

MINUTES

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

Wednesday, April 9, 2014
Lake~Sumter MPO
1616 South 14th Street, Leesburg, Florida

OPENING

Chairman Thad Carroll called the meeting to order at 1:38 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
Chris Schmidt	Lake County
Dottie Keedy	Lake County/Public Transportation
Dawn McDonald	Lake County Schools
Karl Holley	Sumter County
Debbie Nelson	Sumter County Transit
Denise Lee	City of Bushnell
Jim Hitt	City of Clermont
Dianne Kramer	City of Eustis
Aaron Mercer	City of Minneola
Mark Reggentin	City of Mount Dora
Alisha Maraviglia	City of Tavares
Richard Hatfield	City of Umatilla
Jason McHugh, Vice-Chairman	City of Wildwood

Members Absent

Gary La Venia	City of Fruitland Park
Cindy Watson	Town of Howey-in-the-Hills
DC Maudlin	City of Leesburg

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
Jeffrey Atkin	Sumter County Public Works
Melanie Peavy	City of Wildwood
Chris Schultz	Neel-Schaffer, Inc.
Fraser Howe	METRO Consul

REPORTS

A. Florida Department of Transportation

Ms. Vickie Wyche, MPO Liaison, gave an update on the construction projects in the Lake and Sumter areas. She also mentioned that some of the committee members might have received an invitation for the partnering meeting on May 15. She said that the meeting is open for any discussion and that she would need the agenda items by May 8. She also said there would be another meeting on October 28.

B. Florida's Turnpike Enterprise

None

C. County Reports

None

D. MPO Staff

Olga Marcondes asked members to review the traffic study review report included in the agenda and to let her know if there are any projects missing from the list. Francis Franco reported that all the maps are operable on our website and if any broken links are found to let him know.

E. TAC: Members Comments and Reports

None

AGENDA UPDATE

None

COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC ON ANY AGENDA ITEMS

None

ACTION ITEM

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

T.J. Fish explained in February the TAC focused on the tasks proposed to be accomplished between July 2014 and June 2016. Currently the staff has refined the text and added the updated financial information provided by the state and federal agencies. Discussion ensued. **MOTION** was made by Jim Hitt to recommend to the Board the adoption of FY 2014/15 – 2015/16 Unified Planning Work Program; seconded by Karl Holley -- **motion passed 13-0.**

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

T.J. Fish explained 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. He also emphasized that the TIP is heavily impacted by changes to the FDOT Work Program. Discussion ensued. **MOTION** was made by Mark Reggentin to recommend approval of the Draft FY 2014/15 – 2018/19 TIP and to open the public review period; seconded by Jim Hitt -- **motion passed 13-0.**

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

T.J. Fish explained in detail the two projects that were added to the LOPP, the CR 466A Phase 3 and the SR 19/CR 561 Intersection. Discussion ensued with Thad Carroll requesting that the Rolling Acres Project/US 27 Reliever be added back in the LOPP. **MOTION** was made by Jim Hitt to recommend approval to amend FY 2018/19 – 2034/35 LOPP as revised; seconded by Alisha Maraviglia -- **motion passed 13-0.**

Chris Schmidt arrived at this time. Quorum is now at fourteen.

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

T.J. Fish explained staff is proposing the creation of a subcommittee to oversee the development of the new LOPP and to advise on the criteria and other factors affecting the prioritization of projects. Discussion ensued with Mark Reggentin, Jim Hitt and Jason McHugh volunteering to become the TAC members of the LOPP subcommittee. **MOTION** was made by Mark Reggentin to recommend the creation and appointment of the subcommittee to review the FY 2019/20 – 2034/35 List of Priority Projects; seconded by Karl Holley -- **motion passed 14-0.**

E. SR 40 Pending Easement

Mike Woods detailed the history of the issue. Discussion ensued. **MOTION** was made by Mark Reggentin to recommend to the Board to request a 132-foot-wide easement on SR 40 in a letter to FDOT; seconded by Dianne Kramer -- **motion passed 14-0.**

F. SR 44/Waycross Avenue – Signal Request

T.J. Fish explained that the MPO has received a letter from the mayor of Mount Dora, Cathy Hoechst, concerning the placement of a traffic signal at the intersection of SR 40 at Waycross Avenue.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN

DISCUSSION ITEMS

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

T.J. Fish stated that the draft for the new FY 2019/20 – 2034/35 List of Priority Projects would be open for public comments in June with a final adoption by the Board in August. He reminded the committee members of the new permanent format for the LOPP, which was included as Appendix A in the previous adopted LOPP. Pam Richmond wanted to remind the committee that every project must have a FDOT project application completed before it is added to the LOPP.

B. Legislative Update

T.J. Fish updated the committee members on proposed legislation impacting transportation in Sumter and Lake Counties.

C. Lake County Sales Tax

T.J. Fish updated the committee on the on-going discussions on the potential renewal of the Lake County one-cent sales tax, which is revenue dedicated to capital projects. The sales tax sunsets in 2017. A referendum would be needed in 2015 but it might come down to each jurisdiction to look at each project they would like to present to the public to gather support for the tax renewal.

D. Lake County Gas Tax Distribution Formula

T.J. Fish stated that interlocal agreements were distributed by Lake County BCC to the municipalities for approval by May 20 on the new formula for distributing the municipal portion of the First Local Option Gas Tax. He emphasized that the MPO does not have a role in this issue and that this discussion item was for information purposes only.

E. Central Florida Safe Routes to Schools Web Portal

Mike Woods presented the new web portal for all Central Florida. The Lake-Sumter Safe Routes to Schools web portal was used as a template and applied district wide. He stated that this is an excellent resource with a video library, archival documents, map gallery with interactive maps, and a grant application support map tool. Additionally, there is a kid's corner full of resources and activities and an area for parents. T.J. Fish mentioned that Mike Woods won an award for his work on this project.

F. Transportation Fiscal Cliff and Cash Management Overview

T.J. Fish gave an overview on how uncertainty of federal funds affect projects at the local level.

PRESENTATION

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

John Moore, FDOT District 5, presented the progress of the TSM&O initiative and explained the program. He emphasized the role of the MPO as a partner in this broad-based strategies for the development and continuous upgrade of a district-wide intermodal system.

PROJECT UPDATES

A. US 441 Corridor Alternative Analysis (Orange Blossom Express Study)

Mr. Fish updated the committee on the upgrade of the tracks and should be completed in May. 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 and the study should be completed in the summer.

B. Lake-Orange Parkway and Wellness Way Sector Plan

Mr. Fish stated that the sector plan is currently on hold with the City of Clermont discussing some of the issue encountered with Lake County. As for the role of the MPO, he said that staff is working with Lake County on the traffic component of the sector plan. He also updated the committee on the Lake-Orange Parkway. He stated that there are some issues to be resolved with the loan application from the group of landowners.

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. In the mean time, staff is working with FDOT on the interchange justification report process and on the Methodology Letter of Understanding (MLOU). Pam Richmond stated that the MLOU was approved and that the justification report should be submitted in May. She also said that US301 PD&E consultant was selected and that the study has an estimated 36-month cycle.

D. Minneola Interchange

Mr. Fish stated that he has not yet heard anything regarding the executed agreement with property owners. The Florida's Turnpike Enterprise is waiting on the agreement before advertising for a design-build project.

E. Trails

Mr. Fish gave an update on the pieces of the Coast-to-Coast Trail that has been advanced thanks to the changes in the FDOT Work Program. He also said that we would continue to work with all partners to close the gaps.

CONFIRMATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATTENDING GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Thad Carroll stated that he would be the TAC representative attending the Governing Board meeting on April 23, 2014 at 2 pm at the Lake~Sumter MPO.

Before adjourning, Thad Carroll wanted to recognize and welcome Chris Schmidt who was appointed as the Lake County representative to the committee.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

Thad Carroll, Chairman