

FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF: December 17, 2020

Teleconference Call

Attendance:

Members on the call were: Chairman Ron Howse, Vice-Chairman Jay Trumbull, Commissioners John Browning, Julius Davis, David Genson and Teresa Sarnoff.

Call to Order and Chairman's Opening Remarks:

Chair Howse called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Commission Business Discussed:

- The Commission approved the meeting minutes from the October 29, 2020 conference call. The motion was made by Commissioner Genson and seconded by Commissioner Browning. The motion passed unanimously.
- Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Secretary Kevin Thibault provided an agency update, then transitioned to an update on M-CORES.
 - Section 338.2278, F.S. created the Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance (M-CORES) program.
 - The draft M-CORES taskforce reports were posted online on Tuesday, September 29, 2020.
 - On November 12, 2020, the final task force reports were submitted to the Governor and Legislature.
 - The purpose of M-CORES is to
 - revitalize rural communities
 - leverage technology
 - encourage job creation
 - enhance quality of life and public safety
 - provide regional connectivity
 - protect the environment and natural resources
 - FDOT Chief Planner Huiwei Shen spoke about the public engagement opportunities M-CORES provided.
 - 27 task force meetings, 12 webinars and virtual meetings and 32 community open houses were held, with public engagement opportunities provided at each.
 - FDOT District Two Secretary Greg Evans provided an update on the Suncoast Corridor.

- FDOT District Five Secretary Jared Perdue provided an update on the Northern Turnpike Corridor.
- FDOT District One Secretary L.K. Nandam provided an update on the Southwest-Central Florida Corridor.
- FDOT Chief Engineer Will Watts, discussed next steps for M-CORES.
- FTC Commissioner David Genson stated that some people are concerned that M-CORES would negatively impact capital improvement plans, or other projects.
 - Secretary Thibault stated that M-CORES would not have the assumed impact and that the Department has the ability to finance projects that are in different districts and regions.
- FTC Commissioner Teresa Sarnoff asked about the consideration of the inclusion of electric vehicles, rail, etc. How will other modes of transportation be incorporated?
 - Chief Engineer Watts stated that multiple modes of transportation were included in the original legislation.
- FTC Commissioner Julius Davis asked if other infrastructure components are part of the planning as well.
 - Secretary Thibault stated that some of the next steps include refining these efforts.
 - Collaboration with local governments and service providers will continue.
 - Also, nothing is excluding the reuse of current corridors.
- Chairman Howse entertained a motion to accept the final task force reports and findings.
 - The motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Genson.
- Executive Director Yoder provided an executive director update to Commissioners.
 - Once the transmittal letter is added to the Performance and Production Review report, the final report will be mailed out.
 - Staff are currently working on the Transportation Authorities report.
- Commissioner Genson asked when the next update to the Turnpike dashboard will take place.
 - The dashboard is intended to be published quarterly.
 - The first quarter of FY21 should be posted soon.

Public Comment:

Chair Howse asked for any public comments. No comments were made.

Adjourn:

Chair Howse adjourned the conference call.

MINUTES APPROVED: _____ AS READ _____ AS AMENDED
THIS 7th DAY OF January 2020

CHAIRMAN