

# FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF JANUARY 21, 2011

MEETING NUMBER 182

The one hundred and eighty second meeting of the Florida Transportation Commission was held on January 21, 2011, at the Hyatt Regency Orlando Airport, Orlando, Florida. Chairman Marty Lanahan provided opening comments and called the meeting to order at 10:30 A.M. This meeting was held in conjunction with Transportation and Expressway Authority Membership of Florida (TEAMFL).

**ATTENDANCE:** Members in attendance were: Chairman Marty Lanahan, Commissioners Howse, Marchena, Mazurkiewicz, Pullum, Rose, and Walton.

**MINUTES:** Minutes of the November 5, 2010, Commission meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman.

## **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS AND REPORT:**

Chairman Lanahan joined Mike Bauman, TEAMFL Chairman, in welcoming attendees, special guests, and speakers to the TEAMFL/FTC Joint Meeting. Special guests and speakers included Congressman John Mica, Mary Peters, D.J. Gribbin, and Geoff Yarema. The purpose of this meeting was to focus on the continuing dialogue on the future funding of transportation.

## **UPDATES ON COMMISSION ACTIVITIES SINCE LAST MEETING:**

Reports were given on the following activities:

- December 16 – The FTC finalized the review of the 2060 Florida Transportation Plan and adopted a resolution on the future of transportation funding. The resolution will be presented to Governor Scott and the legislature.
- December 7 – FTC met with Governor Scott's Economic Development Transition Team Transportation Sub-Committee to inform the team of issues that will be important to the Governor – funding shortfalls, unemployment in the construction industry, and default of the Santa Rosa Bay Bridge Authority. Top priorities were also shared: job creation, succession planning and return on investment.

- The search for the FDOT Secretary continues. The application deadline is January 21, 2011, 5:00 P.M. The FTC Search Committee will meet on January 28 to short-list the candidates to be interviewed. Interviews will be scheduled for February 11. The names of the top three nominees will be delivered to the Governor no later than February 14.
- Chairman Lanahan recognized Commissioner Tom Conrecode who submitted his letter of resignation as a result of his decision to become a candidate for the Secretary of Transportation. Commissioner Conrecode served the people of Florida well and will be missed on the Commission.
- Commissioner Mazurkiewicz attended the TRANSPO 2010 conference and provided comments.
- The latest Revenue Estimating Conference is reporting an anticipated \$4 billion shortfall in revenues this coming year. It will be even more important this year to make the case for maintaining transportation funding in the State Transportation Fund. The FTC has been invited to appear before several of the transportation and appropriation Committees in the coming month. Sally and Mark have also begun meeting with legislators and Committee staff.

#### **AGENCY REPORT:**

Chairman Lanahan recognized Secretary Kopelousos' service to Florida.

Secretary Kopelousos provided a report on current agency projects and initiatives including:

- Budget Outlook including the Revenue Estimating Conference and implications on the Work Program
- Santa Rosa Bay Bridge Authority (SRBBA) Update
- FDOT Legislative Package
- Federal Update and the March 4 Authorization Extension
- Transition to the Scott Administration
- Impact of the Executive Orders

#### **FLORIDA RAIL ENTERPRISE AND FLORIDA STATEWIDE PASSENGER RAIL COMMISSION UPDATE:**

Kevin Thibault, Executive Director of the Florida Statewide Rail Enterprise, provided an update of the current activities of the Statewide Passenger Rail Commission.

## **MPOAC REVENUE STUDY COMMITTEE:**

Steve Reich, Interim Executive Director, Center for Urban Transportation Research presented a status report on the MPOAC Revenue Study.

The purpose of the study is to develop legislative approaches to implement a set of revenue measures that address transportation funding needs in Florida. Recommendations will focus on the identification of sustainable, innovative and politically acceptable measures to assist in meeting the mobility needs of Floridians. The six task study began in June 2010 with the final report and presentation scheduled for March 2012.

## **THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION FUNDING – THE CONTINUING DIALOGUE:**

The panel discussion on Future Transportation Funding” included dialogue with three panelists, Commissioners, TEAMFL Board members, and audience on how we are going to address the future funding crisis in providing critically needed transportation infrastructure in Florida. This is a national concern and the Commission has made it a top priority to lead the way in finding solutions for the short and long terms. Three of the nation’s most notable experts on transportation funding were panelists for the discussion:

D.J. Gribbin, Managing Director, Maquarie Capital

Mary Peters, CEO, Mary Peters Consulting

Geoff Yarema, Nossaman LLC, Chair, Nossaman’s Infrastructure Practice Group

Chairman Lanahan concluded the discussion by thanking the panelists for their participation and sharing their expertise and experience with the group. The Chairman noted that this is not the conclusion of the dialogue and the FTC remains committed to continuing these discussions with our new Governor and Congressional delegation. She encouraged the group to also be verbal advocates for the funding needs of transportation.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comment was received.

**CONCLUSION:** The next Commission meeting will be held on March 7, 2011, in Tallahassee.

**ADJOURN:** The FTC portion of the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 P.M.

MINUTES APPROVED:   ✓   AS READ \_\_\_\_\_ AS AMENDED

THIS 7<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2011

*Martha T. Yanahan*

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/or audio tape. Information may also be accessed on the Florida Transportation Commission website at: [www.ftc.state.fl.us](http://www.ftc.state.fl.us)