

OKALOOSA-WALTON CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) MEETING MINUTES

WEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL (Designated staff)

Destin City Hall Annex 4100 Indian Bayou Trail Destin, Florida 32541

February 18, 2016

**MEMBERS ATTENDING:**

Charlene Greenwald, Vice Chair

Doug Bacon

Mae Reatha Coleman

Yvonne Earle

Landrum Edwards

Matthew Cox

Charles Covey

**OTHERS ATTENDING:**

Kathy Foster

OILA

Wiley Page

Atkins

Christy Johnson

FDOT

Bryant Paulk

FDOT

Corey Wilkinson

HDR

Randy Showers

Okaloosa County

Brian Youpatoff

WFRPC Staff

Jenny Cook

WFRPC Staff

Jill Lavender

WFRPC Staff

Mary Beth Washnock

WFRPC Staff

Natasha Hallett

WFRPC Staff

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Greenwald called the meeting to order and led the pledge.

**B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Unanimous approval of the agenda.

**C. PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no speakers from the public.

**D. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approval of October 8, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Mae Reatha Coleman moved to approve the October 8, 2015 CAC meeting minutes. Mr. Landrum Edwards seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

**E. ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Resolution O-W 16-02: Adopting the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Scoring Criteria.

Ms. Jenny Cook, WFRPC staff, presented this item to the board.

Ms. Yvonne Earle moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chairman sign Resolution O-W 16-02 accepting the TAP scoring criteria. Mr. Matthew Cox seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

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2. Resolution O-W 16-04: Supporting Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) 2016 Legislative Policy Positions.

Ms. Mary Beth Washnock, WFRPC Transportation Planning Manager, presented this item to the committee. Mr. Covey asked for clarification on primary and secondary offenses. Mr. Bacon asked for a list of exemptions for the use of electronic wireless communication devices and other distracting devices while operating a vehicle. Mr. Edwards mentioned CB Radio for emergency responders and commercial vehicles. Ms. Washnock stated she would attempt to get further explanation from the MPOAC members by the end of the CAC meeting.

Mr. Cox asked for further details about the quiet zones and where funding will come from for railroad crossings. This item was moved until the end of the meeting to await response from MPOAC. Ms. Washnock was unable to provide further explanation because she could not reach MPOAC staff for clarification.

**Mr. Bacon moved to pass the item with the exception that amateur, commercial vehicles and emergency responders be able to use communication devices. Ms. Coleman seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.**

3. Consideration of a Letter of Support for Enhanced Pedestrian Safety Features on Okaloosa Island.

Ms. Kathy Foster, Vice President, Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association Board of Directors, presented this item to the committee. Ms. Foster said approval for \$102,172 from the Okaloosa County Tourist Development Department has already been made for the preliminary survey and design for enhanced pedestrian features, a "Bridge to Bridge pathway", creating a non-motorized linear park. Mr. Edwards voiced concerns about funding costs and how many people will the project benefit. Ms. Foster stated they will search out funding through grants and other means. She also stated this would benefit not only residents but tourists as well. Ms. Greenwald asked if both north and south bound users will be using the same trail. Ms. Earle stated these lanes are wide enough by comparing to another one that was previously built for Fort Walton Beach. Ms. Earle said people move over for each other. Mr. Bacon voiced concerns about maintenance costs and funding. He also asked if there would be a posted speed limit for cyclists. Ms. Foster stated she had not previously thought of the speed limit and thanked Mr. Bacon for the suggestion.

**Mr. Covey moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chairman to sign the letter of support for enhanced pedestrian safety features on Okaloosa Island. Ms. Earle seconded the motion and it was passed 6 to 1, Mr. Edwards opposed, motion was passed.**

### **F. FDOT UPDATE**

Ms. Christy Johnson, FDOT, Presented the committee with updates from the DOT. She provided visual slides for all the projects listed.

Ms. Johnson said the State Road 85 from State Road 190 to John Sims Parkway, resurfacing project is scheduled for April 2016 letting, at an estimated cost of \$575,000. Mr. Cox had a question on the drainage in that area, due to the amount of debris when it rains. Ms. Johnson stated she would check on the drainage plan. Ms. Earle said semi-trucks are the cause for having to resurface and asked if it is possible for a substructure to be added to prevent having to resurface so often.

Ms. Johnson said the State Road 187 (US 331) Gateway Landscaping is scheduled for a May 2016 letting, at an estimated cost of \$150,000.

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Ms. Johnson said State Road 85 from Brandt Pond Road to south of State Road 123 resurfacing project is scheduled for June letting, at an estimated cost of \$2,400,000.

Ms. Johnson said State Road 85 gateway landscaping is scheduled for June 2016 letting, at an estimated cost of \$145,000.

Ms. Johnson said State Road 83 gateway landscaping is scheduled for a June 2016 letting, at an estimated cost of \$106,000.

Ms. Johnson said Highway I-10 at County Road 189 Holt exit, lighting improvement project is scheduled for a June letting, at an estimated cost of \$670,000. There were no questions from the committee regarding these resurfacing and landscaping projects.

Mr. Edward requested an update on the emergency test signs along Highway I-10. Ms. Johnson stated she would provide an update at a later time.

### **G. PRESENTATIONS (no action):**

1. Review of the Draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 – FY 2018 Okaloosa-Walton Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

Ms. Mary Beth Washnock, WFRPC Transportation Planning Manager, presented this item to the committee, there were no questions.

2. Review of the Okaloosa-Walton Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Goals and Objectives.

Ms. Jill Lavender, WFRPC staff, presented this item to the committee with visual slides, there were no questions.

3. Review of the Draft Proposed Evaluation Criteria for the West Florida Regional Planning (WFRPC) Staff Ranking of Transportation System Management (TSM) Projects.

Ms. Jill Lavender, WFRPC staff, presented this item to the committee with visual slides. Ms. Earle had questions on project priority process, a level of service that has already been discussed for the past 5 years. Ms. Lavender stated that she will provide more clarification at the next meeting. Mr. Bacon wanted clarification on the definition of crash rate and safety ratio. Ms. Lavender stated she would get back to the committee. General definition is the number of crashes at the site, FDOT has a standard timeline.

4. Review of the 2016 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) presented by Ms. Jenny Cook, AICP, WFRPC staff. There were no questions from the committee.

5. Review of the Brooks Bridge Replacement Study presented by Ms. Christy Johnson, FDOT, and Mr. Cory Wilkinson, HDR, for Ms. April Williams, P.E., FDOT Project Manager.

Mr. Wilkinson said the purpose of the project is to replace the bridge because it is structurally deficient, and not compliant with the current ADA standards. Due to these factors it is eligible for federal funding. The bridge will be raised to 65 feet vertical clearance; the slope will also need to be changed to 5% to comply with ADA standards. This means the bridge will extend past Santa Rosa Boulevard intersection but will reach Perry Avenue intersection. Concerns were raised by several members about not being able to reach Santa Rosa Boulevard and why they can reach Perry Avenue. The bridge will be replaced in its current location. Mr. Edwards asked if this bridge will be a 6 lane bridge. Mr. Wilkinson responded that it will be a 6 lane bridge, 2 sections separated with a 10-foot gap for maintenance, with 2 auxiliary lanes. There was

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general discussion about the use of lanes and lane width. Mr. Wilkinson presented the proposed building phases and plans to shift traffic until completion.

6. Review of the Santa Rosa Sound Alternate Crossing Study presented by Mr. Cory Wilkinson, HDR, for Ms. April Williams, P.E., FDOT Project Manager.  
Mr. Wilkinson stated that the purpose for this study is to find out if an alternate bridge is needed. There was general discussion as to why there would be a need for an alternate crossing. Mr. Bacon asked if this alternate route would be a tolled bridge. Mr. Wilkinson stated that yes this option would be a tolled bridge. Ms. Earle asked if a free route is available who would pay to use this route? Ms. Greenwald agreed. Mr. Wilkinson stated this is the reason for the study. All of the concerns that were voiced are why the study is taking place and will be accounted for in final determination.

### **H. INFORMATION ITEMS (No Presentations)**

Mr. Brian Youpatoff stated there are items attached for review and information.

- 2016 TPO and Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule
- October 2015 Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
- January 2016 TPO Actions Report
- October 2015 TPO Actions Report
- US 98 Pedestrian Safety Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment Letter
- Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act PowerPoint Presentation Link  
<http://www.wfrpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/FAST-Act-Information.pdf>

### **I. OTHER BUSINESS**

The next Okaloosa-Walton TPO meeting will be April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. in Freeport. The CAC will meet at 9:30 a.m. The TCC will meet at 1:30 p.m.

Ms. Coleman asked when Crestview will host. Mr. Youpatoff said October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016 will be the scheduled meeting in Crestview. Mr. Edwards stated he would gather more documentation for the bypass.

### **J. ADJOURN**

**Meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.**

Approved by CAC

DATE: April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_