

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
April 10, 2014 3:00 p.m.

NEW BRIDGE STREET CONFERENCE ROOM
JACKSONVILLE CITY HALL

Present: Mr. Michael Lazzara, Mr. Bob Warden, Mr. Michael Lee, and Mr. Lionell Midgett

Absent: Mr. Jack Bright

Others Present:

Mr. Anthony Prinz, Ms. Debbie Jefferson, Ms. Peggy Holland, Mr. Robert Vause, Mr. Ron Massey, Mr. Saeed Mohamed, Mr. Tim McCurry, Mr. Bill Marley, Mr. Patrick Riddle, Ms. Karen Fussell, Ms. Katie Hite, and Mr. Chad Kimes

I. Call to Order

Mr. Michael Lazzara called the Jacksonville Area MPO Transportation Advisory Committee meeting to order at 3:03 pm on Thursday, April 10, 2014 in the New Bridge Street Conference Room of Jacksonville City Hall.

II. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Lazzara welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Mr. Lazzara informed the committee that item eight would be moved to action items, due to a resolution needing to be approved.

III. Public Comment

No Public Comment was made.

Action Items:

Consent:

IV. January 16, 2014 TAC Meeting Minutes

V. FY 2015 Self-Certification

Mr. Lazzara asked for a motion to accept the Agenda as amended and the Consent Items.

Mr. Bob Warden moved to approve the agenda as amended and accept the consent items. Mr. Michael Lee seconded the motion.

The motion to approve the agenda as amended and accept the consent items was unanimously approved by the Committee Members present.

Non-Consent

VI. Draft FY 2015 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Anthony Prinz went over the Draft FY 15 Unified Planning Work Program, discussing the annual budget for the MPO, especially movement away from contracted services. He spoke about the goals of the FY 2015 UPWP and further discussed the 2015 Work Program – wrap up outstanding projects, complete LRTP/MTIP, full-time Transportation Planning Technician, and other projects as needed (traffic studies, strategic plan update).

Mr. Lionell Midgett made a motion to approve the draft FY 2015 Work Program. Mr. Bob Warden seconded the motion.

The motion to approve the draft FY 2015 Unified Planning Work Program was unanimously approved by the Committee Members present.

VII. US 258/NC 24, Ridge Road and Blue Creek Road Resolution

Mr. Lazzara informed the Committee this Resolution is for support of a temporary traffic light through the efforts of Representative Shepherd. This Resolution was approved on Monday, April 8, 2014 by the Jacksonville City Council.

Mr. Prinz reminded the committee that we had several citizens come and express their feelings about safety concerns at the intersection during the last meeting. Representative Shepherd has said there are funds available to install a signal. Ms. Karen Fussell stated the best solution is to realign the intersection. Mr. Prinz stated this would be a non traditional signal and that some of the driveways would have to be removed.

Mr. Lionell Midgett made a motion to approve the Ridge Road and Blue Creek Road Resolution. Mr. Bob Warden seconded the motion.

The motion to approve the Ridge Road and Blue Creek Road Resolution was unanimously approved by the Committee Members present.

VIII. Prioritization P3.0

Mr. Prinz stated the Prioritization office in Raleigh requested a resolution to adopt the local priority methodology. Mr. Prinz discussed the Prioritization 3.0 process and stating the end goal is to get to an updated TIP by the end of June 2015.

At the last meeting we adopted the Prioritization Methodology and also a Project List for submittal to NCDOT for consideration under the P3.0 process. We have now gained conditional approval of our Prioritization Methodology. We are conditionally approved to

move forward with the rest of the Prioritization process, but must formally adopt the methodology prior to submission of local points.

Mr. Prinz explained the next step is more public input. Once the public input has been consolidated and compiled, we will begin the process of assigning points based upon the Methodology.

Mr. Lionell Midgett made a motion to approve the Prioritization 3.0 Local Input Methodology Resolution. Mr. Bob Warden seconded the motion.

The motion to approve the Prioritization 3.0 Resolution was unanimously approved by the Committee Members present.

Discussion Items

Reports/Comments

IX. Marine Boulevard/Western Boulevard Intersection Improvements

Mr. Prinz talked about the new parkway construction. There were a lot of complaints about the left turn onto Moosehaven being taken out and the concern about not being able to bypass Western Boulevard. There have been some queuing issues at the signal.

Some proposals were viewed and Mr. Lazzara signed a letter that was sent to NCDOT asking them to reevaluate the Moosehaven Rd. crossover closing. The findings are that it's really too expensive to reopen with the current construction of the guard rail.

Mr. Prinz stated the update of this strategy is to work with NCDOT to make some other changes. The timing of the signal will be modified and the left turn lane will be lengthened. The Committee Members talked about the increased use of the Parkway and how it has taken some of the traffic off Western.

Mr. Prinz stated it will be a couple of weeks when the extended left turning lane will begin construction.

X. Camp Lejeune Rail Initiative

Mr. Prinz stated this is a recent development from his meeting with Mr. Paul Worley, NCDOT Rail Division Director. Mr. Prinz reminded the Committee of a resolution from a few years ago asking NCDOT to partner with us on a Rail Feasibility Study. The intent of that project was to evaluate new rail service to connect the Jacksonville area to the proposed Castle Hayne to Wallace rail line.

One of the items that wasn't looked into is the existing Camp Lejeune rail line. It's owned by the Department of Defense and operated under contract by Norfolk Southern. Mr. Prinz continued to talk about his conversation with Mr. Worley in reference to the use of the Camp Lejeune rail line. The committee discussed the Rail Initiative for freight rail.

XI. Report from MPO Administrator

Mr. Prinz informed the Committee that he spoke with a Transportation Lobbyist from Washington, DC about reauthorization when he was in Charlotte. Mr. Prinz stated the outlook is that will be a continuing resolution for MAP 21. There are differing opinions on when the Highway trust fund will go bankrupt.

XII. Report from NCDOT Division 3

Mr. Patrick Riddle stated he will be sending out a project update by email.

XIII. Report from NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch

Mr. Saeed Mohamed gave his report and update of model calibration. Mr. Prinz added this Model is the cornerstone of our Long Range Transportation Plan and without it, the Long Range Transportation Plan wouldn't be possible.

XIV. Report from FHWA Field Officer

Mr. Bob Marley gave his report via conference phone.

XV. Questions, Closing Comments

Mr. Lazzara asked for a motion to adjourn the Transportation Advisory Committee meeting. Mr. Michael Lee moved to adjourn the TAC Regular Meeting. Mr. Lionell Midgett seconded the motion.

The motion to adjourn the TAC Regular Meeting was unanimously approved by the Committee Members present.

Mr. Lazzara adjourned the TAC meeting at 4:20 p.m.