

FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF: November 10, 2021

Meeting

Attendance:

Members in attendance were Chairman Howse, Vice Chair Trumbull, Commissioners Browning, Burke, Davis, Genson, Lastra and Roberts

Call to Order and Chairman's Opening Remarks:

Chairman Howse called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM EST.

Florida Department of Transportation Performance and Production Review & Agency Update:

- Ralph Yoder, Executive Director of the Florida Transportation Commission (FTC) gave a detailed, but brief history and review of the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) fiscal year 2020/21 Performance and Production Review.
 - This year's report includes the updated performance measures that were revised in 2020.
 - This year's report also represents the 30th Performance and Production Review report presented by the FTC.
 - The [Performance Measures Scorecard](#) is located on the FTC webpage.
- Chairman Howse invited Secretary Thibault to respond to the Performance and Production Review as presented by the FTC Executive Director, addressing the performance measures which the Department did not meet.
- FDOT Secretary Kevin Thibault stated that over the last year, the Department has been focusing on its mission to safeguard mobility, enhance economic prosperity, and preserve the quality of our environment and communities.
 - The department has a goal of zero serious injuries and zero fatalities (vision zero).
 - The 2% increase in roadway fatalities could have many contributing factors.
 - Fatalities involving aging road users decreased by 8%.
 - Motorcycle fatalities decreased by 6%.
 - There was a 16% increase in fatalities among motorists not wearing a seatbelt.
 - There were many single vehicle accidents last year.
 - Speed was a contributing factor.
 - Many were also not restrained.
 - There was a 13% reduction in the number of serious injuries.
 - Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles stated that since 2012, citations issued to motorists going 50 miles or more over the speed limit has increased year over year.

- In 2020 alone, citations increased by 30%.
 - The Department is working with safety partners across the state, including law enforcement, to increase enforcement and education.
 - A total of 13 agencies will be providing additional enforcement on the interstate once the National Highway Safety Administration approves the revised plans.
 - There was a decrease in serious injuries (11%) and fatal accidents (3%) involving pedestrians and bicyclists.
 - The Department has identified three focus areas for safety:
 - Intersections
 - Lane departures
 - Pedestrians and cyclists
 - Secretary Thibault mentioned that safety is also addressed on the legislative level. For example, laws against texting and driving and increased school zone safety.
- The next performance measure the Department did not meet was the measure for consultant contract dollars let as a percentage of the original estimated amount.
 - The Department met the goal on the number of contracts but was low on the dollar amount.
- The Department also did not meet the performance measure for construction contract dollars let as a percentage of the original estimated amount.
 - Projects came in under budget, and some contracts were renegotiated.
 - Chairman Howse asked if the lower bid numbers were due to value engineering, or if the initial estimates were too high.
 - The resulting dollar amounts on construction contracts resulted from both value engineering, as well as previously estimated construction contract amounts.
 - Commissioner Davis asked if the Department speculates that the bids will continue to be lower, even with inflation experienced in the economy following the pandemic.
 - Bid results depend on the region of the state, as well as the number of interested bidders.
- The last measure was related to financial management, specifically roll forward budget.
 - The amount of budget roll forward resulted from economic impacts and subsequent management decisions due to the pandemic.
 - Adjustments were made based on the revenue estimating conference.
 - Right-of-way purchases were delayed due to the pandemic related delays in the court system.
- Following the Performance and Production response, Secretary Thibault provided an agency update.
 - Torey Alston will be serving as the interim Executive Director of the Greater Miami Expressway Agency and will assist during the transition time while the Department fills the position of Chief of Staff.

- Since 2019, Governor Ron DeSantis has allocated nearly a billion dollars towards 70 Florida seaport projects.
- October 19-24, 2022, Florida will host the annual American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) conference in Orlando.
- The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act was recently passed by the U.S. House.
- District Secretaries (or their delegate), as well as the Executive Director of the Florida Turnpike Enterprise, presented updates on projects and construction in their respective district and answered questions from commissioners.
- The Commission unanimously approved the Performance and Production review on a motion by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Vice-Chairman Trumbull.

General FTC Issues/Business

- The Commission unanimously approved the meeting minutes from November 23, 2021, on a motion by Commissioner Genson and seconded by Commissioner Browning.
- The Commission will hold a meeting on January 10, 2022, in Tallahassee to conduct a public hearing on the Department's Tentative Work Program.

Public Comment:

Chairman Howse asked for any public comment, and if anyone in the audience had any comments to make regarding issues they wanted to bring up before the Commission. No public comments were made.

Adjourn:

Chairman Howse adjourned the meeting at 12:00 PM EST.

MINUTES APPROVED: _____ AS READ _____ AS AMENDED
 THIS ____ DAY OF _____ 2021
