



**OCALA/MARION COUNTY  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

Marion County • City of Belleview • City of Dunnellon • City of Ocala

**MONTHLY MEETING  
October 27, 2009  
4:00 PM**

**Marion County Commission Auditorium  
601 SE 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Ocala, FL 34471**

**AGENDA**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

**2. PROOF OF PUBLICATION**

**3. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. SELECTION OF COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR**

*The Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) is the agency responsible for the coordination of funds and activities to provide transportation services to disadvantaged persons. The CTC is overseen by the Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board and works under a five-year contract with the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged. **Staff is recommending approval Marion County Senior Services as the CTC for Ocala/Marion County.***

**B. UPDATED AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) PRIORITIES**

*FDOT has requested a priority list of additional projects to be funded with surplus stimulus dollars allocated to local projects. **Staff is recommending approval of the proposed priority list.***

**4. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. US 41 PROJECT UPDATE**

*Representatives from Reynolds, Smith & Hill will present an update on the US 41 project.*

**B. SHARPES FERRY BRIDGE UPDATE**

*Staff will present an update on the Sharpes Ferry Bridge replacement project.*

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 22, 2009**

**6. COMMENTS BY FDOT**

**7. COMMENTS BY TPO STAFF**

**8. COMMENTS BY TPO MEMBERS**

**9. PUBLIC COMMENT (Limited to 5 minutes)**

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

If reasonable accommodations are needed for you to participate in this meeting, please call the TPO Office at (352)629-8297 forty-eight (48) hours in advance so arrangements can be made.

*Pursuant to Chapter 286.0105, Florida Statutes, if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the TPO with respect to any matter considered at this meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.*

*The next regular meeting of the Ocala/Marion County Transportation Planning Organization will be held on **November 24, 2009.***



# OCALA/MARION COUNTY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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## MEMORANDUM

October 20, 2009

TO: Ocala/Marion County TPO  
FROM: Karen C. Parko, TPO Staff  
SUBJECT: Selection of Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC)

Every five (5) years, it is the responsibility of the Local Planning Agency to arrange for the selection of a Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) for their designated planning area. To complete this task, the Ocala/Marion County TPO staff issued, through the City of Ocala, a Request for Proposal soliciting professional firms to perform the functions of the CTC for Marion County. The Request for Proposal was distributed on September 15, 2009 and responses were received on October 13, 2009.

Two firms responded to the Request for Proposal. They were Marion County Senior Services, our current CTC, and Medical Transportation Management, Inc. from Lake St. Louis, MO. Both proposals were accepted as complete by the City of Ocala and forwarded to the Selection Committee for review.

The membership of the Selection Committee was Commissioner Barbara Fitos, TDLCB Chairman; Greg Slay, TPO Director; Karen Parko, Transit Planner; and Steven Neal, SunTran General Manager. The Selection Committee met on October 19, 2009 to review and rank the proposals. The Selection Committee's recommendation is to continue utilizing the services of the existing CTC, Marion County Senior Services. This recommendation will also be presented to the TDLCB on Friday, October 23, 2009. (The score sheet is attached for your information.) The TPO's recommendation will be submitted to the State of Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged for their final decision. A Memorandum of Agreement will then be executed between the State of Florida and the selected firm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter prior to the meeting, please feel free to contact the TPO staff.

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**MEMORANDUM**

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OCTOBER 21, 2009

TO: TPO MEMBERS

FROM: GREG SLAY, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: SURPLUS STIMULUS FUNDS PRIORITIES

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Of the eight stimulus projects awarded locally, seven have received bids. Bids are scheduled to be open for the last project, Fort King Street, on October 27. Overall all, the bids have come in about 34% less than estimates, resulting in a surplus of approximately \$1.7 million. This figure is likely to increase if the Fort King project follows the latest trend. Attached you will find an overview of the current projects.

The Marion Oaks Sidewalks project was the only enhancement project funded and came in at 43% less than estimate. The surplus enhancement funds are being reallocated by FDOT Central Office in Tallahassee. We are attempting to get some of those funds allocated to the remainder of the Broadway corridor enhancements, which was the second priority on the TPO.

FDOT has requested that the TPO provide an updated priority list to be funded with the surplus monies. Staff has worked with the Ocala and Marion Engineering Departments to develop a list of four projects. These projects were included in the final priority list and were next in line to receive funding. Attached you will find the recommended priority list. It is anticipated these projects will utilize all the remaining funds.

Staff is recommending approval of the attached priority list. If you have any questions, please contact our office at 629-8297.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)  
Surplus Funds Priorities

Priority	Roadway	From	To	Length (miles)	Daily Count	Project Type	Jurisdiction
1	NW/SW 27 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	SW 20 <sup>th</sup> Street	US 27	2.0	23,600	Resurfacing	City of Ocala
2	Lake Weir Avenue	SE 31 <sup>st</sup> Street	US 441	0.8	7,800	Resurfacing	City of Ocala
3	NE/SE 25 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	SR 464	NE 14 <sup>th</sup> Street	2.0	16,900	Resurfacing	City of Ocala
4	CR 318*	NE 77 <sup>th</sup> Terrace Rd	CR 315	3.5	4,200	Resurfacing	Marion County

*\*Limits are approximate*

**American Recovery and Reinvestment Act  
Stimulus Project Update  
October 2009**

Roadway	From	To	Length (miles)	Daily Count	Project Type	Estimated Cost	Low Bid	Difference	%
NE 36 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	NE 14 <sup>th</sup> Street	NE 35 <sup>th</sup> Street	1.5	12,800	Resurfacing	\$ 552,000	\$ 335,000	\$ (217,000)	-39%
NE 25 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	NE 24 <sup>th</sup> Street	NE 35 <sup>th</sup> Street	1.5	10,400	Resurfacing	\$ 135,000	\$ 48,000	\$ (87,000)	-64%
ML King Avenue	NW 22 <sup>nd</sup> Street	NW 35 <sup>th</sup> Street	0.9	7,800	Resurfacing	\$ 230,000	\$ 139,000	\$ (91,000)	-40%
E. Fort King Street	SE 36 <sup>th</sup> Ave	City Limit	1.0	7,800	Reconfigure	\$ 1,590,000	Oct 27		
NW 80 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	SR 40	US 27	3.4	5,400	Resurfacing	\$ 1,087,000	\$ 980,000	\$ (107,000)	-10%
SE 18 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	SE 31 <sup>st</sup> Street	SR 464	1.1	6,400	Resurfacing	\$ 160,000	\$ 98,000	\$ (62,000)	-39%
CR 484	US 41	Marion Oaks Course	17.7	11,600	Resurfacing	\$ 5,433,000	\$ 4,837,000	\$ (596,000)	-11%
NE/SE 36 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	SE 31 <sup>st</sup> Street	NE 14 <sup>th</sup> Street	3.2	21,000	Resurfacing	\$ 1,600,000	\$ 989,000	\$ (611,000)	-38%
<i>Total</i>						<u>\$ 10,787,000</u>	<u>\$ 7,426,000</u>	<u>\$ (1,771,000)</u>	<u>-34%</u>
Marion Oaks Sidewalks			6.1	-	New Sidewalks	\$ 843,000	\$ 476,707	\$ (366,293)	-43%
<i>Not Funded</i>									
Lake Weir Avenue	SE 31st Street	US 441	0.8	7,800	Resurfacing	\$ 250,000			
NE/SE 25 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	SR 464	NE 14 <sup>th</sup> Street	2.0	16,900	Resurfacing	\$ 840,000			
NW/SW 27 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	SW 42 <sup>nd</sup> Street	Blitchton Road	3.6	23,600	Resurfacing	\$ 1,580,000			
CR 318	NE 52nd Ct	CR 315	9.3	4,200	Resurfacing	\$ 2,890,000			
CR 315	NE 90th Street Rd	CR 316	6.0	4,300	Resurfacing	\$ 3,360,000			
CR 200A	NE 100th St	US 301	7.3	5,200	Resurfacing	\$ 2,495,000			



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**County Commission Chambers  
601 SE 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Ocala, FL 34471**

**September 22, 2009**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:**

Councilwoman Mary S. Rich, Chairwoman  
Commissioner Stan McClain, Vice-Chair  
Commissioner Mike Amsden  
Commissioner Barbara Fitos (*arrived 4:42 pm*)  
Commissioner Michael Goldman (*departed 5:05 pm*)  
Commissioner Jim Payton (*arrive 4:07 pm*)  
Commissioner Charlie Stone

**Members Not Present:**

Mayor Randy Ewers  
Councilman Kent Guinn  
Councilman Kyle Kay  
Councilman Daniel Owen  
Councilman Charlie Ruse  
Councilman Fred Stark

**Others Present:**

Greg Slay, TPO Staff  
John Voges, TPO Staff  
Ken Odom, TPO Staff  
Ken Odom, TPO Staff  
Kayleen Hamilton, TPO Staff  
Vicki Mitchell, FDOT  
Mike McCammon, FDOT  
George Lovett, FDOT  
Steven Neal, SunTran  
Mounir Bouyounes, Marion County Engineering  
Lee Niblock, Marion County Administration  
Bruce Phillips, City of Ocala Engineering  
Connie Mullis, Senator Evelyn Lynn's Office  
Renee Blaney

**Item 1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chairwoman Rich called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM. Secretary Kayleen Hamilton called the roll of members; a quorum was present.

**Item 2. Proof of Publication**

Secretary Hamilton stated that the meeting had been published in the September 15 edition of the Ocala Star Banner.

**Item 3a. FY 2010/2011–2014/2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments**

Mr. Odom presented amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP was brought before the board biannually and served as the financial element of the Long Range Transportation Plan by tracking funding and phases of projects. Mr. Odom reported that it was occasionally necessary to amend the TIP.

Stimulus funding had been added for PD&E on US 441. Funding for all phases of SR 40 had been deferred one year. Mr. Odom advised that right-of-way for US 301 had been amended because nearly five and a half million dollars had been overlooked when the data had been imported. Funds to finish the PD&E on Sharpes Ferry Bridge had also been added.

Mr. Odom advised that there were several projects that had not been included in the data. These included double tracking the railroad line in Anthony, the annual contract for traffic signalization, the Belleview sidewalks project, CR 40, and construction of the Safe Routes to School website. Mr. McClain asked about the funding for the railroad project, and Mr. Lovett explained that there was a statewide program for railroad improvement on the Strategic Intermodal System. The railroad project in Anthony was currently on hold.

Mr. Stone asked about SR 35, and Mr. Odom advised that the project needed to remain in the TIP despite anticipation that the project would be completed with stimulus funding. Mr. Slay added that the project could be modified later to reflect that change.

Mr. Payton asked about funding for Sharpes Ferry Bridge, and Mr. Slay answered that the FDOT had three and a half million dollars in County Incentive Grant Program (CIGP) monies for the project. An earmark of just over two million dollars had also been granted to the project and Marion County had between two and three million dollars on line in 2012 for the bridge replacement. This reflected about eighty percent of the total anticipated need. There was discussion regarding lower construction bids and the availability to funds to begin the replacement sooner. Mr. Slay stated that the CIGP funds and County match were scheduled for 2012. The earmark would be available in January 2010. Mr. Lovett added that FDOT was fast tracking the study and design and needed to purchase right-of-way.

Mr. Lovett said that Sharpes Ferry Bridge was a high priority for the Department that could be moved forward but was not presently ready to send to bid. Design had just begun, and Mr. Lovett noted that there were environmental issues that needed to be addressed. Mr.

Slay commented that the bridge was also historically significant. Design was being planned to connect the old bridge into the Greenway for pedestrian traffic.

Mr. McClain made a motion to accept the TIP amendments as presented. Mr. Stone seconded and the motion passed by unanimous consent.

### **Item 3b. Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Appointments**

Mr. Slay reported that staff had been accepting applications for the Citizens Advisory Committee in light of several retirements. Staff was recommending appointment of three new members – Ms. Renee Blaney, Mr. Paul Geatches and Mr. Clark Yandle. Mr. Slay advised that there would be more recommendations later.

Staff recommendations were based in part on geographic and professional diversity for committee representation.

Mr. Stone made a motion to appoint Ms. Blaney, Mr. Geatches and Mr. Yandle as recommended by staff, and Mr. Amsden seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Item 4a. 2008 Traffic Counts and Trends Data**

Mr. Odom presented the 2008 traffic counts and trends data. Population growth in the county was steady, and Mr. Odom pointed out peaks and dips in vehicle registrations, particularly the significant increase in motorcycle registrations. Mr. Odom explained that the “Other” category covered unclassified vehicles such as scooters. Mr. Stone asked if there was any allowance for out-of-county registrations, particularly along the county lines, and Mr. Slay replied that there were not.

Other data in the 2008 Traffic Counts and Trends book included number of licensed drivers and the annual commercial sales of fuel.

Mr. Odom reviewed the traffic count data. Counts were gathered and mapped from GPS located count stations. The Traffic Counts and Trends book included maps and tables of five-year historical data. The book also featured maps of the most heavily traveled roads and high hazard intersections. SunTran ridership and operation data was also included.

Mr. Odom advised the board that accident trends had been derived from long form data. The long form was used to report accidents with injuries, property damage, or suspected drug or alcohol involvement. Mr. Odom stated that there had been a four-and-a-half percent decline in long form accidents.

Trend data included accident occurrences by time of day, day of week, and month of year. Annual fatalities were tracked, and Mr. Odom noted that there was no discernable trend. Fatalities and injuries were also tracked and showed a sharp increase in motorcycle injuries.

Mr. Odom stated that approximately 8.6% of all accidents were alcohol related. Mr. Odom said that staff would continue to track this statistic closely.

The book also included accident data by atmospheric condition. Only about 35% of accidents occurred in inclement weather.

Mr. Goldman commented that since the increase in motorcycle accidents seemed to correlate with the increase in motorcycle registrations, there might be a need for a public service announcement. Mr. Odom advised that there were FDOT programs regarding motorcycle safety. There was discussion regarding the experience level of motorcycle drivers and the likelihood of accidents.

#### **Item 4b. Update on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Projects**

Mr. Slay reported that five to six of the stimulus projects were through bid and had come in approximately 40% below estimates. Marion County still had CR 484 to bid, and the State was handling SR 35. Mr. Slay stated that discussions were taking place with FDOT regarding getting additional projects done.

Mr. Lovett reported that SR 35 had gone through selection committee and would be awarded in a couple of weeks. There was significant utility work to be done. Mr. Lovett thanked the City and County for their work on local projects. Of nine local projects, seven had already had bid openings. Some projects were expected to be in progress by the beginning of October.

Mr. Lovett stated that funds saved on local projects would stay local. If a state project was bid low, the saved funds could be used for other projects around the state. Mr. Lovett said that bids were being received from multiple firms and that construction prices did not appear to be rising as a result of the stimulus projects. Mr. Lovett commented that stimulus funds were a small amount compared to what had been cut from the work program. Ms. Rich asked about the difference between estimates and bids, and Mr. Lovett explained that estimates were based on computer models that used historical prices. Just a few years earlier, construction prices had been high.

Mr. Slay stated that the TPO was looking at Lake Weir Avenue, NE 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue and CR 318 if there were leftover funds.

#### **Item 5. Consent Agenda**

Mr. Amsden made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mr. McClain seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

#### **Item 6. Comments by FDOT**

Ms. Mitchell reported that the contract for US 301 four-laning had been awarded, and a project kick-off was planned for October. Juniper Creek Bridge work was ongoing as was resurfacing on I-75.

**Item 7. Comments by TPO Staff**

Mr. Slay advised the board that a request for proposals had been issued for a Community Transportation Coordinator. A recommendation would be provided at the next meeting. Mr. Slay stated that staff was also kicking off development of the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), and Mr. Slay said the Strings & Ribbons public involvement portion was planned to begin in November. Mr. Slay commented that the financial range for the LRTP would be significant less than in the past. As a result, the LRTP would likely need to focus more on transit reliance.

**Item 8. Comments by TPO Members**

*There were no further comments from TPO members.*

**Item 9. Public Comment (5 minutes per person)**

*There was no public comment.*

**Item 10. Adjournment**

Chairwoman Rich adjourned the meeting at 5:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted By:

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**Kayleen Hamilton, TPO Administrative Assistant**

OCTOBER 22, 2009

## **FDOT/Marion County PROJECT STATUS REPORT**

### **Construction in Progress**

1. **SR 19** - Replace Juniper Creek Bridge (FM No. 2387702). Russell Engineering, Inc. was awarded the \$4,772,222 project October 22. Work began January 12. **Working on the new bridge construction.**
2. **I-75** - Resurface 4.5 miles from SR 200 to north of US 27 (FM No. 419437). Anderson Columbia Co. was awarded the \$6,954,026 contract February 13. Work began April 13. **Still placing fiction course on the ramps and general cleanup should be completed by December.**

### **Near Future Construction**

1. **US 301** – Four-laning of the 1.2 miles from the Sumter County line to south of CR 42 (FM No. 4112563). D.A.B. Constructors, Inc. was awarded the \$3,596,000 Contract October 18. **Project Start date is November 1, 2009**
2. **SR 35 (Baseline Road)** - Four-lane 5.6 miles from Maricamp Road (CR 464) to SR 40 (FM No. 238677). Design Build contract was awarded **CW Roberts and the notice to proceed was issued on October 13, 2009 with the first day of construction on October 21** for \$23.3 million. This project is being funded through the federal stimulus program. **Contractor will begin work for clearing and grubbing for the utilities to start their relocation process.**
3. **SR 45-** Pavement Marking project for 6.989 miles from SR 40 to Levy County line ( FM No. 423124). AKCA, Inc was awarded the contract on August 18, 2009 for \$ 246,105.00. **The Contractor is due to start construction on November 1, 2009.**