



## Polk Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Board

### Draft MEETING MINUTES Thursday, October 13, 2016

Neil Combee Administration Building, Commission Boardroom  
330 West Church Street  
Bartow, FL 33830

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#### **Voting Members Present:**

Commissioner Jack Myers (late)  
Commissioner Pat Huff (late)  
Mayor Eugene Fultz  
Commissioner Bill Read  
Commissioner Don Selvage, *Chairman*  
Commissioner Jim Malless-  
Commissioner Nat Birdsong, *Vice Chairman*  
Commissioner George Lindsey  
Commissioner John Hall

#### **Representing:**

City of Auburndale  
City of Bartow  
City of Lake Wales  
City of Lakeland  
City of Lakeland  
City of Lakeland  
City of Winter Haven  
Polk County BoCC  
Polk County BoCC

#### **East County Block Voting Members:**

Mayor Charles Lake

#### **South County Block Voting Members:**

Vice Mayor Collins Smith

#### **East County Block Alternate Members:**

Commissioner Willie Quarles

#### **South County Block Alternate Members:**

Commissioner Barbara Manley

#### **Advisory Members Present:**

Laura Herrsher  
Tom Deardorff  
Randy Mink

#### **Others Present:**

Chuck Barmby  
Lori Carlton  
Robin Stublen  
Carol Scott  
William Roll  
Rod Wetzell  
Jeanna Cox  
Cherie Edwards  
Ronnie Blackshear  
Curtis Knowles  
Ryan Kordek  
Diane Slaybaugh  
Jean Parlow

#### **Representing:**

City of Lake Alfred

#### **Representing:**

City of Mulberry

#### **Representing:**

Town of Dundee

#### **Representing:**

City of Fort Meade

#### **Representing:**

FDOT, District One  
Polk County TPO  
TPO Legal Advisor

#### **Representing:**

Coit of Lakeland  
Florida Department of Transportation  
Florida Department of Transportation  
FDOT/TPK  
Kimley-Horn & associates  
LAMTD  
Polk County Social Services  
Polk County TPO  
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## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Don Selvage called the TPO Board meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

## 2. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Selvage announced that Tom Palmer of the Ledger has retired and will be missed. He also congratulated Ms. Cherie Edwards, TPO staff on her recent wedding.

## 3. CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Cherie Edwards, TPO Office Manager confirmed a quorum with 11 voting members and 2 alternates in attendance. Vice Mayor Collins Smith represented the South County Block and Mayor Charles Lake represented the East County Block.

## 4. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Lindsey opened the floor for public comment. Seeing none the hearing was closed.

## 5. STAFF INTRODUCTION

Chairman Selvage read short biographies of Ronnie Blackshear, TPO's Director and Diane Slaybaugh, one of TPO's Sr. Transportation Planner.

## 6. AGENDA REVIEW

Tom Deardorff, TPO Executive Director, briefly reviewed the updated agenda. Item C, the First amended and Restated Interlocal Agreement Creating the Central Florida MPO Alliance was added the Consent Agenda. No other changes were noted.

Randy Mink, TPO's Attorney cautioned Board members on "reply all" when corresponding back to TPO staff. Board members should only reply to the staff which emailed them and not use reply all.

## 7. CONSENT AGENDA

**Motion:** Commissioner Jim Malless motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mayor Charles Lake seconded the motion. Motion carried without dissent.

## 8. OTHER ACTION ITEMS

Ryan Kordek, TPO staff presented Items 8A – B

### A. Public Hearing on Draft amendments to the TPO's Fiscal Years 2016/17 – 2020/21 Transportation Improvement Program

TPO staff presented 2 TIP Amendments. The first amendment is the addition of the Roll Forward Report. These projects were not committed in the previous state fiscal

year and, therefore, must be included in the current TIP which became effective October 1<sup>st</sup>. The other amendment is Notices of Grant award letters. These grants originate from the Statewide Bus Purchase Program and are not in the Polk Work Program or TIP. The 5 organizations who received these grants were Elder Point Ministries, LAMTD, Peace River Center, Sunrise Community of Polk County and Alliance for Independence. The TAC has recommended approval of the amendments. Public hearing was opened to the public. Seeing no one the hearing was closed.

**Motion:** Commissioner George Lindsey motioned to approve the amendments as presented. Commissioner Nat Birdsong seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous.

#### **B. Review/Comment on Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Florida's Turnpike Enterprise FY 2017/18 – 2021/22 Draft Tentative Work Program**

TPO staff briefly reviewed the work program. FDOT staff presented a video which reviewed the Work Program. TPO's Priority Road projects were reviewed Staff Recommend the TPO Board endorse the FDOT and Turnpike Enterprise new Draft Work Programs for Polk County and request FDOT to Advance the PD&E Study for SR 659 (440274) to an earlier year and also fund the Design phase. TMA SU funds are available to fund these phases. Staff also request the Design phase and fund Construction for the Ridge Scenic Highway Park-to-Park Connector (440347) in Dundee, US 17 Sidewalk (440339) Winter Haven and Program PD&E Study for the Tenoroc Trail (Phase I), Program CST for the Exit 38 interchange (4301853) and SR 33 widening (4301854) at the earliest opportunity.. TPO's Liaison, Lori Carlton stated that she could not make any promises, but would try to see if she could get some items moved up to earlier years.

**Motion:** Commissioner George Lindsey motioned to approve the request of the TAC as presented with emphasis being put on the Bartow Northern Connector. Commissioner Jim Malless seconded the motion. Motion carried without dissent.

### **9. PRESENTATIONS**

#### **A. Update on Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Coalition**

Tom Deardorff, TPO staff presented the update on the Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Coalition. The Roadway Safety Audits are an example of engineering solution aimed at increasing bicycle and pedestrian safety. At the Polk Vision's September meeting it was decided that they would make the coalition in alignment with Polk Vision. Mr. Deardorff met with Secretary Hattaway and Amanda Day of Best Foot Forward in Orlando. This item was presented for informational purposes only.

#### **B. Project Highlights – Two Complete Street Corridors**

William Roll, Kimley-Horn and Associates staff presented Highland Street/Greenwood Street in Lakeland and Lucerne Park Road in Winter Haven. The primary project sections of the Lakeland project runs from Wabash Avenue to Central Avenue, is one mile long, and is projected to cost \$1.62 million. The Winter Haven project runs from Avenue Y NE to Old

Lucerne Park Road and is 1.01 miles in length and is projected to cost \$375,000. The next step is ongoing prioritization will continue and local governments will submit funding applications.

## **10. FDOT AGENCY REPORTS**

### **Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)**

Laura Herrscher introduced New FDOT staff planner Bessie Rainer  
Lori Carlton, FDOT staff:

- Banana Creek Trail Bridge Opened October 5, 2016
- US 98 Peace River Trail has had some flooding
- Secretary Hattaway is Leaving FDOT

## **11. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS**

- Polk TPO holding Community Forum on November 16, 2016 at the Coleman Bush Building in Lakeland.
- Update on I-\$ Express Lanes project

## **12. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

- None

## **13. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

- Commissioner Jim Malless
  - a. Thanked Citrus Connection for helping citizens during hurricane
  - b. Thanked sec. Hattaway for his service to Polk County
  - c. Commented on Complete Streets
  - d. Warned citizens to be careful when cutting down trees
- Mayor Charles Lake thanked TPO staff for meeting with the City of Lake Alfred staff.

## **14. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 10:23 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 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.*