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CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
of the
SARASOTA/MANATEE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
MPO Conference Room
7632 15th Street East
Sarasota, Florida

6:00 P.M.

MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 3, 2009

Chair Warner called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A quorum was present. Those in attendance were as follows:

PRESENT

Manatee County

James Lacher
Dale Stephenson
Stanley Hochman
Gerald Noeske
Jill Winters
Steve Shroyer
1 Vacancy

Sarasota County

Kafi Benz
Dorian Popescu
Rod Warner
John Hendricks
Millie Small
Mitch McKnight
Pamela Thompson
1 Vacancy

City of Venice

Michael Gelormino

**Island Transportation Planning
Organization**

Robert Engel

City of Bradenton

Don Bingham
James Bruen

Town of Longboat Key

Charlie Czech

City of North Port

Michael Hatfield

Non-Voting Member

Manon Lavoie, FDOT

Staff

Robert Herrington, Planning Manager
Nanette Eubanks, Office Manager

ABSENT

Sarasota County

Joseph Miller

City of Sarasota

John Teran (Excused)
Tollyn Twitchell

Manatee County

Thomas O'Brien
Lawrence Miller (Excused)

City of Palmetto

Mickey Hopkins

1 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
2
3

4 **II. REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS (May Require CAC Action)**
5

6 There were no reports or presentations scheduled.
7
8

9 **III. CAC MEMBERSHIP PRESENTATIONS**
10

11 1. Fuel Taxes
12

13 Mr. Dorian Popescu provided an overview of gas taxes and the Transportation Trust
14 Funds:
15

- 16 ∃ In 1956 the Legislature in Washington established the Highway Trust
17 Fund.
- 18 ∃ For over the last few years the State legislature has balanced the budget
19 by taking money from the State's Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) and
20 putting that money into the general fund.
- 21 ∃ Between 1998 and 2009, not counting the most recent \$120 million
22 diversion of Florida gas tax dollars, \$3.1 billion of state transportation
23 funding sources have been diverted from the Florida State
24 Transportation Trust Fund to fund other general purpose governmental
25 functions.
- 26 ∃ Additionally, in slightly over a two year period, transportation revenue
27 estimates for fiscal years 2007 through 2014 have been reduced by
28 over \$6.2 billion in cash resulting in the deferral or deletion of over
29 \$9.3 billion in project commitments.
- 30 ∃ The state gas tax is a user fee collected from motorists intended to
31 improve and maintain transportation in Florida.
- 32 ∃ Diverting state transportation funding away from transportation
33 projects also misses a fundamental point, not all government funding
34 sources are the same; these are user fees not general tax receipts and
35 not all government expenditures are of equal value.
- 36 ∃ For every \$1.00 Florida collects, it receives back only 86. .
- 37 ∃ Any and all diversions, sweeps, and redirects, etc. of State
38 transportation dollars must stop.
39

40 Mr. Popescu will provide an update at the January 2010 meeting.
41
42

43 **IV. COMMITTEE ACTION**
44

45 1. FDOT's Draft Five Year Work Program
46

47 Ms. Lavoie, FDOT provided a review of FDOT's Draft Five Year Work Program for
48 Sarasota County and Manatee County. Also reviewed were reports for both Manatee
49 County and Sarasota County showing additions, rescheduling and deletions of projects in
50 the Work Program.

1
2 Mr. Hendricks stated the \$22 million programmed for Intelligent Transportation System
3 (ITS) Freeway Management (message signs) on I-75 could be better spent. Ms. Lavoie
4 responded studies have proven that the message signs provide a valuable service to
5 travelers.

6
7 Mr. McKnight commented that the addition of projects reflected on the Work Program's
8 Additions, Reschedulings and Deletions Report signify a lot of money coming to the
9 Sarasota-Manatee area.

10
11 Mr. Lacher: I move to recommend MPO Board approval of FDOT's
12 Draft Tentative Five Year Work Program as presented.

13
14 Mr. Popescu: I second the motion.

15
16 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

17
18 2. Amendment to the FY 2009/10 – 2013/14 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

19
20 Mr. Herrington stated the City of Sarasota is requesting the Congestion Management
21 Systems (CMS) funding currently programmed for improvements at US 41 at Gulfstream
22 to be moved to a new project for the construction of a roundabout at US 41 at 10th Street.
23 In addition, the City of Sarasota is also requesting Major Improvement funds currently
24 programmed for 17th Street be moved also to the new roundabout at US 41 10th Street for
25 Project Development and Environmental (PD&E) and Design.

26
27 A second request is by the City of Venice to move Transportation Enhancement funds
28 currently programmed for a Bus Shelter on US 41 at Palermo Place to two other projects:
29 1) a bus shelter adjacent to the Venice Library; and 2) additional funding for the existing
30 Auburn Sidewalk project.

31
32 The third request is by FDOT to delete a design phase and change the description to
33 Landscape and Boardwalk for an Anna Maria project and also to change this to a design-
34 build project advanced to the current year.

35
36 Mr. Herrington pointed out US 41/10th Street just completed intersection improvements
37 in 2004/2005. Discussion ensued regarding funds being used again on US 41/10th for a
38 roundabout. It was determined that by the time this would occur congestion would
39 warrant same. Ms. Lavoie pointed out the City of Sarasota is required to justify the need
40 of the roundabout to the FDOT.

41
42 Mr. Popescu: I move to recommend Board approval of the requested changes
43 to the TIP as presented.

44
45 Mr. Hatfield: I second the motion.

46
47 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
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49
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1 **V. DISCUSSION SECTION**

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3 There were no items brought forward for discussion

4
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6 **VI. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- 7
8 1. Chair Warner opened the floor for nominations of CAC Chair from Manatee County,
9 Inclusive of Municipalities within Manatee County:

10 Mr. Popescu: I move to nominate Mr. James Lacher for Chair.

11
12 Ms. Benz: I second the motion.

13
14 Hearing no further nominations Chair Warner closed the floor for nominations.

15 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 16
17
18 2. Chair Warner opened the floor for nominations of CAC Vice Chair from Sarasota
19 County, Inclusive of Municipalities within Sarasota County:

20 Mr. Lacher: I move to nominate Dorian Popescu for Vice Chair.

21 Mr. Stephenson: I second the motion.

22 Hearing no further nominations Chair Warner closed the floor for nominations.

23 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 24
25
26 3. Appointment of 2010 CAC Executive Committee to Include:

27 a. CAC Chair James Lacher

28 b. CAC Vice Chair Dorian Popescu

29 c. Two CAC Members Residing in Manatee County: Don Bingham and Dale
30 Stephenson

31 d. Two CAC Members Residing in Sarasota County: Kafi Benz and Mitch
32 McKnight

33
34
35 Mr. Herrington requested volunteers for the West Central Florida Chairs Coordinating Committee
36 (CCC) Joints Citizens Advisory Committee (JCAC): Rod Warner, James Lacher Dale
37 Stephenson, and Kafi Benz.

38
39
40 **VII. OTHER BUSINESS**

- 41 1. Once Around the Table

42
43 No other items were discussed. Due to the shortness of time remaining for this meeting,
44 Chair Warner suggested members email any suggested future agenda items.

- 1 ⋄ Mr. Hendricks requested more information regarding the ITS. Ms. Lavoie will
- 2 arrange for a presentation regarding the ITS and the Automated Traffic
- 3 Management System (ATMS) a future CAC meeting.
- 4 ⋄ Mr. Popescu, Mr. Hochman and Mr. Lacher complimented Mr. Warner on a job
- 5 well done as CAC Chair.
- 6 ⋄ Mr. Czech asked if anything could be done regarding the flooding on SR 789 on
- 7 Anna Maria Island just north of Coquina Beach. Ms. Lavoie commented due to
- 8 that area being on a barrier island that there is no place for the water to go.
- 9

10
11 **VI. NEXT MEETING DATE**

12 The next regular meeting will be January 7, 2010.

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14
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16 **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

17 Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:50 p.m.

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19