



**WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA METROPOLITAN PLANNING
ORGANIZATION CHAIRS COORDINATING COMMITTEE (CCC)
JOINT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (JCAC)**

**FDOT District Seven Office
Executive Conference Room
11201 North McKinley Drive, Tampa**

3:00 P.M.

Draft Meeting Minutes of July 12, 2011

Mr. Michael Howe, Sarasota/Manatee MPO Executive Director and host government this quarter, called the meeting to order at approximately 3:00 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance. A quorum was present.

Mr. Howe introduced Mr. Dorian Popescu who has served on the Sarasota/Manatee MPO's CAC since 1993. Mr. Popescu is a civil engineer (25 years) with the State of Florida and is Senior Vice President and Principle with DMK Associates in Venice, Florida.

Mr. Popescu re-ordered agenda items no. I and no. II (Welcome/Introductions section to follow the Pledge of Allegiance).

II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

I. Welcome/Introductions

Members Present:

Dorian Popescu, Sarasota/Manatee CAC
Zeesham Hafeez, Hillsborough CAC
Paul Staes, Polk CAC
Christie Zimmer, Pasco CAC
Lee Henley, Pasco CAC
Pete Odom, Pasco CAC
Dave Carson, Pinellas County
Gloria Mills, Hillsborough
Cathy Lasky, Pinellas CAC

Others:

Michael Howe, Sarasota/Manatee MPO
Pierre Mathurin, Citizen
Darcy Foster, Tampa International Airport
Laura Lockwood, Polk TPO
Ryan Kordek, Polk TPO

Manny Lajmiri, Pasco MPO
Ned Baier, Jacobs Engineering
Lori Snively, FDOT
Janille Smith-Colin, FDOT
Sheila Martin, TBARTA
Karen Cunningham, Pinellas MPO
Gary Downing, HDR
Nina Mabileau, City of Tampa
Linda Stachewicz, FDOT

Members at Satellite Location

Manon Lavoie, FDOT
Kafi Benz, Sarasota/Manatee MPO CAC

Others at Satellite Location

Lori Carlton, FDOT
Frank Meares, FDOT

Others at Satellite Location

Nick Nickelson, Hernando MPO
Dennis Dix, Hernando MPO

III. Approval of the March 1, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Popescu entertained motion to approve to the March 1, 2011 meeting minutes.

There was a motion made and seconded to approve the meeting minutes; motion carried unanimously.

IV. Public Comments (Items not on Agenda-Limited to 3 Minutes Per Person)

1. Pierre Mathurin expressed his appreciation for the safety issues previously raised. He also noted that not enough resources were being devoted to public transportation in the Tampa area.

V. Summary of CCC Board Meeting of March 11, 2011 Meeting

Ms. Laura Lockwood provided highlights of the March 11, 2011 CCC Board meeting which was hosted by the Polk TPO in Auburndale.

- Revisions to the 2011 Meeting calendar were made – meeting date was changed to July 15th to coincide with an annual joint meeting with the Central Florida Alliance (which makes up all the MPOs to the east).
- Amendments to the 2035 Regional Long Range Transportation Plan were produced following a public hearing at the meeting. Amendments included the regional highway, transit multi-trail from Polk and Sarasota Counties.

- The CCC Interlocal Agreement's proposed changes regarding funding and reimbursement were approved.
- The Board approved the recommendation regarding administrative support services to the CCC (each MPO/TPO to provide \$5,000).
- Appointed Mayor Frank Hibbard of Pinellas MPO to the TBARTA Board

VI. Public Hearing: Amendment/Regional Roadways CCC Plan

Mr. Ryan Kordek stated the City of Lakeland submitted a candidate project Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) project for the Crevasse-Lakeland Park Connector. The addition of this facility to the CCC's Regional Roadway Network was needed in order for the project to be considered for funding. This project will help alleviate congestion on Interstate 4 in Polk County by approximately \$15,000 vehicles per day. It will also improve the function of three state facilities – I-4, SR 33 as well as US 98.

The meeting was then opened to the public. Hearing no comment, the public hearing was closed.

A motion was made by Ms. Christie Zimmer to close the public hearing; Mr. Zeeshan Hafeez seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Henley questioned if it was an overpass reflected on the map. Mr. Kordek stated the regional road request to add to the network is depicted in orange so it would connect from US 98 all the way to I-4 at the exit from 33 exit.

A motion was by Mr. Paul Staes to approve the request; Mr. Henley seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously. (The motion approved was to recommend the addition of the Crevasse-Lakeland Park Connector to the CCC's Regional Roadway Network).

VII. PUBLIC HEARING: Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP)

A. FDOT District Seven

Mr. Manny Lajmiri provided a PowerPoint presentation.

- TRIP was created based on the 2005 Growth Management Legislation.
- "State of the TRIP Funding" which outlined projects within Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas and Hernando Counties.
- FDOT District 7 TRIP Revenues/TRIP Reserve Box.
- Requirement for TRIP eligibility
- CCC 2011 TRIP Submittals map
- CCC regional Road map

TRIP funding requests for 2011 include the following projects:

- SR 54 from Meadowbrook Drive (east of Suncoast Parkway) to US 41-addition of two lanes
- Alt. US 19 (Pasco County Line to SR 580-ITS improvements
- Alt. US 19 (100th Way to 34th Street)-ITS improvements

Staff was seeking a motion to recommend that the CCC Board approve the updated 2011 TRIP funding requests

The meeting was then opened to the public. Hearing no comment, the public hearing was closed.

Mr. Odom moved to close the public hearing; Ms. Zimmer seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Zimmer moved to approve staff's request, Mr. Odom seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

B. FDOT District One (Ryan Kordek, Polk TPO and Michael Howe, Sarasota/Manatee MPO)

Mr. Kordek stated there was a TRIP Negotiating Committee made up members from both the Polk TPO and the Sarasota/Manatee MPO.

Mr. Howe stated that the first project for the Sarasota/Manatee MPO which ended up being number two on the Project Priority List is US 41 between 10th and 14th Street in the urbanized area of downtown within the City of Sarasota. This is an ongoing project currently under a federal Project Development and Environmental (PD&E) study. The City of Sarasota is proposing a series of roundabouts which is not widening the road but trying to make it more user-friendly for pedestrians, transit and those types of uses.

The second project on the list is North River Road. North River Road is a major connector road of Interstate 75. US 41 is a major roadway that connects the two – it connects to the Venice area, it connects to the North Port area, it connects to the Englewood area and is a major hurricane evacuation route. Sarasota County has been piecemealing this project for some Federal earmarks, which may not be any longer available, over the last ten years to help improve different corridor segments. This will improve a major intersection as part of that and is the number four project on the list.

Mr. Kordek stated the number one priority is the portion from US 17 northeast of Bartow and ultimately connects US 98 to SR 62 to SIS facilities. This is going to be a new urban four lane road; the Phase I portion between US 17 and US 98 will be going to construction later this year. This is the second phase and really it's not going to be a bypass until you make the connection down to SR 60. This has been a big project for Polk County. Polk County is going to receive about \$3 million to help supplement some of the costs for

this. It will also enhance the movement of freight on the SIS facilities, the truck or the vicinity truck traffic on SR 60 is about 17% of the vehicles on the road.

The Crevasse-Lakeland Park Connector is Polk's number two priority and the number three of all priorities coming out of the Polk and Sarasota/Manatee MPO negotiations. The number three priority is the Grandview Parkway Extension from Posner Boulevard to Dunson Road (new 4-lane overpass of I-4).

Each individual TPO/MPOs committees, (CACs and TACs), approved the lists. At the MPO level, a committee was established which included several members from each board that would meet at a negotiating type meeting. This has been done for four or five times since 2005. With that, the list was prepared on the basis of each MPO receiving an equitable share of TRIP funding based on population. Last year Sarasota/Manatee got the number one priority. This year Polk TPO gets the number one priority

Staff is requesting the Joint CAC to review and recommend approval to the CCC Board of a joint ranking of candidate TRIP Projects for the Sarasota/Manatee MPO and Polk TPO.

The meeting was then opened to the public. Hearing no comment, the public hearing was closed.

A motion was made and seconded to close the public hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Staes questioned if the roundabout project on US 41 was part of the facility on the SIS system. Mr. Howe replied that it was.

Discussion ensued regarding the portion in question for the TRIP improvements and the posted speed of the roundabouts.

Mr. Mr. Howe explained that was part of the debate that FDOT was going to have to look at from a traffic flow standpoint. Currently the speed on US 41 is 45 miles per hour because it is a major arterial that goes all the way to Miami. Part of the debate that's going on in the transportation field is when you get to the urbanized areas, do you want to slow the traffic down or do you want to keep it moving when you're dealing with the US 41 type facility.

Ms. Zimmer questioned if that was still a major truck route.

Mr. Howe responded that certainly for truck traffic that is going to serve the downtown Sarasota area. As far as a major route it has to be a truck route for anyone traveling south on US 41 which would go down to our communities to the south.

Ms. Zimmer questioned were there any plans to be included to alleviate the difficult process with a semi-truck traveling through a roundabout. He felt putting a roundabout in with more pedestrians in a major state road truck route to be a difficult process.

Mr. Staes noted that the prioritized list was based on design and construction. It makes it difficult to pursue it for design and construction based on the priorities on the list when it hasn't even been decided what was going to be done. He noted having difficulty looking at 2016/17 and approving design and construction for something that hasn't even made it through the PD&E process.

Mr. Howe explained that the list would have to be prefaced on the approval by the PD&E. This funding would not be considered if the PD&E is not approved by Federal Highway nor will it be approved if the design and the standards for traffic flow are not approved by FDOT. The PD&E is going to be done next year in 2012 so those answers would be known by then.

Ms. Benz noted she was under the impression that section of roadway on US 41 was not on the SIS along the Bayfront. Also, US 301 is the major truck route through Sarasota rather than US 41.

Ms. Royal stated the first step in any project is the PD&E Study. It's never too premature to have your projects prioritized and that's the very first step because ultimately it's going to design. The study goes through the process and it determines what that improvement will be. If it's not on the priority list, the Department's going to jump down to number two, number three, number four and so on but you always want to have projects in the pipeline.

Mr. Meares added the changes to the local priority are looking at potentially funding TRIP projects in 2017. There are more opportunities between now and 2017 to make adjustments based on the approved PD&E.

Question was raised if the PD&E on River Road was complete. Mr. Popescu stated yes and that it was ready for construction. The design is all done, full permit and everything. It's part of the Englewood Interstate Connector which is the only hurricane route available for the south Englewood/Boca Grande/Rotunda.

Question was raised whether there would there be a problem moving project number four to number two and number two to number four since that PD&E is already completed

Mr. Howe responded that the Sarasota/Manatee MPO Board and its jurisdictions have worked out an equitable prioritization process. Mr. Howe noted he has attended public hearings/workshops on this project and there is certainly a conceptual design for what the improvements are.

Mr. Henley expressed his displeasure with a roundabout on a major highway and an evacuation route.

Mr. Staes made a motion to move project number four in place of number two as a committee and seconded by Ms. Zimmer.

Mr. Popescu stated there was a motion and second to switch to take number four and move it to number two (North River Road to replace the US 41 improvements in Sarasota/Manatee counties).

The vote was as follows:

Seven in favor; two opposed; one abstention.

Mr. Howe did not recall and questioned if multiple members of the same CAC were permitted to vote pursuant the Bylaws.

Ms. Cunningham, Pinellas County staff, stated that the Bylaws do permit aggregate votes of any CAC member attending of the same MPO to all vote.

Motion Carried.

Voting in favor of the motion were: Mr. Staes, Polk TPO; Ms. Zimmer, Pasco MPO; Mr. Henley, Pasco MPO; Mr. Odom, Pasco MPO; Mr. Popescu, Sarasota/Manatee MPO; Mr. Hafeez, Hillsborough County; and Mr. Mills, Hillsborough County.

Voting in opposition of the motion were: Ms. Benz, Sarasota/Manatee MPO, and Ms. Lasky, Pinellas County.

Abstention: Unknown

Mr. Popescu entertained a motion to approve the TRIP from Sarasota and Polk Counties as amended.

Ms. Zimmer so moved and seconded by Mr. Staes. Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARING: FDOT District One Regional Multi-Use Trails Enhancement Program

Mr. Kordek provided a PowerPoint presentation and explained that much like the TRIP projects, these project too needed to be regional in nature. The candidate projects are for fiscal year 2016/17. A negotiating committee of several Sarasota/Manatee MPO and Polk TPO Board members was established in order to review and rank the candidate projects.

Mr. Howe explained that the number one project was the City Wide Multi-Use Recreational Trail in the City of Sarasota which is part of an ongoing trail network. Number three on the list is the Green Bridge Multi-Use Trail in the City of Bradenton with the improvement being the construction of a multi-use trail addition to the bridge. Number four on the list is the Perico Island Preserve Trail in Manatee County with the improvement being the design and construction of an enhanced trail system for pedestrian and bicyclists.

Mr. Kordek added that Polk County's Project was the number two project which was the Haines City Trail with the improvement being the 12 foot wide multi-use trail and sidewalk.

Mr. Kordek stated that staff is requesting the Joint CAC review and recommend approval for the joint ranking of Regional Multi-Use Trail projects for the Sarasota/Manatee MPO and Polk TPO. The Negotiating Committee met and recommended approval of these projects.

The meeting was then opened to the public. Hearing no comment, the public hearing was closed.

A motion and second was made to close the public hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Lasky questioned whether an environmental study had been done regarding the Perico Island Preserve. Ms. Lavoie stated to her knowledge, she was not aware of any study. Mr. Meares added that the environmental impacts would certainly have to be looked at and evaluated if the project were funded and was to move forward.

Mr. Odom made a motion to approve the Regional Multi-Use Trail Project Priority List and seconded by Mr. States. Motion carried unanimously.

IX. CCC's Title VI Plan and CCC's Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan Updates
And Resolution 2011-2012

Ms. Cunningham explained that public involvement was a high priority and as a recipient of Federal funds, the CCC is required to renew its commitment to Title VI and its Limited English Proficiency (LEP). There were no complaints or requests for translation services or special accommodations arising out of CCC activities during the past year. Staff is seeking a motion to adopt the LEP Policy and Plan and Discrimination Complaint Procedure.

A motion was made by Mr. Hafeez to approve the LEP Policy and Plan and Discrimination Complaint Procedure and was seconded by Mr. Henley. Motion carried unanimously.

X. Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority (TBARTA) Master Plan Update

Ms. Martin provided a PowerPoint presentation. She stated that TBARTA was established by the State Legislature in 2007 and charged with developing and implementing a regional transportation master plan. The Plan was to include, Citrus, Hernando, Pasco, Hillsborough, Pinellas, Sarasota and Manatee County.

Ms. Martin introduced Mr. Ned Baier of Jacobs Engineering (Consultant to TBARTA) who had worked on the Master Plan Update was present to answer any questions.

Mr. Baier stated that the MPO staff directors were most involved in this update because of the addition of a regional roadway network to the TBARTA plan along with a freight element. Further details can be found on TBARTA's website at www.TBARTA.com.

Regionally significant issues that are relevant to the current updates also include air quality and land use.

The next steps toward implementation include:

- Develop a short-term implementation plan;
- Build more partnerships with a focus on service implementation, freight movement and FDOT capital improvements;
- Expand collaboration and communication;
- Coordinate people and goods movements with ports and CSX; and
- Expand commuter services such as carpool, vanpool, school pool and telework programs

XI. Roundtable Member Discussion/Local and Regional Transportation Issues

Mr. Lajmiri stated that this item was placed on the agenda to provide the opportunity for each representative to comment on and/or inform other members about transportation plans, initiatives and opportunities that are important to the region. This will be a standing item for all upcoming meetings.

Question was raised as to whether there was a flowchart which shows each organization's responsibilities and processes of how these things are implemented in order to provide to the general public.

Mr. Baier responded that one was having a regional transportation plan which is now in effect with TBARTA. It is uncertain whether there is one document that describes the goals and responsibilities.

Discussion ensued regarding each MPO's efforts with public involvement/participation.

There was a question following the vote regarding the propriety of Chair Popescu casting a vote pursuant Robert's Rules of Order (switching number four and move it to number two-North River Road to replace the US 41 improvements in Sarasota/Manatee Counties). It was noted that the Chair cannot vote other than to make or break a tie. Consequently, the vote was modified to reflect a six in favor, two against with one abstention.

Discussion ensued regarding whether or not the Chair could vote depended upon how the elected officials were structured and voting being left up to individual governments.

XIII. Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn. Mr. Popescu adjourned the Joint CAC Meeting at approximately 5:00 p.m.