr. Fish stated that the Sector Plan is going through a process of refinement. The Lake-Orange Parkway still has many issues to be resolved with the loan application from the group of landowners. FDOT has the funds available to start the corridor and alternative analysis study but at this point, it is waiting the outcome of construction loan.

C. Sumter County Interchanges C-468 and CR 514

Mr. Fish updated the committee on the two interchanges in Sumter County. The Villages is constructing their interchange and it should be opened next year.

D. Minneola Interchange

Mr. Fish stated that there is a deadline established by the Florida's Turnpike Enterprise on the landowners of the Hills of Minneola DRI for their commitment. Once the commitment is signed, the FTE will begin advertisement for the design-build in March.

E. Trails

Mike Woods gave the committee an overview of the South Lake Trail alignment under construction. Mr. Fish also said that we would continue to work with all partners to close the gaps on the Coast-to-Coast Trail and discussed the opportunities along the CTC for ecotourism areas.

CONFIRMATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATTENDING GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Thad Carroll stated that he would be the TAC representative attending the Governing Board meeting on February 26, 2014 at 2 pm at the Lake~Sumter MPO.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:17 p.m.

Thad Carroll, Chairman