

FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MARCH 1, 2010

MEETING NUMBER 178

The one hundred and seventy-eighth meeting of the Florida Transportation Commission was held March 1, 2010, at the Florida Department of Transportation, Burns Auditorium, 605 Suwannee Street, Tallahassee, Florida. Acting Chairman Garrett Walton provided opening comments and called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE:

Members in attendance were: Acting Chairman Walton, Commissioners Conrecode, Howse, Marchena, Mazurkiewicz, and Rose. Chairman Marty Lanahan and Vice-Chairman Bart Pullum did not attend due to significant business conflicts.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the January 15, 2010, Commission Meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Acting Chairman Walton opened the meeting by addressing the primary purpose of this meeting, the review of the Tentative Five Year Work Program. This meeting fulfills one of the Commission's statutory responsibilities and serves as the official statewide public hearing.

Commissioners reported on the following activities:

- Commissioner Conrecode represented the Commission on the recently established Florida International University "think tank" group. The purpose of this group is to take a look at the future of transportation and the need for sustainable infrastructure development. Discussions focused on topics such as global climate change, and less on transportation. Commissioner Conrecode provided an update on the group's activities.
- Commissioner Mazurkiewicz represents the Commission on the 2060 FTP Leadership Committee. Commissioner Mazurkiewicz provided an update on the Committee's progress and activities. Four working groups have been formed to address specific issues related to the Plan, and their recommendations will be submitted to the full Steering Committee for consideration. Any Commissioners that would like to provide input on the Plan should submit comments to Sally Patrenos.
- Commissioner Marchena delivered remarks at the Future of Transportation Forum in Central Florida, which was held at the Turnpike Enterprise. He provided an update on the Forum. Commissioner Howse also attended the Forum.

AGENCY REPORT AND SECRETARY'S REVIEW OF WORK PROGRAM:

Secretary Stephanie Kopelousos provided the following report to the Commission:

- New Staff Appointments: Alan Mosely, District Two Secretary
Eva Baxter, Chief of Staff
- Legislative Update (Primary Focus on Budget): Discussion included Red Light Running Camera Legislation, Truck Weight Legislation, Asphalt vs. Concrete, and Port Funding.
- Cash Balance: Provided history and current status including federal level funding and stimulus dollars.
- ARRA Funds: FDOT has obligated all ARRA funds. District Secretaries will address specific details on the impacts (i.e., number of jobs created).
- High Speed Rail Project: FDOT received \$1.25 Million for High Speed Rail. This is not enough to fund the entire project and the department is working with Federal Highway regarding additional funding and the next steps in moving forward with this project.
- Public Private Partnerships:
 - I-595: FDOT broke ground on this project last week.
 - Port of Miami Tunnel: Still in progress and moving forward.
 - Lake Belt: Received decision on environmental documents and four permits were released (several still pending). FDOT is making progress on this project and expects to see mining continue.

TENTATIVE 5-YEAR WORK PROGRAM REVIEW AND PUBLIC HEARING:

Mark Reichert, Assistant Executive Director, provided the results of the *Review of the FDOT Tentative Work Program (TWP) for FY 2010/11 through FY 2014/15*. This document is based on the preliminary review of the TWP which was submitted to the Commission, Governor and Legislature on February 16, 2010. The final TWP will be submitted to the Governor and Legislature by March 16, 2010, within the statutory requirement.

The purpose of the Commission's review is to provide assurance to the public, the Governor, and the Legislature that the TWP was developed in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and policies. The Work Program represents those project-specific commitments that will be made in the short-term that implement the policies adopted in the Florida Transportation Plan, based on the funding and program levels established in the FDOT Program and Resource Plan. It fulfills the Department's commitment to the local governments for stability and long term planning.

Secretary Stephanie Kopelousos responded to the review of the TWP. She was followed by each of the district secretaries and the Turnpike Executive Director who presented an overview of their respective work programs.

Mr. Reichert concluded that, based on extensive staff research and analysis, the Tentative Work Program for FY 2010/11 through FY 2014/15 was developed in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and departmental policies. He also stated that the law requires that the Commission, as part of this public hearing, hear all comments offered by the public and turned the public hearing back over to Acting Chairman Walton to preside over the public comments phase of the hearing. No public comments were made related to the TWP.

By unanimous vote of the Commission, the TWP was found to be in compliance with all laws and Departmental policies, and Acting Chairman Walton instructed Commission staff to forward the TWP Review to Governor Crist and the Legislature.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ms. Leigh Holt, an employee of Brevard County, addressed the Commission on behalf of the Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization. She expressed their concerns on the proposed deferral of the widening of Interstate 95 in southern Brevard and northern Indian River Counties. The Chairman requested the Department to address the concerns and provide a copy of the response to the Commission.

CONCLUSION:

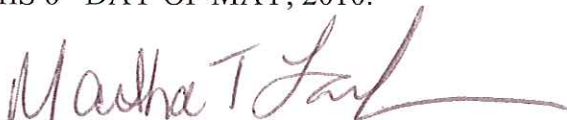
The next Commission meeting will be held on May 6, 2010, in Panama City.

ADJOURN:

The Florida Transportation Commission meeting adjourned at 4:45 P.M.

MINUTES APPROVED ✓ AS READ _____ AS AMENDED

THIS 6th DAY OF MAY, 2010.



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, and Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450. Meetings of the Florida Transportation Commission are recorded on audiotape and/or videotape. Please see presentations made before the Commission on the Florida Transportation Commission web site at www.ftc.state.fl.us.

