

**WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
CHAIRS COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF JUNE 9, 2006**

**MINUTES**

A meeting of the West Central Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Chairs Coordinating Committee was held June 9th, 2006 at the Historic Bok Sanctuary, 1151 Tower Blvd, Lake Wales, FL 33853-3412.

**The following members were present:**

Councilman Shawn Harrison	Chair, Hillsborough County MPO
Commissioner Jack Mariano	Chair, Pasco County MPO
Commissioner Karen Seel	Chair, Pinellas County MPO
Commissioner Gow Fields - <i>Chair</i>	Chair, Polk TPO
Commissioner Paul Senft	Vice Chair, Polk TPO
Commissioner Diane Rowden	Chair, Hernando County MPO
Mayor Lawrence Bustle Jr	Chair, Sarasota/Manatee MPO

**Others present:**

Lucie Ayer	Hillsborough County MPO
Suzi Dieringer	Hillsborough County MPO
Sarah Ward	Pinellas County MPO
Carolyn Kuntz	Pinellas County MPO
Karl Guenther	Pinellas County CAC
Hugh Pascoe	Hernando County MPO
Doug Uden	Pasco County MPO
Christine Zimmer	Pasco County CAC Chair
Michael Howe	Sarasota/Manatee MPO
Bob Herrington	Sarasota/Manatee MPO
Mike Moholtz	Sarasota/Manatee MPO
Ryan Kordek	Polk TPO
Jacinda Head	Polk TPO
Michal Skipper	Polk TPO

Jan Johnson	Polk TPO
Jack Hayman	Volusia County MPO
John Cheney	Volusia County MPO
John Voges	Lee County MPO
Jennifer Hill	Lake County
Gary Maidhof	Citrus County Dept. of Dev. Serv.
Sheila Martin	BACS, Bay Area Commuter Serv.
Jeff Kramer	MPOAC, USF/CUTR
Edward Mierzejewski	USF/CUTR
Mike Maholtz	Sarasota/Manatee MPO
Joe Smith	Tampa Bay Partnership
Karen Raihill	Tampa Bay Partnership
Avera Wynne	Tampa Bay Regional Plan. Council
Ken Hoyt	Tampa Bay Regional Plan. Council
Pat Steed	Central Florida Planning Council
Larry Bustle	Mayor, City of Palmetto
Mark Reichert	Florida Transit Commission
Ken Hetherington	SWFRDC
Alison Settner	FTE
Stephanie Everett	FTE
Pam Richmond	FTE
Ben Walker	FDOT, District One
Lee Royal	FDOT, District Seven
Donald Skelton	FDOT, District Seven

### CALL TO ORDER

Polk County TPO Chairman, Gow Fields, called the meeting to order at 10:42 a.m.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 10, 2006

Ben Walker, FDOT District One, noted a correction in meeting minutes. He asked that the word “Secretary” be taken out of his title.

**Commissioner Jack Mariano moved to approve the March 10, 2006 CCC minutes with the noted correction; Shawn Harrison seconded the motion, which carried.**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Public Comments were made

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

### **A. Interlocal Agreement**

Deferred until Sarah Ward Arrived.

### **B. Regional Road Network Additions**

#### **1. Sarasota/Manatee MPO**

Mr. Mike Howe, Director, Sarasota/Manatee County MPO, introduced additions being proposed to the Regional Road network. He noted that CCC does have an adopted Regional Transportation network. Also noted their adoption of the 2030 plan in November of 2005. Based upon this plan the Sarasota/Manatee County MPO has revised their regional system.

Mr. Maholtz, Sarasota/Manatee MPO presented the proposed additions to the Regional Road network. Noted their regional partnership with Charlotte County, their work to design a regional road network together. They would like their roadway networks (with Charlotte County) be incorporated into with the CCC.

#### **In Port Manatee Connector**

In Manatee County, two corridors were added. One includes the Port Manatee Connector. There is a proposal to study a corridor from Port Manatee to I-75 for a new connector road (giving Port Manatee better access). This study is currently in progress. Though no specific lines have been chosen, we would like to have this reflected on the regional maps (for planning purposes).

#### **Heartland Coast-to-Cost Turnpike**

The second corridor is the proposed Heartland Coast-to-Cost Turnpike. The study phases for this project are just beginning. This Corridor may come into Manatee County, but we would also like to show this corridor on the regional network. Having these on the regional network would assist us in planning purposes.

### **State Road 62**

A roadway being added to the Regional network is State Road 62. This road runs out of Perish, Florida and ends at US17. It is an evacuation route for Manatee County, and is in the Long Range Needs Plan (for the widening to four lanes). This road is critical for the new growth accruing in Northern and Eastern portions of Manatee County.

### **County Road 675**

CR 675 serves portions of East and Northern Manatee County with a lot of growth. It is currently a two lane road, and in the Needs Plan, it will be expanded to four lanes. Some modeling work showed the need of six lanes, given the future growth in that area.

### **University Parkway Extension**

The University Parkway currently ends at Lorain Road. We would like to extend the parkway where it would merge with State Road 70. Portions of this road are currently at four lanes, and the extension is planned for four lanes. This road will be critical to that area in Manatee County.

### **Honore Road**

The northern portions of Honore Road currently exist in Sarasota County. Would like to road to be completed as a four lane thoroughfare, running from Laurel Road to the University Parkway (the Manatee County line). This road would be help to significantly relieve I-75.

### **Laurel Road Extension**

This is a correction from last year, which put Laurel Road in from US 41 to I-75. The limits should of correctly stated US 41 to Nights Trail. This is crucial for business access and to address growth in the area.

Would like approval of these regional road additions to the CCC's Regional Road Map for Sarasota/Manatee MPO.

**Mr. Shawn Harrison made a motion to approve the regional road additions to the CCC's Regional Road Map for Sarasota/Manatee MPO. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jack Mariano, and carried.**

## **2. Polk TPO**

Ryan Kordek, Polk TPO, presented the proposed additions to the Regional Road network. Polk County has three additions, which are a result of their Long Range Transportation Plan. Showed an overview map of the Polk County Regional Road Network

### **Bartow Northern Connector**

The Bartow Northern Connector would improve mobility on US98, US17 and SR60 (all SIS roads). The connector would provide an inter-connection between these Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) facilities. This would help with current congestion on south US98 and portions of SR60 (in Bartow). This connector would be a four lane arterial.

### **Central Polk Parkway**

The Central Polk Parkway also made our cost feasible plan. This would be a high speed, limited access facility between SR570 to SR60. It would satisfy a travel demand between I-4 (the Lakeland Urbanized Area), and south east Polk County. This road would help conditions from I-4 (Lakeland and Tampa area) down to SR60 and eastward.

### **Pollard Road Extension**

The Pollard Road Extension would be a two lane collector road between SR60 and CR450A. This would provide a direct connection between SR60 and the CSX Rail Line. Would also provide connection to the planned intermodal logistics center. Both SR60 and the CSX Rail Line are part of the SIS. This facility would improve travel and safety conditions on CR655 and CR653.

Gave the matrix used to score out these projects. These additions work as a connecting type facility to the Strategic Intermodal System, and are important to the economic development (infrastructure) of the area. Noted that the CCC's Technical team and the Staff Directors Coordination Team have approved these additions.

Would like approval of these regional road additions to the CCC's Regional Road Map for Polk County TPO.

**Mr. Shawn Harrison made a motion to approve the regional road addition to the CCC's Regional Road Map for Sarasota/Manatee MPO and the Polk TPO. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jack Mariano and carried.**

### **A. Interlocal Agreement**

Was deferred earlier for Sarah Ward's arrival.

Ms. Sarah Ward, Pinellas MPO, stated that the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) representing Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, and Sarasota counties entered into an interlocal agreement in 2003 according to provision 339.175 of the Florida Statutes (which, provide for both voting members and non-voting partner entities). This interlocal agreement is being amended to allow Citrus County to have voting rights for the purpose of participating in the Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP). They will have voting rights on matters involving the TRIP program including the Regional Long Range Plan, development and / or amendments to criteria for selection of TRIP candidate projects, and annual adoption of the TRIP priority projects.

TRIP legislation requires that the interlocal agreement include a conflict resolution process. The CCC has in place a conflict resolution process that was adopted prior to the TRIP legislation. Therefore the conflict resolution process needs to be amended (and integrated into the interlocal agreement) to reflect the requirements of the TRIP legislation.

Would like approval of the draft amendment to the CCC's Interlocal Agreement.

#### *Discussion*

A correction was noted on the Signature Page. Change of name from Jack Myers to Commissioner Gow Fields for the Polk County TPO.

Sarah Ward, noted that they would circulate clean copies (with corrections) for signatures to all the effected counties.

**Commissioner Jack Mariano made a motion to approve the draft amendment to the CCC's interlocal Agreement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shawn Harrison, and carried.**

### **C. Regional Multi-Use Priorities**

Hugh Pascoe, Hernando MPO, discussed the revisions and the prioritization of Multi-Use Trails.

### **Revisions to the Regional Multi-Use Trails Map**

This is a center piece of the MPO's program to coordinate bicycle / pedestrian mobility throughout the West Central Florida area. Displayed a map showing trails which were determined to be regional in nature based upon a set criteria. Based on this criteria, Multi-use trails must be identified as a components of the State System, connect two or more regional activity centers, run along an identified regional multi-modal corridor, connect to existing intermodal facilities, cross county lines, and be major connectors (which promote regional connectivity).

These trails have been reviewed both by the Regional Multi-Use Trail Committee and the Staff Directors to refine the regional map depicting multi-use trails. Requested approval from the CCC approve the Draft Multi-Use Trail Map.

### **Regional Multi-Use Trails Priority List of Projects.**

Discussed priorities for trail projects. The Multi-Use Trails Committee develop a draft set of criteria for prioritizing multi-use trail projects. This criteria states that these projects must be depicted on the Regional Multi-Use Trails Plan Map (adopted as part of the CCC's Regional Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)), would benefit regional connectivity and bicycle / pedestrian mobility (submitted by each MPO), and be clearly identified as to the type of improvement (including cost estimates). This criteria, was reviewed and used to score projects. This led to the development of a relative ranking of projects. Mr. Pascoe gave a list of ranked projects, including ten ranked projects, and eight (unranked) high priority projects. Overviewed the scoring criteria used.

The list of Priority projects for regional multi-use trails came out of both committees, based on technical criteria, and reviewed by staff directors. Showed a map of the priority projects.

### *Discussion*

**Commissioner Jack Mariano made a motion to approve the draft Multi-Use Trail Map and the Regional Multi-Use Trails Priority List of Projects. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shawn Harrison and carried.**

## **D. Joint Citizens Advisory Committee (JCAC) Bylaws**

Lucie Ayer, Hillsborough MPO, overviewed changes to the bylaws of the Joint Citizens Advisory Committee. The existing bylaws provide an opportunity for the Joint CAC to meet quarterly. Currently only Hillsborough and Pinellas County are members. The new bylaws would expand the membership from two counties to six county MPO's. Each MPO will designate three members, combining to an eighteen member JCAC. Quorum is currently set at seven in order to take action. The location for the meetings is currently set up for Hillsborough or Pinellas Counties, but that could change depending on the other MPO directors.

Request approval of the new JCAC bylaws.

*Discussion*

**Commissioner Jack Mariano made a motion to approve the Joint Citizens Advisory Committee (JCAC) Bylaws. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shawn Harrison and carried.**

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

### **A. Overview of the 2006 Legislative Session**

Lucie Ayer, Hillsborough County MPO, gave an overview of the 2006 Legislative Session. She presented several bills relating to transportation that passed the last 2006 Legislative Session.

General Transportation Senate Bill (SB) 1350, revises the matching formula for fixed guideway revenue bonds (can bond up to 50 % of the State share), increases the maximum bond debt for Florida's Turnpike Enterprise from \$ 4.5 billion to \$6 billion. Make a number of changes to the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority.

The local option rental car surcharge also passed, that will give a local option to increase their surcharge to \$2 dollars per day (requires a referendum). Within the CCC region, this would add up to approximately \$ 20 million dollars.

In Growth Management Bill, House Bill (HB) 683, changes were made to the DRI (Development of Regional Impact) requirements.

In the Enhance Bridge Program for Sustainable Transportation, Senate Bill (SB) 2300, some changes were also made to the Enhanced Bridge Program.

In the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, House Bill (HB)487, reconstructed the CTD, which reduces its' voting membership from 27 to 7.

In the Outdoor Advertising Signs, House Bill (HB) 273, protects the view zone of existing out door advertising signs.

*This item is being presented for information purposes only.*

## **B. Discussion on Renaming the CCC**

Lucie Ayer, Hillsborough County MPO, discussed the renaming of the CCC. Based on the 2006 Legislative Session, what did not pass may be more important. Both the House Bill (HB) 7077 and Senate Bill (SB) 1766 did not pass.

HB 7077, would of created a Tampa Bay Commuter Transit Authority (which would cover all of the counties under the CCC). Eight county commissioners would of appointed one citizen member each, the Governor would appoint one, and the CCC would appoint one. It was mandated to produce a regional transportation master plan by July 1, 2008.

SB1766 enabled the creation of a Regional Transportation Planning Organization. It would be created to advise the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) on programming regional transportation projects, and develop a regional transportation plan. Projects in this plan would receive 75% of its State match (current law states a 50% match).

This was discussed to explore ramifications of changing the name of the CCC to reflect better on transportation related mandates.

### *Discussed*

Discussion was made on the marketability of the CCC's name (to better communicate what the CCC does), the reasoning why Tallahassee was making this move, suggestions on creating a working committee to craft a name that would move the CCC forward, the possible elimination of the CCC, the effect the other transit authorities (who has taxing authority), membership to the regional

organization, a need for a regional transit organization, and the need to be out in front during the legislation process (being more proactive).

Mr. Shawn Harrison, Hillsborough MPO, suggested that names could be made ready for the next meeting.

Lucie Ayer, Hillsborough MPO, suggested that if we take this new name to Tallassee (to be changed in the statue), that we also formulate it in a package that will also include an improvement on the responsibilities that we now have.

**Will do a motion to formularize a committee**

**Commissioner Karen Seel made a motion to formulate a working committee beginning at the CCC's September meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jack Mariano, and carried.**

*This item is being presented for information purposes only.*

**OTHER BUSINESS/COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Lucie Ayer, Hillsborough MPO, noted that the West Central Florida Chairs Coordinating Committee (CCC) received the NARC Major Metro Achievement Award from the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC).

**NEXT CCC MEETING**

A. September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006 – Hosted by Sarasota/Manatee MPO

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:55 pm.