

**JOINT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES – MEETING OF JUNE 8, 2004**

The Joint Citizens Advisory Committee met on Tuesday, June 8, 2004 at 4:00 P.M. in the Rocky Point offices of URS, Tampa, Florida.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

***Hillsborough County:*** Tom Aderhold, Joe Amon, Leonard Plotkin, Brian Ross

***Pinellas County:*** Ned Allen, Emily Rogers Coeyman, Karl Guenther

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Beth Alden – Hillsborough County MPO  
Whit Blanton – Renaissance Planning Group  
Jim Byers – Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority  
Holly Carapella – Hillsborough County MPO  
Suzi Dieringer – Hillsborough County MPO  
Linda Ferraro – Hillsborough County MPO  
Ramon Solis – Pinellas County MPO

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Amon, acting as chairman, called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

**II. INTRODUCTIONS**

Committee members and other meeting attendees introduced themselves.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Allen moved to approve the minutes of March 23, 2004, Mr. Ross seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

**IV. REGIONAL LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOLLOW-UP**

Whit Blanton of Renaissance Planning gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Regional Long Range Transportation Plan Needs Assessment. The projects proposed for inclusion in the Needs Assessment were reviewed.

The committee discussed the need to coordinate the different types of rail transit proposed for Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties. The committee did not recommend that the issue be resolved at this time but agreed that the topic needs further investigation. Some members felt that the issue could be resolved by planning for seamless transfers between the rail types.

Mr. Blanton discussed the two public outreach events held in May. The committee reviewed the summary of these outreach events and asked questions about the ways the information was collected.

**ACTION:** Mr. Allen moved to concur with the Needs Assessment as presented so that the regional planning process can move forward into development of a Cost Affordable Plan, including prioritized list of projects and associated costs, to be presented to the committee for review and action at its meeting in September. Mr. Plotkin seconded the motion. The motion carried with six votes in favor and Mr. Ross dissenting.

## **V. TAMPA BAY OUTER BELTWAY STUDY – SCOPE OF SERVICES**

Holly Carapella of the Hillsborough County MPO gave an overview of the Draft Scope of Services for the Outer Beltway Proposal. The FDOT had developed this draft scope at the direction of the Chairs Coordinating Committee (CCC). The CCC will review the draft at their meeting on Friday, June 11, 2004.

The committee discussed the implications of studying this project. Specifically, would the study draw attention and resources away from the other transportation needs of the region, such as those documented in the Needs Assessment? Several members acknowledged the good sense of corridor preservation but wondered how far into the future corridors can be preserved.

Mr. Ross said that the study would distract from currently existing transportation needs.

**ACTION:** Mr. Aderhold moved to endorse the Draft Scope of Services as presented and requested that after a cost estimate is developed for the proposal, the JCAC have the opportunity to review the proposed cost estimate. Mr. Guenther seconded the motion. The motion carried with six votes in favor and Mr. Ross dissenting.

## **VI. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Ms. Carapella reported on recent state and federal legislation.

### **A. State**

A summary of Senate Bill CS 1456 was provided. The proposals regarding MPO designation and membership did not go into the final legislation. The TOPs program was discontinued, and the \$100 million currently allocated to TOPs will go to projects related to the State Strategic Inter-modal System.

### **B. Federal**

The committee was briefed on the status of the reauthorization of TEA-21. A conference committee was formed to reach a final agreement on the proposed legislation. Florida is represented by Rep. John Mica, Rep. Corrine Brown, and Senator Bob Graham.

**ACTION:** Mr. Plotkin moved to request that the CCC transmit a letter to the Florida members on the conference committee urging support for increasing the state's current minimum guarantee for transportation funding. Mr. Allen seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously with seven votes in favor.

**VII. OTHER BUSINESS**

The committee received a handout outlining the activities over the past six months of the High Speed Rail Authority.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

There was no further business. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.