

South Lake Task Force

Minutes

Thursday, October 1, 2015 - 2 p.m.

Clermont City Hall
685 W. Montrose St.
Clermont, Florida

South Lake Task Force Members

Governing Board

Commissioner Tim Sullivan, Lake County, D1
*Commissioner Sean Parks, Lake County, D2
*Mayor Pro-Tem Ray Goodgame, City of Clermont
*Council Member Evelyn Wilson, City of Groveland
Council Member Sally Rayman, City of Mascotte
Mayor Pat Kelley, City of Minneola
*Town Councilman Joe Wynkoop, Town of Montverde

Administrators

David Heath, Lake County
Darren Gray, City of Clermont
Redmond Jones, City of Groveland
Jim Gleason, City of Mascotte
Mark Johnson, City of Minneola
Graham Wells, Town of Montverde

TAC (staff)

Chris Schmidt
Fred Schneider
Dottie Keedy
*Ryan Berger
Jim Hitt

CAC (citizens)

Steve Ferrell
Ben Homan
Susy Gibson
Sam Slaughter

BPAC (bike/ped)

Scot Hartle
Nicholas Sottile
Bryan Davis
Kelly Price

***Members Present**

OTHERS PRESENT

Mayor Gail Ash, City of Clermont
Jim Stivender, Lake County
Paul Johns, South Lake Hospital

OPENING

Mayor Pro-Tem Ray Goodgame called the meeting to order at 2:15 pm and verified the meeting was properly noticed. Attendees introduced themselves.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

TASK FORCE ITEMS

- I. **Development of TRANSPORTATION 2040** *Presentation was provided by MPO staff.*
 - A. Needs versus Cost Feasibility
 - B. Revenue Projections: Federal and State Funds
 - C. Projects in the Five-Year Transportation Improvement Program
 - D. Prioritization of Cost-Feasible Projects: 2021-25, 2026-30, 2031-40
 - E. Needed Projects that are not Cost Feasible: Needs
 - F. Sidewalks, Trails, Complete Streets and Transit
 - G. Management and Operations Projects
 - H. October draft document and December Adoption

II. Status of Wellness Way Sector Plan

Commissioner Parks provided an update on the transmittal of the document to the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and the recent objections by DEO. He added he went to Tallahassee with staff in May to address those concerns and met with all agencies. He stated all issues were worked out and addressed at that time; he stated they left the meeting thinking they had met their concerns. The adoption was in July and Lake County had letters of support from all agencies with no objections. Five days later Lake County received a letter from DEO challenging the Sector Plan. Staff plans to visit with DEO within the next couple of weeks.

III. Lake-Orange Parkway (US 27-SR 429 Connector)

TJ Fish provided an update on the meeting held this past month at the Central Florida Expressway Authority. He explained that the concept of a toll road was discussed and there were some interesting concepts shown. Landowners along the corridor were included in the meeting.

IV. Minneola Interchange

It was reported that Middlesex is now under contract and may be moving dirt in November. The interchange may be completed as early as May 2017. The nearby Scrub Jay Lane was discussed as a road that may become more regionally-significant as the interchange and surrounding area is developed. Jim Stivender discussed the bridge alignment and current condition and geometry of Scrub Jay Lane and how it will need to be brought up to current standards as it is currently not a good design.

V. LakeXpress Route 50

Staff reported that the new LakeXpress route is planned by Lake County to commence service in December, with a date pending.

Mayor Ash commented on the 455/561 roundabout and said a lot of people are not familiar with it and do not know where to go. Signage is needed showing which cities the roads will take drivers.

VI. Coast to Coast Connector Trail

TJ Fish commented there has been changes in project managers and the MPO is awaiting status reports. From Silver Eagle in Groveland heading to downtown have gone back to surveying and mapping; when they update the plans they can get us back into ROW. DOT spoke to MPO regarding strategies to acquire ROW in Groveland.

VII. Status of State Road Projects and Funding

TJ Fish provided updates on the following state road projects:

- A. Groveland SR 50 Realignment Right-of-Way Funding Request - *unfunded*
- B. Construction Funding for US 27 from Lake Louisa Road (Clermont) south to Boggy Marsh Road (Four Corners/South Clermont) – *construction to begin in 2016 and will continue until 2019*
- C. SR 50 Corridor Analysis – CR 33 (Mascotte) west to US 98 (Hernando County) – *underway and will likely not lead to widening but will include safety and intersection improvements*
- D. Future FDOT Studies: US 27, SR 19, SR 33 – *long-term projects that require study*

VIII. Status of County Road Projects and Funding

TJ Fish provided updates on the following county road projects:

- A. North Hancock Road – CR Old 50 to north of Fosgate Road to Minneola Interchange – *under construction*
- B. Citrus Grove Road – US 27 to north Hancock Road and Minneola Interchange – *now funded for design*
- C. Hooks Street – Hancock Road east to Emil Janna Road – *pending funding and may include partnership with a developer*
- D. Hartle Road – SR 50 south to Hartwood Marsh Road – *the roadway will likely be called CR 455 and is still pending funding for design*
- E. Hartwood-Marsh Road – *pending funding from US 27 to east of school*
- F. Fosgate Road – US 27 east to North Hancock Road - *pending*

IX. Task Force Member Reports / Comments

Commissioner Parks followed up on the quarterly ride around the county that he and Jim Stivender take. This trip they took along Clermont Councilmember Dianne Travis. The purpose was to view bike and pedestrian safety problems. He complimented Jim's staff and said many have been addressed very quickly while others were more complicated. He commented on the need for directional signage at that junction of trails and roads. He noted the Hancock Road crossing of the South Lake Trail could not include a bridge or tunnel because Duke Energy will not allow it in their ROW. He wants to promote bike safety and suggested using May Use Full Lane Signage that allows bicyclists to ride in the lane. One idea to think about is to come up with a bike route and to get Minneola involved. One concept is a bike route from Lake Minneola Shores Road in Minneola down East Ave and onto Lakeshore Drive. The thought is to use the May Use Full Lane Signage on this route. Chairman Goodgame discussed the planned trailhead near Lake Hiawatha Preserve. Commissioner Parks stated Clermont and Minneola would have to monitor the trail with enforcement. Mayor Ash voiced her concerns because it creates an issue on the roadway and it would require a tremendous amount of public information so that people know what they can and cannot do on the road.

Mayor Ash asked if there are other areas that are using this signage and can a presentation be provided at the Clermont Bike Summit by Bike Florida that is scheduled Saturday, November 14, 2015. Mayor Ash commented it could be one way they can show cyclists can interact safely with motorists. Mr. Woods commented the agenda is already set for that Summit and suggested a poster display.

X. Adjournment

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:58 P.M.