

## **FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

**MINUTES OF DECEMBER 9, 2003**

**MEETING NUMBER 140**

The one hundred and fortieth meeting of the Florida Transportation Commission was held Tuesday, December 9, 2003 at the Department of Transportation, District Six Auditorium, 1000 N.W. 111<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Miami, Florida. Chairman Durden called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. eastern time.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Members in attendance were: Commissioners Earl Durden, Jim Holton, Sidney Calloway, Gasper Lazzara and Bob Namoff. Commissioners David Brown and Janet Watermeier were unable to attend.

### **MINUTES**

Minutes of the October 17, 2003 Commission Meeting were approved.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

**Chairman Durden** reported:

- Congratulations to Commissioners Holton, Watermeier and Namoff for their reappointment to the Transportation Commission to serve another term through September 30, 2007.
- We received notification from the Governor's Appointments Office that there were two new appointments to the Commission and they are; Ms. Heidi Eddins, of St. Augustine will be succeeding Norman Mansour on the Commission. Ms. Eddins is Executive Vice President and General Counsel for Florida East Coast Industries, Inc.; and, Mr. David A. Straz, Jr. of Tampa. Mr. Straz is Chairman of the Board for Southern Exchange Bank in Tampa.
- Commissioner Mansour's term was up and Chairman Durden requested that the Commission send him a letter thanking him for serving.
- Secretary Abreu, Commissioner Brown and Chairman Durden attended a meeting with the Governor on October 31 regarding Florida's Transportation Investment Plan for Economic Growth.
- Commissioner Namoff attended a National Symposium on Variable Pricing in South Florida and also the Intelligent Transportation Working Group meeting in Deerfield Beach. **Commissioner Namoff** briefed the Commission.
- Laura Kelley attended the first two meetings of the SITAC (Strategic Intermodal Transportation Advisory Council) to brief them on the Commission's Assessment on Regional and Intermodal Transportation Planning and receive feed back from the group on key recommendations. Ms. Kelley reported that there is a letter being drafted by the SITAC to the Commission supporting the recommendations of the Commission on this Regional Assessment as well as giving the Commission additional recommendations for consideration.

- **Chairman Durden** thanked Dr. Ed Meirzejewski and CUTR, Bill Ham, Ysela Llort, Bob Romig, Terry Kraft, Dick Glaze, John Beck, Paul Sexton, the SITAC and Howard Glassman for their contributions to the Regional and Intermodal Assessment Report.
- **Chairman Durden** asked for a motion from the Commission on the Assessment on Regional and Intermodal Transportation Planning report. Commissioner Calloway made the motion that the Commission adopt the report with the approved changes. Commissioner Holton seconded the motion. The motion was carried.
- The Commission will be meeting with Senator Sebesta and the Senate Transportation Committee on January 6, 2004 to present the Assessment Report.

## **FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION REPORT**

Secretary Abreu reported on the following:

- October 22, Secretary Abreu was the keynote speaker at a CUTR function.
- November 7, Secretary Abreu was a keynote speaker for the Transportation Disadvantage Commission meeting.
- November 10, Secretary Abreu was the keynote speaker at the Florida Public Transit Association.
- Last week Secretary Abreu spoke at the International Right of Way Association.
- The Department will not have a package next year. There are some Legislative issues that will need to be addressed.
- Secretary Abreu discussed some of the Legislative issues that will be addressed next session such as: Noise Walls, High Speed Rail, CEI Sovereign Immunity and Section 59.

## **TEA-21 REAUTHORIZATION STATUS**

Stephanie Kopelousos, Federal Programs Coordinator, briefed the Commission regarding the status of the TEA-21 Reauthorization and what is going on in Washington, DC.

**Chairman Durden** stated that he was concerned about the discretionary projects and said the priority projects are where we've been getting killed in Florida. We haven't been getting our share of priority projects. That's why even with a guarantee of 90.5 % we are only getting 86¢ back. Other states have been getting these discretionary and priority projects. We have got to work hard with our Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (T&I) members in the house and with Senator Graham and Senator Nelson. If they are going to have discretionary projects and priority projects we have got to make sure that Florida gets some of them – that we get our share. Our preference would be to bring them all under the formula, but if they don't do that then we have got to make sure that we get our share of priority projects because otherwise the pot gets diluted and we only get 80 or 90% of our funds. This has been a concern of the Chairman, ever since Reauthorization started and he thinks we have to monitor the situation and keep the Secretary informed and to use anyone that has connections with these three T&I

members, Mario Diaz-Balart, Corrine Brown and John Mica. We really need to stay on top of this and make sure that Florida doesn't get short changed this time. He told Secretary Abreu that any help the Commission can give, to not hesitate to let us know. We have to protect Florida and see that we get our fair share this time.

Commissioner Lazzara asked what dollar amount Ms. Kopelousos thought would come out of the reauthorization package - \$250 or \$375 Billion? Ms. Kopelousos responded she would guess somewhere in between.

## **INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS UPDATE**

Chester Chandler, Intelligent Transportation Systems Manager, made a brief presentation to the Commission. To review the presentation go to [www.ftc.state.fl.us](http://www.ftc.state.fl.us) and look under Presentations Made Before the Commission at Commission Meetings.

**Commissioner Namoff** commended Mr. Chandler and the Department for the excellent job they have been doing.

**Commissioner Calloway** asked Mr. Chandler if the Department had some sort of analysis or report that identifies what infrastructure is in place for the wireless systems as well as what infrastructure is needed in the future? Is there some report that identifies those areas? Mr. Chandler responded that there is an extensive infrastructure already in place using the microwave systems.

**Commissioner Holton** asked Mr. Chandler which type of system was the most vulnerable in terms of National Security and what steps are being taken to safeguard those? Mr. Chandler responded that in the presence of a nuclear bomb for a period of time wireless would cease to work. Fiber optics would be the preferred communications, medium, but he did not know how fiber optics would withstand a detonation device either. The proposed solution would be to have redundancy.

## **STATE INFRASTRUCTURE BANK (SIB) SELECTION PROCESS**

Lowell Clary, Assistant Secretary for Finance and Administration, made a brief presentation to the Commission. For detailed information, please refer to our website [www.ftc.state.fl.us](http://www.ftc.state.fl.us) to review the presentation.

**Chairman Durden** asked Mr. Clary what percentage of the SIB projects are on the SIS or emerging SIS and will the Department give preference to the SIS and emerging SIS projects? Mr. Clary responded he did not have that information at hand and would provide that information to him at a later time. **Chairman Durden** asked Mr. Clary if his Department puts the list together and then the Secretary approves the list – is that the process? Mr. Clary responded, yes, the Secretary has the authority to approve it.

**Commissioner Calloway** responded that it looked like four or five of the projects were transit and asked if the Department was doing anything to try to encourage locals and transit authorities to use the SIB as a vehicle to implement transit plans as well? Mr. Clary responded, yes, the Department was encouraging local involvement.

## **MIAMI INTERMODAL CENTER (MIC) UPDATE**

Johnny Martinez, District Six Secretary, made a brief presentation and gave an update to the Commission on the construction process of the MIC.

**Commissioner Namoff** noted that for two years the airport will have buses transporting people to the rental facilities and asked if people would have to carry their bags on the bus and off the bus? Mr. Martinez said yes. Mr. Clary responded it would be the same type of buses that are operating today.

**Commissioner Lazzara** mentioned that when San Francisco put in a people mover it was a nightmare. He recommended to Mr. Martinez, that if he hadn't seen the San Francisco people mover he should take a look at it. Mr. Martinez said he has been to San Francisco to see their people mover, the Miami people mover will bring you in at the level where there are moving sidewalks to help you with luggage.

**Commissioner Calloway** asked Mr. Martinez what was the project cost? Mr. Martinez said there was a gap on that, some say it is \$400 M. They are working on trying to close the gap.

## **TRUCK SAFETY INITIATIVES**

Colonel Graham Fountain, Director, Office of Motor Carrier Compliance, made a brief presentation to the Commission giving an overview of the Motor Carrier Compliance Office. Lt. Colonel David Binder, Deputy Director, Office of Motor Carrier Compliance, made a brief presentation to the Commission. For detailed information, please refer to our website [www.ftc.state.fl.us](http://www.ftc.state.fl.us) to review the presentations.

## **REVIEW OF DRAFT SIS STRATEGIC PLAN**

Bob Romig, Director, Office of Policy Planning, made a brief presentation for Ysela Llort to the Commission. For detailed information, please refer [www.ftc.state.fl.us](http://www.ftc.state.fl.us) to our website to review the presentation.

**Chairmen Durden** asked if the Department has decided how the SIS would be funded? Mr. Romig responded that they are still examining that, but they did have funding strategies in place.

## **EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION STUDY**

Mark Reichert, Commission Staff, gave an update on the status of the Executive Compensation Study to the Commission. For detailed information, please refer to our website [www.ftc.state.fl.us](http://www.ftc.state.fl.us) to review the presentation.

**Chairman Durden** asked the Commissioners to review the Study and make appropriate changes. The Commission will approve the Study at the January Commission meeting. Once the Study is complete, the Commission will present it to the Governor.

**Commissioner Calloway** said he would like to see the raw data collected for the Study.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m. eastern time.

MINUTES APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ AS READ \_\_\_\_\_ AS AMENDED

THIS 29<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JANUARY 2004

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CHAIRMAN

**NOTE:** If further detail of these proceedings is required, please contact Commission staff at 850-414-4105 or write to 605 Suwannee Street, Mail Station 09, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450. Meetings of the Florida Transportation Commission are recorded on video and audiotape.