

FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MAY 30, 2008

MEETING NUMBER 167

The one hundred and sixty-seventh meeting of the Florida Transportation Commission was held Friday, May 30, 2008 at the Florida Department of Transportation, 605 Suwannee Street, Auditorium, and Tallahassee, Florida. Chairman Marcos Marchena called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Members in attendance were: Chairman Marcos Marchena, Commissioners Calloway, Lanahan, Conrecode, Criser, Mazurkiewicz, Rose and Walton.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the March 3, 2008 Commission Meetings were approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Marchena reported on the following:

- Chairman Marchena introduced and welcomed four new commissioners: Commissioner Joseph Mazurkiewicz, Commissioner Manual Rose, Commissioner Tom Conrecode and Commissioner Garrett Walton
- Chairman Marchena addressed the Safety Forum held on Thursday, May 29. He indicated that he felt the meeting was very productive and feels that this forum is the best approach to optimizing and expediting, the process of obtaining the most current safety data available from various resources. More discussion on the Safety Forum was presented later on the agenda.
- Since the March meeting, Chairman Marchena has participated in the following meetings: (1) made a presentation to the Transportation House Infrastructure Committee, (2) attended the FICE/FDOT meeting and participated in the funding panel, (3) attended the I-95 Coalition Visioning meeting in Washington, (4) attended the I-95 Coalition Visioning meeting in Orlando, and (5) attended the CUTR Board Meeting at USF and (6) met with the North West Florida Transportation Authority to discuss funding.
- Executive Director Patrenos attended the TEAMFL Conference.
- Since the March meeting, Vice-Chairman Calloway reported on the following meetings: (1) participated on a panel with the South East Florida Transportation Commission, and (2) met with the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) to discuss various transportation challenges. He met with the DOT Secretary and District 4 Secretary and presented potential solutions to the RTA issues.
- Commissioner Pullum was featured in a publication from the Walton County Chamber of Commerce.
- Chairman Marchena reminded the group of the upcoming SASHTO conference to be held in Orlando on August 8-13, 2008. The FTC Commission will host the SASHTO

Boards and Commissions Members during their meeting scheduled for Monday, August 11, 1:30 P.M.-3:00 P.M. Chairman Marchena encouraged everyone to attend.

- The next formal FTC meeting is scheduled for September 11, 2008, in Bonita Springs. More information will be distributed at a later date for this meeting.
- The FTC will be scheduling a Planning and Visioning retreat in the Fall of 2008. Time will be scheduled during the retreat to follow-up on the May 29, 2008 Safety Forum.
- The third quarter performance review report is included in the agenda packet for information and review.
- FTC is working to redesign the Commission website to make it more user friendly. Rick Gallant of the FTC staff is the lead on this project.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Executive Director Patrenos gave a 2008 Legislative Session Update and provided a summary of changes to the transportation bill. Included in the presentation were the major provisions and modifications.

AGENCY REPORT

Secretary Stephanie Kopelousos gave an update on the Department activities and reported on the following:

- Secretary Kopelousos opened by thanking the Commissioners and Board for moving transportation forward in Florida. She also expressed her excitement to have a full commission again.
- Gus Pego has been appointed District Six Secretary replacing Johnny Martinez. District Secretary Pego will be serving on the MDX Board with Alice Bravo and will serve on the SFRTA Board.
- Interviews will be conducted for the Chief Engineer position, replacing Ananth Prasad, within the next two weeks.
- Two Turnpike position vacancies have been filled: Jennifer Olson, Deputy Executive Director (replacing Chris Warren) and Rick Nelson, Director of Toll Operations replacing Evelio Suarez.
- Secretary Kopelousos discussed the Budget impacts of the Legislative Session. The Legislative goal is to minimize the deferral of projects, keeping projects within the five year work program when possible. Districts will be meeting with local governments to discuss their priorities. Several other issues were discussed related to budget: (1) Possible reduction of doc stamps, as the economy gets better, funds would come back to the agency and trust fund. Cash receipts continue to go down, sales tax is currently below average, income tax below average, and doc stamps above average. As fuel consumption goes down, revenues to the transportation trust fund go down. The department is currently working on outreach efforts in this area. Current departmental priorities are: (1) I-95, (2) Synopsis of Commuter Rail, and (3) Updating statewide rail plan in two phases – rail stakeholders and rail element.

- Secretary Kopelousos provided an update on the Lake Belt Mining project. The United States Court granted a summary judgment and operations have resumed.
- The department is committed to the Public and Private Partnerships. A team was established at FDOT to focus on the 3Ps which includes Bill Thorp, Marsha Johnson and the Chief Engineer.
- An update of current projects was provided. (1) I-75 Lee/Collier – 75 days ahead of schedule, (2) US1 – Unsolicited proposal was awarded, (3) Jude Fish Creek Bridge – was opened before the holidays, (4) I-95 Express Lanes – moving forward in July/August, (5) Port of Miami Tunnel – ongoing discussions and negotiations, financial closing set for September, (6) I-595 is currently in the RFP process. Proposals have been shortlisted to three firms. Chairman Marchena requested a list of the firms, and (7) Alligator Alley, leasing asset – currently soliciting proposals for long term leasing, FDOT will control the lease.
- A Federal Reauthorization Team is in place for FDOT which includes Dave Lee, Alice Bravo and Marsha Johnson with a focus on federal flexibility and the federal core mission.

THE FEDERAL PERSPECTIVE: REAUTHORIZATION, FUNDING SHORTFALLS, INNOVATION

Chairman Marchena introduced David Horner, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy, U.S. Department of Transportation.

Mr. Horner made a presentation before the Commission. The presentation included information related to new directions in the Federal Resurfacing Program, gas tax, issues related to raising and spending funds, and earmarks in appropriations bills. Possible solutions to these issues were also presented including road pricing, congestion pricing and additional capital. Mr. Horner is involved in all aspects of the U.S. Secretary of Transportation's initiative to promote public-private partnerships and private investment in the Nation's surface transportation network. David also heads the Secretary's "Urban Partnership Team," a working group of 35 senior Department executives organized by the Office of the Secretary to promote road pricing in major metropolitan areas. In that capacity, David negotiated the allocation of approximately \$850 million in Federal grants to five U.S. cities to fund a series of large-scale congestion pricing demonstrations, and now leads the Department's implementation of those projects.

VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE INTEGRATION (VII)

Chairman Marchena introduced George Gilhooley. Mr. Gilhooley made a presentation on the Vehicle Infrastructure Integration. This infrastructure, which would be used by public and private users, consists of the DSRC, roadside units, traffic signal controllers, and communication networks. Select areas of Florida are currently in the pilot project phase. Within the U.S. there are three systems going through testing before implementation. A standard format of operation will be developed for all vehicles to follow. Current activities include: (1) proof of concept testing, (2) task teams to address benefit cost analysis, policy and deployment issues, and outreach, and (3) USDOT SAFE TRIP-21.

SAFETY SUMMIT RECAP AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Chairman Marchena introduced Mr. Steve Reich from CUTR. Mr. Reich provided a recap of the May 29, 2008 Florida Transportation Commission Safety Forum. The Safety Forum included various agency presentations on fund sources, allocations, priorities, and outcomes. Nine key questions were posed and action items identified as follows:

- 1 & 2. Goals and Objectives – exist in both Strategic Highway Safety Plan and the Commission’s safety performance indicators, emphasis areas identified, continuing priority areas identified, and possible update of goals and objectives as part of the plan update.
Action Item: *Continuing FTC/FDOT interaction will help.*
3. Does the safety budget reflect goals and objectives?
Action Item: *Push for increased flexibility in federal fund use during reauthorization process.*
4. Are outcomes being measured?
Action Item: *They are – but better and consistent safety dashboard will be developed – FDOT and FTC staff.*
5. If so, are there established targets?
Action Item: *Targets for FDOT reporting to FTC in place – may adjust based on goals and objectives being revised.*
6. How are we performing?
Action Item: *Special safety performance Commission briefings suggested.*
7. What are the barriers to better outcomes?
Action Item: *Pilot using only FHP data to get timely information for programmatic decisions.*
8. Should we be doing things differently?
Action Items: *FDOT to report more regularly to FTC. More strategic safety investment focus.*
9. Are we leveraging best practices and partners to the maximum?
Action Items: *Develop ROI methodology for safety expenditures. Use AAA and other groups more aggressively to assist in education. FDOT share Best Practices findings with Commission.*

Other Action Items:

- Safety Workshop to be held in conjunction with September meeting.*
- CUTR to investigate previous safety research focused on demographic data.*
- Provide updated data for SHSP through 2006.*

[NOTE: Please refer to the Florida Transportation Commission website (www.ftc.state.fl.us) under “Presentations Made Before the Commission at Commission Meetings” to view presentations.]

Chairman Marchena adjourned the meeting at 11:35 A.M.

MINUTES APPROVED _____ AS READ _____ AS AMENDED

OCTOBER 2, 2008

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 video and audiotape.