



**Polk Transportation Planning Organization
Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, March 30, 2017**

Neil Combee Administration Building, Room 413
330 West Church Street
Bartow, FL 33830

Members Present:

Chuck Barmby
Greg James
Sean Byers
Addie Javed
Amea Bailey
Fred Hillard
Doug Leonard
Jerry Rodriguez
Patricia Steed
Bill Skelton
John Bohde
Rod Wetzel

Others Present:

Jan Parham
Millie Brown
Thomas Ernharth
Kelly Graham
Sherry Carver
Jennifer Marshall
Alison Steth
Henry Pinzan
Brian Riban
Laura Herscher
David Dangel
Patrick Bateman
Charles Lake
Valerie Vaught
Rax Jung
Xiomara Meeks
Ronnie Blackshear
Tom Deardorff
Ryan Kordek
Curtis Knowles
Diane Slaybaugh
Chanda Bennett
Annette Crews
Gloria Rake

Representing:

City of Lakeland
City of Lakeland
City of Winter Haven
City of Haines City
City of Lake Alfred
City of Fort Meade
Town of Lake Hamilton
Polk County School Board
CFRPC
Polk County Road & Drainage
Polk County Planning
LAMTD

Representing:

LAMTD
FDOT
City of Eagle Lake
LAMTD
CFRPC
AIM
FTE
FTE
FTE
FDOT
Inwood
FDOT-EMO
City of Lake Alfred
Lakeland CRA
FTE
Polk TPO Staff
Polk TPO Staff
Polk TPO Staff
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Polk Long Range Planning Division Staff
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Call to Order, Roll Call

Chairman Doug Leonard called the TAC Meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Roll call was taken. A quorum was present with 12 members in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Rodney Wetzel motioned to approve the January 19, 2017 meeting minutes as presented. Chuck Barmby seconded the motion. Motion carried without dissent.

Agenda Review

Ryan Kordek, TPO Administrator, highlighted the significant topics and action items on the meeting agenda.

1. FDOT and Turnpike Enterprise Plans and Projects

- A. Patrick Bateman, FDOT, discussed SR 60 PD&E Study and presented a slideshow. Jennifer Marshall, FDOT (Project Consultant) gave an overview of the project which will start at HWY 630 and extend almost 8 miles to Osceola County. This project will include adding a parallel bridge south of the Kississimee Bridge. This will be the last segment of Hwy 60 in the area to be widened. On January 31, 2017 an Alternative Public Meeting was held at Westgate River Ranch regarding this project. Ms. Marshall provided contact information for her and Mr. Bateman.
- B. Brian Ribaric, Florida's Turnpike Enterprise Project Manager, provided an overview on the purpose and need of the project at Braddock Road and the Parkway. The goal is to address future capacity needs, provide additional connections or system linkage to the roadway network, and boost economic development. Mr. Ribaric discussed the roundabouts and the diamond interchange as well as the adjacent projects and the PD&E study schedule. A public meeting is scheduled for April 18, 2017 at the Polk County Tourism Sports Marketing Headquarters. Mr. Ribaric provided his contact information.

2. Review/Endorse South Florida Avenue (SR 37) Master Plan

Laura Herrscher, Florida Department of Transportation, discussed timeline and public outreach on the South Florida Avenue project located in Lakeland. Ms. Herrscher reviewed the issues with buses stopping on South Florida Avenue. Enhancing the alley ways and possibly taking away some of the sidewalks to widen the road are being considered. Making South Florida a one-way street and moving the parking areas to the back of all business is also another option. The ultimate improvement for South Florida Avenue from the results of the study would be "The Road Diet". Mr. Chuck Barmby commented on behalf of the City of Lakeland, stating that they would work with Citrus Connection on this project. Rod Wetzel, Citrus Connection, briefly commented about the corridor. Mr. Deardorff presented the technical recommendation that TPO Staff would like to have the committee review. Jay Jarvis, Polk County Roads and Drainage, commented on the roundabouts at Hardin Blvd. Ms. Herrscher stated that

the local government and the city have been very involved during this process. Mr. Deardorff requested action from the TAC on the recommendation as outlined. Jerry Rodriguez motioned, seconded by Addie Javed, motioned carried without dissent.

3. Presentation on US 17/92 Corridor Study

Ryan Kordek, TPO Staff, introduced Mayor Charles Lake with the City of Lake Alfred. Mr. Kordek discussed the roads in Lake Alfred and stated that these particular roads have been widened once around 2009. Slides were shown depicting there are not any areas for safe crossing in Lake Alfred. Anee Bailey, City of Lake Alfred, discussed the Lake Alfred Downtown Master Plan and how they can redevelopment the downtown area. Mrs. Bailey presented a slideshow on City Improvements and safety concerns regarding motorist safety in the downtown area. The Chair opened the floor for questions. Patricia Steed, CFRPC, commented on the downtown redevelopment plan. Mrs. Herrscher spoke about the redevelopment plan and how the FDOT will continue to work with the City of Lake Alfred and TPO. Mayor Lake thanked everyone for continuing to work on this project. This item was presented for information only (Attachment).

4. Review/Approve Draft Amendments to the TPO's Fiscal Year 2016/17-2020/21 TIP

Xiomara Meeks, TPO Staff, request that the Draft Amendment be approved. Motioned by Bill Skelton, seconded by Chuck Barmby, motioned carried without dissent.

5. Review/Approve Draft Amendments to the Fiscal year 2016/17-2017/18 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Kordek discussed the freight needs on the roadways, and the necessary funding that is needed to allocate for consulting to collect sufficient data for this current project. Ms. Pat Steed motioned, Rodney Wetzel seconded, motion carried without dissent.

6. Future Widening of US 98 from Lakeland to US 301 (Pasco County)

Mr. Deardorff discussed Polk County Day in Tallahassee and that the main topic was funding for the phase 2 of the Bartow Northern Connector. Bartow Northern Connector is the top priority of Polk TPO. The top priority for the Pasco MPO is currently a realignment of the intersection where US 98 and 301 come together and reviewed the Long Range Planning Commission Mobility of 2040 (attachment). Mr. Deardorff reviewed the Draft Resolution. Polk TPO asked that the board consider a recommendation for this amendment as Pasco and Polk have a shared interest in the US 98 and 301 Project. Mr. John Bohde asked a question about the four lanes on Hwy 60, Yeehaw Junction and the Turnpike. Mr. Jerry Rodriguez motioned, John Bohde seconded, motion carried without dissent.

7. Presentation on the TPO Sidewalk Inventory

Mr. Kordek presented a slideshow and discussed the evaluation of the sidewalk coverage near the Polk Schools in Polk County. Polk County has 29% of the major road network with sidewalks. The goal is to be 50%. This item was presented for information only (Attachment).

8. Communications and Reports

Mr. Kordek gave an update for the May 16, 2017 FDOT Safe Routes to School Workshop and presented a quick review of the new TPO website. Chuck Barmby commented on the fatalities and injuries listed on the website. Mr. Deardorff stated those were 2016 statistics. Ronnie Blackshear, TPO Staff, discussed The Economic Development and Freight Training session April 25, 2017 9-12 at South Florida College in Avon Park which will be conducted by District One and the District Freight Coordinator. Brochures are available for review of this training. Ms. Patricia Steed advised that the training will give you 3 credits. Chair announced next meeting will be in late May. No other comments or questions.

9. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

Respectfully transcribed by Annette Crews, Long Range Planning Secretary

Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, states that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by a board, agency or commission with respect to any matter considered at a meeting or hearing, he will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he 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.