



JOINT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA MPO CHAIRS COORDINATING COMMITTEE

**Tuesday, June 1, 2010
3:00 P.M.**

**Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority (TBARTA)
Oak View Room
3802 Spectrum Boulevard
Tampa, FL
(Map attached)**

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 2, 2010 (Pinellas County MPO)**
- IV. REGIONAL LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN BROCHURE (Sarasota-Manatee MPO & Polk TPO)**
- V. AMENDMENTS TO THE REGIONAL ROAD MAP (Hernando County MPO)**
- VI. APPLICATION FOR STATEWIDE ENHANCEMENT FUNDING – Courtney-Campbell Causeway Multi-Use Trail (Pinellas County MPO & FDOT District 7)**
- VII. UPDATE OF THE CCC TITLE VI PROCEDURES AND LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY (LEP) PROGRAM (Pinellas County MPO)**
- VIII. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION (Hillsborough County MPO)**
- IX. OTHER BUSINESS**
 - A. Next Meeting – August 31, 2010 (Pasco County MPO)**
 - B. Other**
- X. ADJOURNMENT**



JOINT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OF THE WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA MPOS CHAIRS COORDINATING COMMITTEE
WWW.REGIONALTRANSPORTATION.ORG

TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 2010 MEETING REPORT

SITE ATTENDEES:

Members: Len Tria, Chairman, Hernando County CAC
Pierre Mathurin, Hillsborough County CAC
Pete Odom, Pasco County CAC
Nick Fritsch, Pinellas County CAC
Cathy Lasky, Pinellas County CAC
Bill Jonson, Pinellas County CAC
Walter O'Rourke, Polk County CAC
Paul Staes, Polk County CAC

FDOT: Manon Lavoie, District 1
Linda Stachewicz, District 7
Lee Royal, District 7

MPOs: Hugh Pascoe, Hernando County MPO
Allison Yeh, Hillsborough County MPO
Karen Cunningham, Pinellas County MPO

Others: Michelle Greene, TBARTA
Trish Thompson, Lockwood, Andrews & Newnam
Nina Mabileau, City of Tampa

REMOTE ATTENDEES:

Members: Dale Stephenson, Sarasota-Manatee County CAC
Kasey Cursey, Alternate, Pinellas County CAC
Laurel Lockett, Hillsborough County CAC

FDOT: Alice Gilmartin, Turnpike Enterprise
Shannon Estep, Turnpike Enterprise

MPOs: Jim Edwards, Pasco County MPO
Manny Lajmiri, Pasco County MPO
Sarah Ward, Pinellas County MPO
Laura Lockwood, Polk County TPO
Bob Herrington, Sarasota-Manatee County MPO

Item I: Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was held on June 1, 2010, at the TBARTA conference room in Tampa and webconferenced to remote sites. Chairman Len Tria, JCAC member from Hernando County, determined that members at remote sites were qualified to vote, as there was a quorum present at the main site.

Item II: Public Comment

Chairman Tria called for public comments and there were none.

Item III: Approval of Minutes

The meeting minutes from March 2, 2010 were approved. The meeting minutes from November 3, 2009 were returned to the Sarasota-Manatee MPO with a request that the list of attendees be included (to be resubmitted at the next meeting for official approval).

Item IV: Regional Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Brochure

Hugh Pascoe explained that the CCC adopted the regional LRTP in November. A consultant is developing a summary brochure for the public and elected officials. It will be submitted to the committee before it is distributed. A draft copy was not available at this time.

Item V: Amendments to the Regional Road Map

Hugh Pascoe presented. It is very important from a policy standpoint that everyone agree as to what it means to be “regional” and which roadways are truly regional. To this end, the CCC maintains a set of criteria. This classification includes the Interstate Highway System and the Strategic Intermodal System, as well as systems maintained at regional or statewide level and those that accommodate intercounty travel but may not be maintained by FDOT. The following were addressed as amendments to the existing map:

- US Highway 19 (from SR 44 to Levy County Line [Citrus])
- Ayers Road Extension (from Suncoast Parkway to US Highway 41 [connecting Pasco and Hernando])
- SR 56 Extension Insert (from Bruce B. Downs Blvd. to Mansfield Blvd. [Pasco])
- US Highway 27/I-4 Interchange in Polk County - no longer needed and will be removed from the map
- Sarasota-Manatee conceptual corridor connecting US 41 to I-275
- Ft. Hammer Road (from US 301 to SR 64)

The committee was invited to comment regarding functionality and logic. A comment was made that the Downtown Tampa Selmon Expressway to I-4 connector insert wasn't showing on the map. An adjustment will be made. A question was also raised about a “hook” in Downtown Tampa that appears on the map. This is probably a result of GIS error, and will also be adjusted. Another question raised was whether the portion of SR 56 that goes SR 301 should be added to the map. Pascoe confirmed that the map is correct as shown, and no adjustment will be made. Ridge Road extension, which is a future regional road, is still on the map as a future regional roadway. A representative from the City of Tampa related that an express road is being planned that the City feels

is regional because it will become an important connection to Pasco County. The road is in the LRTP, but not in the Regional LRTP. It was recommended that the City work with their MPO to complete the application process to bring it forward as a regional road. The six amendments were unanimously approved.

Item VI: Application for Statewide Enhancement Funding

Lee Royal, FDOT District 7, presented. FDOT and Pinellas MPO completed a feasibility study in 2008 of the Courtney-Campbell Causeway/SR 60, and a joint funding application is being submitted as a regional body with State sponsorship under the Statewide Enhancement Program. The intention is to develop a shared use trail to connect Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties. This effort has taken on increased significance now that the Friendship Trail has been closed. There are five segments in this project.

- Rocky Point to Bridge 10064 near the Hyatt Hotel. The design is included in a resurfacing project in 2012. Construction remains unfunded.
- Ben T. Davis Beach frontage road to Rocky Point at Landry's Seafood House. The design is underway and it will be constructed in 2012.
- Beach to county line segment over a bridge is not funded. The design is for a new bridge because it is cheaper than rehabilitating the existing bridge.
- County line to east of smaller structure. This is being done as an in-house design to secure enhancement funding.
- Bayshore to east of Bridge 138 is also submitted for statewide enhancement funding.

FDOT requested to move this forward as a statewide enhancement project cosponsored by the MPO and the CCC. There are trails on the Pinellas and Hillsborough sides that would connect to this project. The bridge structures were initially constructed in the 1960s and are in good shape, unlike the Friendship Trail. A committee member requested that additional information be added to the applications to indicate project lengths of each segment. Another member added that the entire Causeway is 9.8 miles in length. There was also a request for the total amount of statewide enhancement funds needed, but Lee Royal did not have that information available and will request it. Hugh Pascoe added that without the support of the regional body, FDOT can't move forward with the application. The committee approved the recommendation for enhancement funding unanimously. A question was raised about landscaping and including the cost in the application. Lee Royal explained that the immediate focus was getting the trail funded.

Item VII: Update of the CCC Limited English Proficiency Program and Title VI Procedures

Karen Cunningham introduced Linda Stachewicz, FDOT District 7 Title VI Coordinator. Title VI/LEP plans are part of the total public involvement plan, which involves not just talking to the public, but also listening to the public's concerns and interests. The CCC has no staff. With the exception of quarterly JCAC meetings and annual hearings, its direct contact with individual citizens typically comes through the MPOs. The goal of the MPOs and the CCC is to provide all citizens access to information and opportunity

for input. The CCC is a sub recipient of Federal funds, and is required to comply with Title VI/LEP requirements. There are actually two concerns addressed by this process: to avoid discrimination and to provide opportunity for input.

Examples were given as to how the CCC, through its member MPOs, provides special services to individual citizens who need assistance in order to participate in meetings, hearings, etc. Offers of assistance and contact information are published in newspaper advertisements for hearings and events. The CCC's Title VI and LEP plans are unlike the MPOs plans for a variety of reasons, but primarily because there is no dedicated staff for the CCC. Local MPO staff serves in that capacity during the course of their own public involvement activities. The CCC has a complaint process and a binder is present at all events that presents the policies and provides complaint forms. One new addition this year was a dedicated Spanish language page on the website. JCAC members were encouraged to act as liaisons between the community and the CCC, including people who have special needs.

A member called attention to page 6 of the LEP. The member recommended that the word "assume" should be changed to "require." Hugh Pascoe added that these documents may appear bureaucratic, but they are the kind of issues that can become very complicated once complaints are made, and there is a real need to make certain everything is in place to avoid this. Karen Cunningham added that accessibility benefits everyone. For example, accommodations that permit access to meeting sites by those who are disabled also create safer environments for people who are elderly, etc. The committee voted unanimously to accept the documents with the change mentioned above. Hugh Pascoe reminded the committee that the next meeting will address public involvement in general, and their input would be very important.

Item VIII: Sustainable Communities Planning Grant Application

Allison Yeh presented a briefing on a sustainable communities grant that is being offered through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Department of Transportation and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. This will be available on a competitive basis and requires a 20% local match. Tampa Bay as a region is eligible for up to \$5 million. OneBay coalition has made an effort to develop a regional sustainability plan that is eligible, and a joint application – one that has the support and buy-in by multiple agencies - has a stronger chance of winning one of these grants. The CCC, through its MPOs, has been looking at regional projects, coordinating with OneBay, the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council TBARTA and the Tampa Bay Partnership. JCAC was asked to authorize staff to explore, on its behalf, joint grant application regional partnership opportunities for this grant. Allison Yeh showed a map that demonstrated the area that would be addressed by this grant. A question was raised as to whether the airports should be connected through this approach. Allison Yeh explained that they wouldn't be addressed by this particular project. Hugh Pascoe emphasized that to be competitive there is a critical need to submit as one, unified region, as opposed to separate agencies completing. The committee voted unanimously to explore this funding opportunity.

Hugh Pascoe circulated agendas for the June 11 CCC meeting and the joint meeting with the Central Florida MPO Alliance on the same date. Members of these groups

represent a major part of Florida and the I-4 high-speed rail corridor. Legislation and transit initiatives will be covered, as well as funding opportunities.

A recommendation was made by a member that all JCAC members try to attend meetings of candidates running in the coming election to ask how funding for transportation will be addressed. The point was made by another member that financial support for transportation is always difficult to get, and may be even harder right now due to the poor economy and the fact that many counties already have sales tax proposals that they are considering.

The meeting was adjourned.