



FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Florida Transportation Commission Minutes of Meeting

Date: December 8, 2022

Time: 9:00 am

Location: Tallahassee, Virtual Microsoft Teams/Conference Call

In Attendance

Chairman Ron Howse, Vice-Chairman David Genson, Commissioners John Browning, Richard Burke, Julius Davis, Alex Lastra, and Rusty Roberts.

Welcome and Call to Order

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

Approval of Consent Agenda and Meeting Minutes

Chairman Howse stated that the consent agenda, which included the meeting minutes from November 9, will be moved to a future agenda for consideration.

Executive Director Opening Remarks

Executive Director Ralph Yoder thanked everyone for attending and for being flexible in shifting from the planned in-person to a virtual meeting.

Reports and Presentations

- Director Ralph Yoder presented the Commission's staff review of FDOT's Performance and Production for FY 2021/2022.
- FDOT Secretary Jared Perdue responded to the findings from the Performance and Production Review for FY 2021/2022; and gave an agency update.
- Chairman Howse asked if there were any questions for Secretary Perdue from the Commissioners?
 - Commissioner Lastra asked Secretary Perdue if the lack of competition within the private sector could be an opportunity to rebid projects and get better numbers?
 - Secretary Perdue responded that in terms of changes, it does affect the work program in terms of how much it costs to do business. FDOT is monitoring the impact this will have on projects.

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- Commissioner Browning asked Secretary Perdue if the supply chain is better and if inflation may be slowing? Are the prices on bids going down, or what does FDOT project for the future?
 - Secretary Perdue responded that FDOT is watching the trends concerning the cost of materials in the supply chain very closely. FDOT has seen the trend of rising costs start to level off. The fact that they are leveling off helps the Department in many ways.
- Chairman Howse asked how the retention and recruitment funds allocated by the legislature affected morale in the department?
 - Secretary Perdue replied that the initial retention budget that the legislature provided has tremendously impacted staff and morale.
- Chairman Howse further commented that forecasting longer-term projects, we need to be honorable to sub-contractors and contractors, and at the same time, protect the Department and think about that with the volatility in the economy.
 - Secretary Perdue replied that Florida is a nationwide leader in terms of innovative contracting on large complex projects.
- Chairman Howse suggested that Secretary Perdue and the District Secretaries to periodically observe areas of the Department's infrastructure from an aerial viewpoint to watch and monitor traffic congestion.
 - Secretary Perdue replied that FDOT can certainly take that into consideration.
- Chairman Howse turned the meeting over to Executive Director Ralph Yoder to provide the background on the performance metrics. Executive Director Yoder stated that this is the second year of using the updated performance metrics. Executive Director Yoder provided summaries of the outcomes, of the performance metrics.

District Presentations:

- ❖ Secretary L.K Nandam presented updates on behalf of District 1.
 - ❖ Secretary Greg Evans presented updates on behalf District 2.
 - ❖ Secretary Phillip Gainer presented updates on behalf of District 3.
 - ❖ Steve Braun, Director of Transportation, presented updates on behalf of District 4.
 - ❖ Secretary John Tyler presented updates on behalf of District 5.
 - ❖ Secretary Stacy Miller presented updates on behalf of District 6.
 - ❖ Secretary David Gwynn presented updates on behalf of District 7.
- Chairman Howse asked for an update on the Howard Frankland Bridge.

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- Secretary Perdue stated that if there is ever a need for viable connection for light rail between Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties, the Howard Frankland bridge is ready.
- ❖ Turnpike Executive Director Nicola Liquori gave an update on behalf of the Florida Turnpike System (Turnpike).
 - Commissioner Roberts stated that fatalities in 2019-2020 shows trends about wrong way driving being a behavioral problem and that safety is something we should focus our current safety programs on.
- Chairman Howse called for a motion to approve the Production and Performance Review Report. Commissioner Browning made the motion with a second by Commissioner Roberts. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments

Chairman Howse asked for any public comments. There were no public comments.

Executive Director Update

- Executive Director Ralph Yoder provided an update on the upcoming FTC meetings and industry events scheduled for 2023.
- Executive Director Ralph Yoder announced that the new FTC Administrative Assistant, Renee Smalley started in November.

FTC General Business and Issues

- Chairman Howse announced the next FTC meeting of is scheduled for January 26 at 10:00 am via Teams.
- Chairman Howse addressed the Board, asking if any further business needed to be discussed. No further business items were brought to the table.

Adjourn

With no other business to be addressed, Chairman Howse adjourned the meeting at 3:24 pm.