

Minutes
Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting
2570 W. International Speedway Blvd., Suite 120
Daytona Beach, FL 32114-4185

Members Present:

Paul McKittrick
Arlene Smith
Blanche Hardy
Ron Paradise
Darren Lear
Doug Gutierrez
Mark Rakowski
Jim Smith
Ric Goss
Jim Kerr
Bill McCord
John Dillard
Larry LaHue
Richard Prine
Mary Schoelzel
Marian Ridgeway
Karl Welzenbach (non-voting)

Members Absent:

Stewart Cruz
Don Findell
Aref Joulani
Heather Blanck(excused)

Others Present:

Pamela Blankenship, Recording Secretary
Carole Hinkley
Lois Bollenback
Mike Marcum
Gary Huttman
Chris Walsh

Representing:

Daytona Beach
DB Int'l Airport
DeLand
Deltona
Edgewater
Holly Hill
New Smyrna Beach
Oak Hill
Ormond Beach
Orange City
Port Orange
South Daytona
VC EMS
VC Traffic Engineering
FDOT District V
VC School Board
MPO Staff

Representing:

Daytona Beach Shores
Lake Helen
Ponce Inlet
Votran

Representing:

MPO Staff
MPO Staff
MPO Staff
Daytona Beach
Burgess & Niple
Kimley-Horn

I. Call to Order / Roll Call / Determination of Quorum

The meeting of the Volusia County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairman Doug Gutierrez. The roll was called and it was determined that a quorum was present.

II. Consent Agenda

A) Approval of October 20, 2009 TCC Meeting Minutes

MOTION: *Mr. McCord moved to approve the October 20, 2009 TCC meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lear and carried unanimously.*

B) Cancellation of December TCC Meeting

MOTION: *Mr. McKitrick moved to approve the cancellation of the December TCC meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kerr and carried unanimously.*

III. Action Items

A) Nomination and Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Mr. McCord nominated Chairman Gutierrez for Chairman.

Chairman Gutierrez nominated Mr. McCord for Chairman.

A voice vote was called and Chairperson Gutierrez was re-elected to the position of TCC Chairman for 2010.

Mr. McCord was nominated for the position of Vice Chairman.

MOTION: *A motion was made to re-elect Mr. McCord to the position of TCC Vice Chairman for 2010. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.*

B) Review and Recommend Approval of Resolution 2009-25 Amending the FY 2009/10 UPWP

Mr. Welzenbach explained that this UPWP amendment was to allocate an additional \$30,500 among two tasks in the UPWP: Planning Assistance to Local Communities – in anticipation of the MPO working with the local governments to develop mobility plans in response to SB 360, and Publications, Reports and Printing – for the work on the Long Range Transportation Plan and for the reprinting of Votran’s bus route maps

MOTION: *Mr. Lear moved to recommend approval of Resolution 2009-25 amending the FY 2009/10 UPWP amendment.*

Mr. McCord asked about local in-kind funds.

Mr. Welzenbach replied that the State and Volusia County are required to give local funds.

The motion was seconded by Mr. McCord and carried unanimously.

C) Review and Recommend Approval of Resolution 2009-26 Amending the FY 2009/10 - 2013/14 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Welzenbach explained that this amendment to the TIP is to include ARRA funding for the Port Orange and Holly Hill repaving projects, as well as the funding of the US 17 intersection improvements in Pierson. The sidewalk right of way for the entire US 17 project was not owned, therefore the project was split and the sidewalk portion will be funded under Bicycle/Pedestrian. In addition, the MPO has received an additional \$400,000 in Stimulus Enhancement funding which will be allocated to the next project on the Priority List, Phase 2 of the SR 40 Multiuse Trail in Ormond Beach. Both phases of the multiuse trail are now completely funded.

Mr. Smith asked how long it would be before the US 17 sidewalks would be funded.

Mr. Welzenbach replied that they would have to submit for funding and the timing would depend on how much the project costs and the length of time needed to certify the right of way.

Mr. McCord asked how soon it would be for FDOT to include these projects in the Work Program after the amendment is approved.

Ms. Schoelzel stated that the projects have already been programmed, only the change remains to be made.

MOTION: *Mr. Lear moved to recommend approval of Resolution 2009-26 amending the FY 2009/10 – 2013/14 Transportation Improvement Program. The motion was seconded by Mr. Goss and carried unanimously.*

D) Review and Recommend Approval of the TIA Guidelines Methodology Document

Mr. Welzenbach noted that the format of the TIA Guidelines had been improved with the addition of a definition and acronym section. The document itself had not been changed. There are revisions that will be made but those will be worked on in the

coming year. He added that every jurisdiction, with one exception, had adopted the TIA Guidelines.

MOTION: *Mr. McCord moved to recommend approval of the TIA Guidelines Methodology document. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lear and carried unanimously.*

E) Review and Recommend Approval of 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan Future Year Data

Mr. Welzenbach explained that the future year data needed to be completed this week and for the most part there were no issues. Only four cities and the County have some issues. The members are being asked to approve the Future Year Data with the stipulation that those cities and the County will have their issues worked out before Friday, which is when FDOT needs to have the data.

Ms. Bollenback added that FDOT is waiting on the MPOs data. Last month, data tables were distributed to the local agencies and reviewed. She has met with many of the cities. The group of cities that had no/minimal changes were Daytona Beach Shores, DeBary, Oak Hill, Lake Helen, Pierson, Ponce Inlet Holly Hill and South Daytona. The cities that asked for a lot of changes, which were worked through, included DeLand, New Smyrna Beach, Orange City, Port Orange and Daytona Beach. She reviewed the various changes that those cities addressed. She also reviewed three areas that continue to have unresolved issues. Ormond Beach had infill development, as well as new population which caused the City to have an increase in population that was more than could be accommodated. There is a resolution that has been proposed that shifted some of the growth from rural areas within the City as well as added additional population. This is still under review by City staff. Deltona's data is still not complete and a suggestion was given on how to close the gap in their population. The last city was Edgewater, which has the restoration DRI. The build-out population is about 20,000, which is not available to allocate. The MPO is still working with Edgewater to resolve this and are trying to reach 60% of the project buildout. Ms. Bollenback reminded the TCC members that there is a cap on population in Volusia County of 691,826 in 2035. This is a 40% increase. Part of the rationale that is being used is that the growth will occur within the cities. The model did not show this and it was not what was ultimately agreed to under the land use scenario.

Mr. Lear asked how objections could be voiced if this is approved but one or more of the cities cannot come to an agreement.

Mr. Welzenbach reiterated that a decision must be reached by the end of the week.

Ms. Bollenback stated that her responsibility was to resolve any outstanding issues before submitting the data set.

Discussion continued.

MOTION: *Mr. McCord moved to recommend approval of the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan Future Year Data with recognition of the additional activities needed to resolve outstanding population estimates for Ormond Beach, Deltona, Edgewater and Volusia County. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kerr and carried unanimously.*

Mr. Welzenbach explained that the item he was about to discuss was not on the agenda because he was unaware of it until yesterday. It involves the agreement regarding funding for SR 415. The County Incentive Grant Program (CIGP) that is being used to fund SR 415 requires a local match. In addition to other funds, FDOT has programmed \$8.8 million dollars for the project, half of which is the CIGP grant. The other half is understood to be local matches from the City of Deltona and Volusia County. FDOT recently requested letters of commitment from Volusia County and the City of Deltona, and it was understood that the MPO would work with FDOT to reduce the CIGP grant, thereby reducing the amount of the local matches. Volusia County agreed and passed a resolution of support, however, the City of Deltona declined to provide the match. SR 415 is a multi-million dollar project and because there are insufficient funds to match the CIGP grant, the State considers that phase of the project not completely funded. Because of State law and policy, FDOT cannot program a project that is not entirely funded. By Deltona refusing to provide their local match, we will lose the CIGP grant. Since a portion of the project is unfunded, we will also lose that entire phase for a total loss of \$40 million dollars. In addition, the MPO submitted an application for a TIGER grant for SR 415. The application included a stipulation that the northern section of SR 415 would be fully funded. If we lose the northern portion of SR 415, we will not have an opportunity to receive the TIGER grant. This leaves a potential total loss of close to \$100 million dollars. He explained that there are two options:

1. Ask FDOT to reprogram the construction funding phase of SR 415 and place it on the US 1 Intersection improvements. There is no guarantee that FDOT will do this or that the funds will stay within Volusia County.
2. Use the MPO XU funds (\$3.5 million/year) from ITS/Traffic Ops/Safety and Bike/Ped so that by the year 2013 the full amount of the local match for the CIGP grant is available (for both Deltona and Volusia County – because if Deltona is not going to provide the local match, Volusia County should not be expected to either). This would guarantee that SR 415 can be built.

Mr. Welzenbach reminded the TCC that if the first option is chosen the money would be put in a reserve box which could ultimately be raided as has been done before.

Mr. Goss asked which US 1 intersections were included in the project.

Mr. Welzenbach replied that the intersections included Canal Street, US 1 and SR 44, Dunlawton at Herbert Street, Park Avenue and Beville Road. He clarified that not all of

the intersections would be funded, only those that could be completely funded. There are nine counties in FDOT District Five and one of their projects could get the money if FDOT decided to fund them instead of the US 1 intersections. He explained that every Bike/Ped project on the MPOs Priority List had been funded and only one of the ITS/Traffic Ops/Safety projects was remaining (the straightening of the Pioneer Trail curve @ \$900,000). If the decision was made to use the XU money, it would definitely impact the Pioneer Trail project.

Mr. McCord asked if there was a way to replenish the XU funds.

Mr. Welzenbach stated that the MPO receives \$5.2 million dollars per year in XU funds. If the MPO receives any District Dedicated Revenue (DDR) funds, those would go to reducing the CIGP grant, which would reduce the amount of local funding.

Ms. Schoelzel noted that the SR 415 project would begin in 2015 if that option were chosen. She added that last year, right of way money was removed from the reserve boxes, however it was returned.

Mr. Paradise explained that he would like to clarify the philosophy and mind set of the Deltona City Commission. He thanked Volusia County, the MPO and FDOT staff. The City Commission struggled with this decision. He added that it was important to keep in mind the decision the Commission made; the City's tax base is primarily residential. The Commission realizes that the project is needed but with a change in bond rating and the City's budget, SR 415 cannot be afforded at this time. He added that in his opinion, the Commission did the right thing; it was a conservative and responsible decision. If more entities did what Deltona did, we may not be in this economic situation.

MOTION: *Mr. Paradise recommended that the MPO Board direct FDOT to allocate the MPOs XU funding for Bike/Ped and ITS traffic Ops/Safety (leaving the funding allocated for Votran untouched) to make up the local match for the SR 415 project CIGP grant over the next three years. The motion was seconded by Mr. McKitrick.*

Mr. Goss asked if the XU funding could be a loan.

Mr. Welzenbach stated that the hope is the economy will be better by 2013. The MPO needs to give FDOT an identifiable funding source so the phase can be programmed.

Mr. Rakowski asked if only \$2.5 million could be taken from the XU funding.

Mr. Welzenbach explained that he did not want to ask one partner (Volusia County) to come up with the match if the other (Deltona) was not going to provide one as well.

A question was asked about the importance of the northern section of SR 415.

Mr. Welzenbach replied that SR 415 is a primary commuter route by Deltona residents. If the whole project is completed it would relieve traffic on I-4 and US 92. It also serves all of Volusia County and has been a top priority for the MPO for over ten years.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Welzenbach explained that according to a study done by FDOT in 1996, improvements to the key US 1 intersections would provide sufficient operational improvements. The US 1 intersections used to be the MPOs number one priority before it was switched to SR 415.

Mr. McCord asked if the XU funding would be gone if the US 1 intersections project were chosen.

Mr. Welzenbach explained that the XU funding would be dramatically reduced for the next three years. It would leave about \$1.75 million dollars in XU funding per year between Bike/Ped and ITS/Traffic Ops/Safety over the next three years.

Ms. Smith asked if Deltona could be held responsible to repay a portion of the money.

Mr. Welzenbach replied that Deltona has a budget of over \$140 million dollars per year, however, they said no and that is their final decision.

Mr. Paradise stated that this is not an east side/west side issue. Deltona will definitely benefit from SR 415. However, the road also provides greater mobility into the Orlando area to and from the east Volusia area. In addition, it provides some degree of land use opportunity along the road. This is a County issue which will relieve congestion on I-4.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion to direct FDOT to allocate the MPOs XU funding for Bike/Ped and ITS traffic Ops/Safety (leaving the funding allocated for Votran untouched) to make up the local match for the SR 415 project CIGP grant over the next three years carried by a vote of 10-5, with Ms. Schoelzel abstaining from the vote.

IV. Presentation and Status Reports

A) Discussion on the TCC Bylaws

Mr. Welzenbach stated that the MPO Board has requested that the TCC review their bylaws and update them based on changes which were recently made to the MPO Bylaws. He asked for three volunteers. The following members volunteered:

Mark Rakowski

Darren Lear

John Dillard

B) Presentation on the FY 2010/11 – 2015/16 Tentative Work Program

Ms. Schoelzel stated that the Revenue Estimating Conference was yesterday, however, final allocations have not yet been received. Because of this, the presentation on the tentative Work Program would have to be postponed until the January TCC meeting. She added that she would be giving the Work Program presentation to the MPO Board at their meeting on Tuesday and the TCC members were welcome to attend.

Ms. Schoelzel announced that the public hearing on the Work Program would be held on December 16th at 6:00 p.m. at the FDOT District Five Office in DeLand.

C) FDOT Report and ARRA Project Status Updates

Ms. Schoelzel noted that five out of the seven Stimulus projects have had their bid openings. With the low bid funding that has been accumulated, Brentwood Drive in Daytona Beach has begun. Dunn Avenue and CR 4139 will have their openings by December 1st. Volusia County has received additional enhancement Stimulus funding which was awarded to Phase 2 of the SR 40 Multiuse Trail, from Breakaway Trail to Hunters Ridge.

D) Presentation on the Draft 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan Vision and Goals

Ms. Bollenback explained that the Long Range Transportation Plan Subcommittee (LRTP) had been working on the vision statement and goals which will guide the LRTP process. One of the new ideas is the preservation and enhancement of existing urban centers and existing population. In addition, consideration of how the transportation system works with the community is an aspect that is being looked at. She noted that she would be coming up with measurable objectives for each of the goals. Public involvement for the 2035 LRTP has begun and FDOT has requested that the first list of projects be submitted by the end of January. A Make Your Mark planning activity is going to be scheduled which will involve all of the MPO committees on December 8th.

Mr. Welzenbach requested the TCC make it a priority to attend the activity. He added that land use transects would be provided and the participants will be looking at corridors of interest. He explained the general format of the Make Your Mark exercise.

Ms. Bollenback added that the MPO is looking for various groups to reach out to for the activity and noted that the first workshop will be a great opportunity for the members and their alternates to attend and get involved. She stated that the event location has not been decided yet.

Ms. Bollenback also announced that the LRTP survey will be distributed online as well as in print form. It will help to give the MPO a general indication of some of the priorities that people have. The survey can then be changed to include a project list

which can later be prioritized. There is a possibility that a whole new survey could be created based on the information received from the first one.

Mr. Welzenbach stated that Metroplan Orlando adopted their LRTP in August. He stated that one of the requirements of the plan is that it must be fiscally constrained. There are ways to work within the rules and Metroplan has found an innovative way to do so. Included in their LRTP is a revenue source that does not yet exist: a local option charter county surtax. Volusia County is eligible for this surtax as well. The plan is updated every five years and the tax would take effect in the fifth year. He asked the members to consider including a charter county transportation surcharge as an option for additional revenue. It would be set up to not anticipate those revenues until the fifth year. The surcharge is a sales tax of one cent. The revenue from this tax is estimated at \$28-\$32 million dollars per year. SunRail has the possibility of passing which will put a tremendous strain on the counties involved. The revenue from the tax could help with that, as well as being used for roadways. He noted that he was planning to propose that if the surtax is considered, it be split 70% for transit and 30% for roadways. He added that the first question asked at the Make Your Mark exercise will be whether they want to tax themselves in exchange for more funding.

Mr. McKitrick asked if Mr. Welzenbach had discussed this idea with County staff.

Mr. Welzenbach replied no, not at this time; that discussion will take place in the near future.

Mr. McKitrick stated that there had been a lot of strategizing on this issue and Mr. Dinneen had a definite idea on how to “sell” the idea to the public; He noted that Mr. Welzenbach’s way to go about this was not consistent with Mr. Dinneen’s idea.

Mr. Welzenbach stated that Mr. Dinneen’s idea was to get the Higher Education Consortium together to do a study which would identify the shortfalls and make recommendations. Those recommendations were never made. There is a four county task force (Volusia, Seminole, Osceola and Orange Counties) which form the Alternative Funding Task Force. The task force is looking at this issue. He added that we cannot look to the Federal Transportation Trust Fund because it is broke. The State has not looked into anything and all the local option gas taxes available have been changed. The only option left is a sales tax.

E) Volusia County Construction Report

Mr. Prine gave a brief construction report for Volusia County.

V. Staff Comments/Information Items

There were no staff comments.

VI. TCC Member Comments

There were no TCC member comments.

VII. Press/Citizen Comments

There were no press or citizen comments.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.