



**Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization
Technical Advisory Committee/Citizens Advisory Committee**

Brevard County Government Center
2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Melbourne, Florida
Building C, 2nd Floor, Space Coast Room

Meeting Date: Monday, March 5, 2012

MEETING MINUTES

Agenda

- Item 1. Call to Order
- Item 2. Approval of Minutes, February 6, 2012
- Item 3. Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization Actions
- Item 4. Bicycle/Pedestrian/Trails Advisory Committee Report
- Item 5. Legislative Issues
- Item 6. Strategic Plan Draft Priorities
- Item 7. Authorization RE: Transmittal of Draft FY13 – FY14 UPWP
- Item 8. Approval RE: Resolution 12-19, Amendment to Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Item 9. Ellis Road Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Designation, FDOT
- Item 10. Ellis Road and Interchange PD&E Study, FDOT
- Item 11. Staff Report
- Item 12. Local Government Report
- Item 13. FDOT Report
- Item 14. Communications
- Item 15. Public Comment
- Item 16. Adjourn

Technical Advisory Committee Members Present:

Stuart Buchanan (alternate)	Brevard Co. Planning & Development
Devin Swanson	Brevard County Public Works
Mike Connors	Brevard County School Board
Ed Wegerif	City of Cocoa
Bob Torres	City of Cocoa Beach
Richard Hood	Town of Grant-Valkaria
Mary Anne O'Neill	City of Indian Harbour Beach
Bonilyn Wilbanks	City of Malabar
Howard Ralls	City of Melbourne
Rick Cloutier	Melbourne Int. Airport
Sue Hann	City of Palm Bay
Michael Jarusiewicz (alternate)	City of Rockledge
Jim Liesenfelt	Space Coast Area Transit
James Brown	Van Pool Services, Inc.
Scott Morgan	City of West Melbourne

Citizens Advisory Committee Members Present:

Bob Lawton	Canaveral Port Authority
James McCarthy	City of Cocoa
Harry Pearson	North Beaches Coalition
Rodney Honeycutt	BOCC District 1
Bob Baugher	BOCC District 2
John Porter	BOCC District 2
Peter Fuscias	BOCC District 3
Clarence Mills	BOCC District 4
Milo Zonka	BOCC District 5
Bob Klaproth	City of Melbourne
Jim Brown	City of Melbourne
Mary Greene	City of Palm Bay
Sal D'Amato	South Beaches Coalition
Bob Wille	City of Titusville
Pete Petyk	City of Titusville

Others Present:

Bob Kamm	Space Coast TPO Executive Director
Laura Carter	Space Coast TPO Staff
Georganna Gillette	Space Coast TPO Staff
Diana McCartney	Space Coast TPO Staff
Kim Smith	Space Coast TPO Staff
Leigh Holt	Space Coast TPO Staff
Steven Bostel	Space Coast TPO Staff
Carol Holden	Space Coast TPO Staff
Dan Kristoff	RS&H with FDOT
Chris Rizzolo	URS/FDOT
Mary McGehee	FDOT
Sandra Michelson	West Melbourne
Lorena Valencia	FDOT
Susan Sadighi	FDOT
William (Tuck) Ferrell	Friends of the Parkway
Lori Cox	HDR – FDOT
Anne Herzog Marhoefer	North Beaches Coalition

Item 1. Call to Order

TAC Chairman, Sue Hann called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Item 2. Approval of Minutes – February 6, 2012

Motion by Mr. Cloutier, second by Mr. Hood to adopt the meeting minutes of February 6, 2012.

Motion by Mr. McCarthy, second by Mr. Porter to concur with the TAC motion. Hearing no objections, the motion passed unanimously.

The TAC motion passed unanimously.

Item 3. Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization Actions

Mr. Kamm reviewed the actions taken by the TPO at their February 9, 2012 meeting:

- Election of 2012 Officers:
 - Commissioner Jerry Allender – Chairman
 - Councilwoman Kathy Meehan – Vice Chairman
 - Councilwoman Stephanie Eley – Secretary
 - Commissioner Chuck Nelson – Executive Committee Member at Large
 - Mayor Jim Tulley – Executive Committee Member at Large
 - Mayor Rocky Randels – Chairman of Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board
- Audit contract was awarded to Berman, Hopkins, Wright & LaHam
- Resolution was passed for the West Cocoa Barrier Wall

Item 4. Bicycle/Pedestrian/Trails Advisory Committee Report

Ms. Smith reported the BPTAC Committee met on February 20, 2012, voted in new member Heidi Lapin from the City of Palm Bay, and selected the 2012 BPTAC award winners:

- Mike Knight and the EEL's program – "Get on a Trail" award
- Christine Nestor – Education award
- Cocoa Beach Police Department's DPU unit – Enforcement award
- Cynthia Matthews – Lifetime Achievement award
- Revolutions Cyclery – Outstanding Community Partner award
- Kennedy Space Center Director, Bob Cabana – Encouragement award
- City of Cocoa Beach for work on Ocean Beach Blvd Complete Streets project – Engineering award
- FDOT's construction of the Max Brewer Bridge – Engineering award

Ms. Smith stated the awards will be presented at the May TPO Board meeting. The next BPTAC meeting will be a kickoff meeting for the Bike/Ped Mobility Plan on March 26. Ms. Smith stated the Commit 2B Fit program has been postponed until fall.

Item 5. Legislative Issues

Ms. Holt reported a continuing resolution is expected for the Federal Transportation bill as the House and Senate versions are very different.

Indemnity provisions necessary for Amtrak rail service from Jacksonville to Miami is in the State House bill and will hopefully be amended into the Senate bill this week. Ms. Holt stated the bill which defines Space Transportation Infrastructure was the first bill signed into law this year. Space Florida's

budget remains at \$10 million, with \$4 million for operations at Kennedy Space Center and \$6 million for business development. The selection of a firm for the PD&E on the Kennedy Space Center Loop Trail will be made today. Bicycle use on limited access bridges pilot program is in the Transportation bill, and if passed will begin in October. Representative Goodson was instrumental in getting the West Cocoa Sound Wall resolved in favor of the residents. Ms. Holt stated a Flagler Line Forum follow-up meeting is scheduled for March 30, 2012 at Daytona Beach City Hall.

Item 6. Strategic Plan Draft Priorities

Ms. Holt reviewed the revised strategic plan draft priorities developed by TPO staff. The revised plan condenses the previous fifteen page plan into an easy to read one page chart that encompasses annual staff work priorities. This chart enables the reader to track work progress quickly and easily.

Item 7. Authorization RE: Transmittal of Draft FY13 – FY14 UPWP

Ms. Carter presented the Draft FY13 – FY14 Unified Planning Work Program:

- Defining the UPWP as a biennial planning work program that identifies the transportation planning budget and activities to be undertaken in the metropolitan area for the next two years
- Development Schedule
- Content and Format of Documents
- Work Products Previously Accomplished and Proposed
- Revenue Sources
- Funding Summary

Ms. Carter stated questions and comments on the draft UPWP may be made through April 16, 2012.

Item 8. Approval RE: Resolution 12-19, Amendment to Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Ms. Valencia reviewed six proposed projects that require amending the adopted FY 2012 – FY 2016 TIP.

Motion by Mr. Morgan, second by Mr. Cloutier to approve Resolution 12-19, Amendment to Transportation Improvement Program.

***Motion by Mr. Porter, second by Mr. Zonka to concur with the TAC motion.
Hearing no objections, the motion passed unanimously.***

The TAC motion passed unanimously.

Ms. McGehee, from FDOT, requested Agenda Items 9 and 10 to be presented in reverse order to enable the presentation to flow more smoothly.

Item 10. Ellis Road and Interchange PD&E Study, FDOT

Mr. Dan Kristoff, Reynolds, Smith and Hills Project Manager, stated the project would provide an interchange on I-95 to link with the northern end of the St. John's Heritage Parkway and will extend to and connect with NASA Blvd. at Wickham Road. Mr. Kristoff reviewed the existing conditions along Ellis Road and several key issues were discussed including canal treatment, access management, drainage issues and alignment alternatives. Estimated costs were reviewed and discussed with each evaluation matrix. The next steps in the PD&E process were reviewed to include providing a website and an alternatives public meeting on March 29th.

Mr. Kamm commented on the high cost for this project, primarily being driven by the Crane Creek Canal drainage issue. He asked Mr. Kristoff to explain the term equalizer canal to the group.

Mr. Kristoff stated there is an extensive canal system that ultimately flows into the M-1 canal leading to Crane Creek. The L-15 canal along Ellis Road helps to prevent flooding in the M-1 canal by equalizing water both down and upstream. To eliminate the L-15 canal and redesign the drainage for this area would require a sophisticated system that is beyond the scope of this PD&E.

Mr. Kamm observed that to continue with the Ellis Road widening, the Crane Creek drainage issues should first be addressed. He further observed the alignment design that is sent to FHWA can still be finessed if we find a better solution.

Mr. Kristoff responded as the design gets further refined there is opportunity to make alterations. FHWA gives design concept approval only, not alignment approval. An environmental document re-evaluation would be required if substantial changes were made.

Mr. Morgan stated an east-west roadway is needed and costs of additional traffic on current roadways would be equally daunting. He suggested looking into value engineering even further and would like to see the project move forward.

Ms. Hann asked if the costs of obtaining right of way are included in the PD&E.

Mr. Kristoff responded yes. The worst case scenario was presented in the PD&E, so final costs would likely be lower than those presented.

Ms. Hann inquired which traffic model was used for the PD&E presentation.

Mr. Kristoff replied the most recent traffic model was used.

Ms. Hann asked what the local economic impact might be for the employers, employees, and community of the affected businesses.

Ms. Cox, FDOT District 5 SIS Coordinator office, replied the best fit scenario provides the least intrusive alignment for all impacted concerns.

Ms. Hann inquired if the PD&E study analyzed the interchange separately from the Ellis Road expansion, and if not, could they be constructed separately.

Ms. Cox replied they are looked at together in this PD&E, but could be constructed separately.

Mr. Fusscas asked if studies have been performed on roadways that run parallel to Ellis.

Mr. Kristoff replied the PD&E study only looked at Ellis Road.

Mr. Porter asked if modifying Ellis Rd to 35 mph would allow for less right of way intrusions and thereby reduce the project cost.

Mr. Kristoff stated it would disallow availability of SIS funding for the project, and would not provide a good fit with Heritage Parkway's 55 mph.

Mr. Kamm stated the canal issue is causing the financial impact, not the design speed.

Mr. Zonka questioned the possibility of making the canal a closed system and widening Ellis Road over it.

Mr. Kristoff stated closed canal systems under a roadway have several maintenance issues which can be even more disruptive and costly for repairs.

Mr. Petyk asked if relocating utilities would add to the costs.

Mr. Kristoff replied it was too early in the process to know for certain.

Mr. Wille stated this project has been planned for many years and will provide tremendous economic growth potential.

Item 9. Ellis Road Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Designation, FDOT

Ms. Cox stated DOT has identified Ellis Road as eligible for SIS designation with the approved interchange at I-95, because it makes a hub (Melbourne International Airport and Greyhound Bus Terminal) to corridor (I-95) connection. SIS designation can only be awarded after the PD&E has been approved and must be able to move freight as well as large vehicle traffic with specifications for speed (50 mph) and lane width. SIS designation will make the project and all subsequent phases eligible for SIS funding. Ms. Cox gave her cell phone number and email address for any questions or comments.

Mr. Kamm stated the SIS designation is something we have been seeking for some time as it enables a county road to obtain state participation in funding.

Ms. Hann inquired if FDOT was coordinating with Reynolds, Smith and Hills to ensure the PD&E options all qualify for SIS designation.

Ms. Cox replied yes, all options presented on this PD&E are eligible for SIS designation.

Mr. Kamm asked what the timeline was for the PD&E public hearing.

Ms. McGeehee stated the final alternatives and environmental documents would be presented at a public hearing in July or August.

Item 11. Staff Report

There was no discussion on this item.

Item 12. Local Government Report

There was no discussion on this item.

Item 13. FDOT Report

Ms. Valencia provided an update on current completed projects and projects under construction in Brevard County.

Mr. Wille stated the additional left turn lane being installed at I-95 northbound exit ramp to Wickham was not sufficient to correct the overall Wickham traffic problem.

Mr. Kamm stated the County has been advised by Viera Company their efforts to secure the right of way needed for the Wickham Road widening project have not gone smoothly. The County has agreed to provide eminent domain services for Viera Company to enable the project to move forward.

Item 14. Communications

There was no discussion on this item.

Item 15. Public Comment

There was no discussion on this item.

Item 16. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Attest: _____
Carol Holden, SCTPO

As Approved by the TAC/CAC on _____