

FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 6, 2008

MEETING NUMBER 169

The one hundred and sixty-eighth meeting of the Florida Transportation Commission was held Thursday, October 2, 2008 at the Florida Department of Transportation, District 6 Headquarters Auditorium, 1000 North West 111th Avenue, Miami, 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, Pullum, Mazurkiewicz, Rose and Walton.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the October 2, 2008 Commission Meetings were approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Marchena reported on the following:

- Chairman Marchena thanked Secretary Pego and the District 6 staff for their hospitality and assistance in preparing for this meeting. In an effort to cut back on travel expenses, Executive Director Sally Patrenos, was the only member of the staff attending the meeting.
- This meeting focused not only on South Florida's transportation system, but also on global trends that are directly impacting airports, rails, seaports and highways. Each of the modes addressed the Commission and then had an opportunity to pose questions related to regionalism and intermodal connections.
- Since the last FTC meeting Commissioner Calloway made a couple of presentations: (1) at the Florida Public Transportation Association conference in Sarasota and (2) at the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority meeting.
- CUTR held its Board Meeting and the annual Transportation Awards Dinner in Tampa. This year top honors for accomplishments in the field of transportation went to Bob Burleson. The Commission would like to show appreciation for the many contributions Bob Burleson has made in transportation, not only in Florida, but on the national platform as well. The Commission honored Bob Burleson with a Resolution Honoring Robert "Bob" Burleson. There was a motion to adopt the Resolution and the motion carried unanimously.
- Chairman Marchena has appointed Commissioner Walton as the new representative to the TEAMFL Board effective immediately. His first official duties will begin at the Joint FTC/TEAMFL meeting January 13-14 in Orlando.
- The first quarter report for the Florida FDOT Performance and Production Review - FY 2008-09 was sent to each Commissioner in advance. Any questions regarding this report were directed to staff.

- Chairman Marchena presented to the Commission a copy of the Draft Resolution on Safety. It represents some aggressive recommendations for reducing fatalities on Florida's Highways. It lays out the current situation and refers to a resolution to be considered for adoption at the January meeting.

AGENCY REPORT/SUCCESSION PLANNING

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

Secretary Kopelousos discussed the Governor's visit to FDOT and his concerns with keeping people residing, visiting and doing business in Florida in tough economic times. The plan is to move up road projects to stimulate jobs in Florida.

Succession Planning

- Succession planning is important to FDOT.
- Younger employees are generally not interested in 30 year careers with the department.
- There is a problem with the pool of qualified employees for the current key vacancies.
- Chris Corr, formerly with the St. Joe Company, is helping with a recruitment plan.
- Secretary Kopelousos would like to come back in front of the Commission in six months with a progress report.
- Chairman Marchena asked Secretary Kopelousos if she anticipates having some of the Senior Positions vacant now filled by the time she comes back to the Commission in six months and Secretary Kopelousos responded yes.

Alligator Alley – Secretary Kopelousos explained the status of Alligator Alley and the processes they are looking at. The facility is currently under an asset maintenance contract and tolls are collected by a private entity and the Department does not manage it on a day to day basis. The Department is looking at what the private sector can bring to the table. The Department is not selling an asset and will not lose control of it.

FDOT DISTRICT 6 – OVERVIEW OF SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS

Gus Pego, District Secretary gave a brief update to the Commission on the projects currently underway in the Miami area; 95 Express, Palmetto Expressway, Port of Miami Tunnel, NW 25 Street and the Miami Intermodal Center.

STATE TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE?

Due to time constraints this was deferred to the next Florida Transportation Commission Meeting.

MIAMI DADE EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY (MDX) BRIEFING

Javier Rodriquez, Executive Director, MDX gave a brief update to the Commission.

FLORIDA AIRPORTS: ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Jose Abreu, P.E. Director, Miami-Dade Aviation Department gave a brief update to the Commission.

FLORIDA PORTS UPDATE

Carlos Buqueras, Director of Business Development, Port Everglades gave a brief update to the Commission.

Commissioner Calloway wanted more information on seaports planning/coordination. Mr. Buqueras offered to have a more formal presentation to the Commission from the Florida Ports Council. Calloway also asked about ports funding.

Commissioner Lanahan commented that it was her belief that Florida's ports are not working together. There has been no plan to determine the highest and best use of the ports to the state.

COMMUTER RAIL INITIATIVES

Joe Giulietti, Executive Director, South Florida Regional Transit Authority (SFRTA) Tri-Rail gave a brief update to the Commission.

Commissioner Calloway commented that local governments need to have more "skin in the game" in regards to the SFRTA. He added that we need to invite groups like the MPOAC to future Commission meetings to brief us on their legislative proposals and funding.

Commissioner Mazurkiewicz offered his assistance in getting local governments more involved in our process. He recommended hosting a symposium with the Association of Counties and the League of Cities.

[Please see the slide presentations for this meeting on the Transportation Commission web site at www.ftc.state.fl.us.]

Chairman Marchena asked the commissioners to think about ideas to bring forward to the Governor regarding the future of transportation funding. He wants these ideas ready for the January meeting.

Commissioner Calloway wants the MPOAC to be added to any symposium we may host to learn more about their agendas.

Chairman Marchena adjourned the meeting at 12:30 P.M.

MINUTES APPROVED _____ AS READ _____ AS AMENDED

JANUARY 14, 2009

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.