

MINUTES

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

Wednesday, May 14, 2014

Lake~Sumter MPO

1616 South 14th Street, Leesburg, Florida

OPENING

Chairman Thad Carroll called the meeting to order at 1:34 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
Denise Lee	City of Bushnell
Dianne Kramer	City of Eustis
Gary La Venia	City of Fruitland Park
DC Maudlin	City of Leesburg
Aaron Mercer	City of Minneola
Mark Reggentin	City of Mount Dora
Jason McHugh, Vice-Chairman	City of Wildwood

Members Absent

Scott Cottrell	Sumter County
Debbie Nelson	Sumter County Transit
Jim Hitt	City of Clermont
Jacques Skutt	City of Tavares
Richard Hatfield	City of Umatilla

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
Rebekah Hammond	Florida Turnpike Enterprise
Bradley Arnold	Sumter County Administrator
Jeffrey Atkin	Sumter County Public Works
Shannon Ferrell	City of Groveland

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

Ms. Rebekah Hammond, Government Affairs Officer, reported that the Turnpike/I-75 interchange is advancing rapidly and going to construction later this year; and the Minneola interchange was delayed briefly due to technicalities, but is moving forward.

C. County Reports

None

D. MPO Staff

Michael Woods reported on the scenic byway extension, presenting maps of the extensions detailing all the projects on the Florida Black Bear Scenic Byway (FBBSB) and the Green Mountain Scenic Byway (GMSB). T.J. Fish reminded the committee that the TMS budget was approved and that it was resubmitted to all municipalities and to both counties. 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 reminded committee members to send any comments on the draft FY 2014/15 Transportation Improvement Program to him and that the TIP is on the homepage of the MPO's website.

E. TAC: Members Comments and Reports

Note

AGENDA UPDATE

None

COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC ON ANY AGENDA ITEMS

None

ACTION ITEM

A. Approval of February 12 and April 9, 2014 Meeting Minutes

MOTION was made by Denise Lee to recommend approval of the February 12 and April 9, 2014 meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Chris Schmidt -- **motion passed 11-0.**

B. Recommend Comments for Draft FY 2014/15 – 2018/19 Transportation Improvement Program

T.J. Fish explained that if there were no additional comments to be included at this time, an action would not be required. He further stated that there will be an additional Appendix C in the final document.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN

C. Recommend Approval of Resolution of Support of Reassignment of Proportionate Share Obligation from C-468/Florida's Turnpike Interchange to US 301/Florida's Turnpike Interchange

T.J. Fish explained that growth patterns and priorities have changed in the area and that there is a regional benefit to shift the funds from the interchange at C-468 to the interchange at US 301 to expedite safety priorities. He mentioned the concern with Morse Blvd. since it was designed and built as a collector, but if it connects to the Turnpike, it would function as an arterial with a higher truck traffic when this road was not built to support it. He noted that modeling efforts with the interchange in place and without it to ensure that it would be able to handle the estimated traffic increase. He also noted that this fund reassignment would not have a negative effect on Lake County, Sumter County, nor the City of Wildwood. Discussion

ensued. **MOTION** was made by Dottie Keedy to recommend approval of the Resolution of Support of Reassignment of Proportionate Share Obligation from C-468/Florida's Turnpike Interchange to US 301/Florida's Turnpike Interchange; seconded by Mark Reggentin -- **motion passed 11-0.**

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. Mark Reggentin, LOPP subcommittee member, reported on the process and explained that some of the tasks will be implemented next year such as looking at a mechanism to prioritize existing and new projects. The new proposed schedule was presented, and Thad Carroll requested that Rolling Acres Road project be placed on the LOPP (table 3) per his previous request from the last TAC meeting. Pam Richmond stated that a Variance Report will be provided showing which projects moved from table to table and to what priority position.

B. Legislative Update

T.J. Fish updated the committee members on proposed legislation impacting transportation in Sumter and Lake Counties. The Coast-to-Coast bill that was vetoed last year, may be approved this year but in lesser amounts. The main change is that there is language in the bill that makes these trails eligible for state funding. He mentioned that the legislature passed the Central Florida Expressway Authority bill that will eliminate the current expressway authority and form a new one that will include Lake County. Brief discussion on the Paratransit trips and Medicaid changes and their impact on fixed route funding in Lake County.

C. Lake~Sumter Transit Development Plan Annual Update

Michael Woods led the discussion on the update and the proposed route changes. He is looking for feedback from the committee members. Dottie Keedy discussed the LYNX routes 55 and 204 stating that route 55 may be continued for next year if the Lake County BCC extends the agreement with LYNX, but due to low ridership, route 204 may be discontinued.

D. Implementation of Safe School Access Study

Michael Woods reminded the committee of the three-year study. MPO staff is asking committee members to keep the word out for school safety sidewalk projects. He referred members to the website that has all the information on each school. He wants to make sure that projects are incorporated into new developments.

PROJECT UPDATES

A. US 441 Corridor Alternative Analysis (Orange Blossom Express Study – Orlando to Golden Triangle)

Mr. Fish stated that the project is winding down and discussed the local match requirement if commuter rail is going to go forward.

B. Lake-Orange Parkway (US 27 to SR 429) and Wellness Way Sector Plan (South Lake)

Mr. Fish stated that the sector plan is still on hold. 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 and that FDOT is at a holding pattern pending the outcome.

C. I-75/CR 514 Interchange Planning (Sumter County near Coleman)

Mr. Fish stated that there was no further update since the last meeting. He stated that staff is working with FDOT to advance the project.

D. Minneola Interchange: Florida's Turnpike/North Hancock Road

Mr. Fish stated the Florida's Turnpike Enterprise expects to advertise for a design-build project in September.

E. Trails: South Lake Trail, South Sumter Connector Trails, Wekiva Trail

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 and their potential economic impact and development opportunities for ecotourism. He also said that we would continue to work with all partners to close the gaps. He also mentioned that the Villa City DRI, in Groveland, is in pre-application. Currently, there is no agreement from Groveland to have the MPO staff review the traffic portion of this new DRI.

CONFIRMATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATTENDING GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Thad Carroll stated that he would be the TAC representative attending the Governing Board meeting on May 28, 2014 at 2 pm at the Lake~Sumter MPO.

Before adjourning, Chairman 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 3:13 p.m.

Thad Carroll, Chairman