



**Polk Transportation Planning Organization
Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
Draft MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, March 26, 2015**

Neil Combee Administration Building, 2nd floor Training Room
330 West Church Street
Bartow, FL 33830

Members Present:

Sherry Carver
Amy Palmer, *Vice Chairman*
Bob Wieggers
Jerry Rodriguez
Pete Gardner
April Brown
Jeff Schmucker
Mark Bennett
Valerie Farrell
Kathy Bangle, *Chairman*
Chuck Barmby
Celeste Deardorff
Richard Lilyquist
Sean Byers
Tom Wodrich
Rodney Wetzell
Bill Skelton

Others Present:

Lori Carlton
Don Cashdollar
William Roll
Jared Schneider
Katie King
Rolando Ramirez
Chanda Bennett
Marcia Andresen
Tom Deardorff
Ronnie Blackshear
Curtis Knowles
Ryan Kordek
Xiomara Meeks
Cherie Simmons (late)

Representing:

Central Florida Regional Planning Council (CFRPC)
City of Auburndale
City of Bartow
City of Davenport
City of Eagle Lake
City of Fort Meade
City of Frostproof (CFRPC)
City of Haines City
City of Lake Alfred
City of Lake Wales
City of Lakeland
City of Lakeland
City of Lakeland
City of Winter Haven
Polk County Land Development
Polk County Transit Services
Polk County Transportation

Representing:

Florida Department of Transportation
Florida Department of Transportation
Kimley-Horn & Associates
Kimley-Horn & Associates
Metric Engineering
Metric Engineering
Polk County Long Range Planning
Polk County Social Services
Polk TPO Staff
Polk TPO Staff
Polk TPO Staff
Polk TPO Staff
Polk TPO Staff
Polk TPO Staff

Diane Slaybaugh
R J Walters
Ed Mierzejewski
Jeremy Goldstein
Shannon Eslep

Polk TPO Staff
Polk TPO Staff
Renaissance Planning Group
Renaissance Planning Group
Turnpike Enterprise

Call to Order, Roll Call

Chairman Kathy Bangley called the TAC meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Roll call was taken. A quorum was present with 17 members in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Celeste Deardoeff motioned to approve the January 22, 2015 meeting minutes. Jerry Rodriguez seconded the motion. Motion carried without dissent.

Agenda Review

Ryan Kordek, TPO staff highlighted the significant topics and action items on the committee's agenda.

1. Central Lakeland Transit Prioritization Feasibility Study

Don Cashdollar, FDOT gave a brief introduction of the project and introduced Rolando Ramirez, of Metric Engineering, FDOT's consultant who gave the presentation. The purpose of the Central Lakeland Transit Signal Feasibility Study project was to determine the need and effectiveness of a Transit Signal Priority (TSP) system and/or bus queue jump lanes while evaluating the ability to implement either, or both, on three state highway corridors in the City of Lakeland for the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District One Traffic Operations Office. The three state highway corridors included in this study were SR 37 (South Florida Avenue) from the vicinity of the Pipkin Road/Lake Miriam Drive intersection to Main Street in Downtown Lakeland, SR 35, SR 700, US 98 (North Florida Avenue) from Main Street to the vicinity of the Lakeland Square Mall and SR 33 (Lakeland Hills Boulevard) from Memorial Boulevard to the vicinity of Socrum Loop Road. Lakeland Area Mass Transit District (LAMTD) Citrus Connection Route 1 and Citrus Connection Route 3 both run along these three state highway corridors.

In order to evaluate the possible benefits of implementing TSP and/or bus queue jump lanes along the three state highway corridors, four micro-simulation alternatives (8 models) for the future signal and transit systems were developed using Synchro 8 and PTV VISSIM 6. The models were developed both for the AM and PM peak periods using the existing signal system, transit system and future developments data gathered. Four alternatives were reviewed.

The meanings of TSP and Bus Queue Jump Lane were explained to the committee. The Summary of findings was also reviewed. The overall estimated cost to re-time the existing signal systems (53 intersections) was \$467,000.00 with an expected annual benefit of

\$3,390,106.09. Therefore, the anticipated benefit to cost ratio of retiming alone is 7.3 : 1. The estimated cost to re-time the existing signal systems and implement a GPS based TSP system and the 17 recommended intersections is \$815,614.10 with an expected annual benefit of \$3,868,350.95. Therefore, the anticipated benefit to cost ratio of optimization and TSP is 4.7 : 1.

2. Complete Streets Corridors

Jeremy Goldstein, Renaissance Planning Group briefly updated the committee. Methodology which was influenced by feedback from the Special TAC meeting was reviewed. Mr. Goldstein presented an overview of the identified corridors for the Action Plan and potential future candidate corridors. The project is in phase 2. The top eight recommended corridors for the Action Plan were reviewed.

Motion: Chuck Barmby motioned to endorse the Action Plan moving forward, with the understanding that jurisdictions not addressed in phase 1 will be addressed in phase 2. Amy Palmer seconded the motion. Motion Carried without dissent

3. Momentum 2040 Update

A. Presentation on Evaluation of SunRail Extension into Polk County Technical Memorandum

Jeremy Goldstein and Ed Mierzejewski of Renaissance Planning Group updated the committee on the status of the SunRail Evaluation. The Staging Concept included 4 phases. Phase 2 would be 2-3 bus services to the Poinciana station and extend into Haines City. While Phase 3 would extend into Auburndale then Phase 4 into Lakeland. Station Area Evaluations were reviewed. 10 locations were reviewed along the corridor. All 4 Phase locations advanced to the next phase of the evaluation. The Ridership Propensity Analysis and Methodology were also reviewed. The key considerations and action plans for moving forward were discussed.

B. 2040 Transportation Projects Needs Assessment

Ryan Kordek gave a brief presentation on the Transportation Needs Assessment. He reviewed the changes that have taken place since the adoption on the 2035 MVP. The Momentum 2040 project schedule was presented to the committee.

C. TPO's Transportation Geodatabase

William Roll, Kimley-Horn & Associates, briefly updated the committee of the status of the Transportation Geodatabase and it's components.

4. Review/Approve draft amendments to the TPO's Fiscal Tears 2014/15 – 2015/16 Unified Planning Work Program

Ryan Kordek, TPO staff presented the amendments. The UPWP is a two year program. The TPO typically needs to amend the UPWP in the second year. Several components of the UPWP must be approved annually, including FTA Section 5303 Grant application, TPO Certification and Certification of the TPO Planning Process. FDOT also provided revised

information regarding the amount of planning funding that is available in FY 2015/16. There are two new planning tasks that staff is proposing for FY20115/16.

Motion: Mark Bennett motioned to approve the Draft Amendments to the FY 2014/15 – 2015/16 UPWP and grants TPO permission to make minor changes as necessary. Chuck Barmby seconded the motion. Motion Carried without dissent

5. Review/Approve Draft Amendments to the TPO’s Fiscal Years 2014/15 – 2018/19 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Xiomara Meeks, TPO staff presented four amendments to the TIP requested by FDOT. Amendments include the deletion of Project FPN 4354151, add \$10,000.00 in additional funds to FPN 439883-1, add \$100,000.00 in additional funds to FPN 434658-1 and adding new limits to FPN 431278-1.

Motion: Jerry Rodriguez motioned to approve the Draft Amendments to the FY 2014/15 – 2018/19 TIP as presented. Celeste Deardorff seconded the motion. Motion Carried without dissent.

6. Appoint Members to Serve on Transportation Alternatives Projects (TAP) and Regional Multi-Use Trail (RMUT) Sub-Committee

Amy Palmer and Tom Wodrich volunteered to serve on the sub-committee. Clint Eliason was volunteered by Mark Bennett to serve on the committee. Celeste Deardorff will be the alternate. Applications are due May 1st.

7. Communications and Reports

A. Neighborhood Mobility Audits

Xiomara Meeks, TPO staff presented a brief update on the status of the audits. The consultant will present at the next TAC meeting

B. LRTP Update Steering Committee meeting – May 8, 2015

C. LDC Amendment - Sign ordinance Revision

Ronnie Blackshear, TPO staff briefly reviewed the sign ordinance revisions.

Mark Bennett informed the committee that this will be his last meeting with the TAC and thanked everyone whom he has worked with.

8. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

Respectfully transcribed by Cherie Simmons, TPO Office Manager

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.