

2025 LRTP Public Comments, Submitted 10/26/05-12/14/05

Sent: Monday, October 24, 2005 4:33 PM

Subject: MPO Newsletter/Listserv

I was wondering if there was any kind of newsletter or listserv for the Sumter MPO. If so, can I get on that list to receive updates via email or mail. If you use email, please add...to the listserv and if regular mail is used, my address is... Please email me back and let me know if you can help me. Thanks for your help.

Sent: Monday, November 07, 2005 5:05 PM

Subject: MPO public feedback

I was wondering if there has been any public feedback or appeals about the adoption of future transportation plan C (excluding gas tax). Is there an MPO meeting set up to allow for the public to give their feedback? Thanks.

Posted At: Wednesday, November 09, 2005 9:36 AM

Subject: Road planning for the impending explosive growth of Lake County...

Just finished reading the article in the Orlando Sentinel concerning Lake County's future transportation needs, "2025 Long Range Transportation Plan."

My husband and I have been residents of Lake County since October of 2000. First residing in Magnolia Pointe on SR 50 in Clermont, then moving last April to our present locale in Royal Highlands on SR 27, Leesburg.

We have witnessed so much change in South Lake County that it is truly mind boggling. It is growing so fast that it makes ones' head spin. The traffic volume and congestion on our roadways has reached serious and dangerous proportions.

The roads were not initially designed with this explosive growth in mind, thus resulting in FDOT and the Lake County Commissioners scrambling to meet the needs of the massive influx of commercial and residential development.

Widening current thoroughfares does not necessarily correct the traffic flow problem in most cases. All it does is add more congestion and inconvenience in the short term and encourage much more vehicle traffic to use those roads in the long term...case in point: I-4.

We very reluctantly moved from Magnolia Pointe mainly because of the rapid increase of traffic volume on SR 50 in the Clermont area. Dealing with speeders, road jockeys, and congestion on a daily basis is just too nerve wracking.

The FDOT is much too slow in responding to not only adding traffic signal at very dangerous intersections, but in LOWERING the speed limits in areas of high commercial and residential development...case in point: SR 27S of SR 50 to south of SR 192. That particular corridor is one of the most dangerous and deadly in Lake County.

To have a 65 mph speed limit along portions of that particular stretch of road is not only dangerous, but poor planning. I have personally witnessed numerous accidents in that area on my daily commute from our home via SR 27S to Citrus Ridge Public Library @ the junction of 27 and 192.

Many residents of that area complained to TV stations and the Orlando Sentinel, they also picketed the area in order to bring attention to their blight. It took a very long time before FDOT responded with traffic signals...but, they DID NOT LOWER THE SPEED LIMITS along that entire stretch of highway.

Please contact me for further input. I wish to share some very important information.

Posted At: Thursday, November 10, 2005 12:45 PM

Subject: Bus Routes

When doing route planning I would like to request that you keep the routes on main thoroughfares and not use residential streets.

Your current route seems to include Southern Trace as a short cut from Beauna Vista Blvd to Hwy 466. Southern Trace is a residential street with people trying to back out of their driveways, and adding a bus route to the street just complicates the problem. There is no reason the bus can't stay on Beauna Vista Blvd. to Hwy 466.

Posted At: Thursday, November 10, 2005 8:17 PM

Subject: Bus Route

I would like to suggest that the route include a stop at the Village Wood Shop. This is located on Rolling Acres Road just past the Sports Complex.

If this were done we would see that the schedule would be posted in the Shop and would promote it's use.

Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2005 12:15 PM

Subject: phone call earlier

...called to tell us that she is very much in favor of Transportation and what we are doing (she saw the press release about public comments). That is all she had to say, but if you want more info, I did get her name and #... I would have sent her your way but you were on another line and she said that is all she had to say.

Posted At: Wednesday, November 16, 2005 10:22 AM

Subject: bus service

I appreciate the bus service very much. Being blind and having to use a leader-dog, it would be much easier if I could catch the bus along Morse Blvd. I live in Rio Ponderosa village and it is very hard for me to get across Morse to get the bus at the mail drop.

Sent: Sunday, November 20, 2005 9:58 AM

Subject: Lighting on roadways

I am writing to get information on the street lights that were installed along us 441 between Tavares and Leesburg. Along the newly finished upgrade I have noticed that the street lights are sky friendly full cutoff flat lens cobra heads. You can easily see the difference this lighting makes compared to the lights supplied by the cities of Tavares and Leesburg. These new lights should be used exclusively in Lake county along all roadways that need lighting. My question is, who was responsible to install those lights? Was it Lake county or the contractor for FDOT ? You can see for yourself that the new lights greatly decrease dangerous glare and don't contribute to skyglow. Even when the road is wet, there is no glare. I am currently working to educate the public on the lighting issues, my website www.britelitesout.com has more information.

The LakeSumtermpo should consider this issue when discussing traffic problems. There are also many private businesses with "security" lights that shine into driver's eyes. Those lights can be retrofitted so that the light is directed to the target and not into the street where it endangers the vision of drivers. Especially older driver's are susceptible to decreased vision when ;flashed' by these inappropriate lights.

Most of the street lights in Lake County cities are supplied and maintained by the local power companies. In cities and states all over the country, power companies are taking part in retrofitting and replacing those old fixtures with ones similar to the ones mentioned above. The new lights save large amounts of energy in addition to eliminating skyglow and glare.

I have also noticed that there are new housing developments along major roadways that have installed inappropriate street lights, even where there are no houses built. An example is the Palmer homes development in Grand Island along sr44. Those lights are on, glaring into the eyes of innocent motorists, yet nobody is home. Actually there aren't even any homes!

Please take some time to educate yourself on this issue. The solutions aren't expensive when you consider the money saved by decreasing energy demand. And the increased safety of motorists will reduce traffic accidents. I would appreciate a response with any comments or suggestions you might have.

Sent: Sunday, November 20, 2005 10:12 AM

Subject: Transportation Plan

I was recently reading the Transportation Plan and would like to make the following comments.

I am a nurse that works in Lake County and would like to encourage the planners to make sure residents can reach health appointments.

We fail to see clients everyday because they have transportation problems getting to our clinic. Please do not forget the large population of Lake County that now resides in Clermont and other towns to the south.

Hopefully, when this plan is ready to be implemented we will have a larger clinic in the Clermont area and we will need transportation options available to the residents.

Thank you so much for you time and consideration in this matter. I look forward to hearing more about the changes coming to Lake County.

Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2005 7:44 AM

Subject: Re: Lighting on roadways

Last night I attended a meeting of the League of Women voters in Leesburg, The speaker was Amye King of the county growth management dept. she mentioned that your group was also involved in the comprehensive plan. I hope the roadway lighting issue can be corrected in the plan.

I was surprised to learn the city of Leesburg was involved in the lighting we spoke of. as you enter the city from east{south} 441, the new lights along the mall area are unacceptable. The white skyglow from those decorative fixtures can be seen from the south end of the Ocala National Forest. Those lights, added to the car dealers' bad "security " lights, increase the dangerous glare to drivers. And I'll bet the energy used is way more than necessary.

I appreciate you forwarding my comments on to the agencies that you mentioned. The citizens of this area are uneducated in this issue and I am trying to remedy that. I believe if all these agencies work together we can insure a change , a change to improve the quality of life in Lake County. Thank you, Jina

Posted At: Tuesday, November 22, 2005 7:13 PM

Subject: comments on Transportation Plan

Looks like you are on the right tract with the road plans. Its good to see Lake County to begin to realize that we are not a rural county anymore and we need to be looking into the future. I like the ideas about the toll road from Orange County to Lady Lake and the extension of Eagles Nest Road. Good luck in your planning.

Posted At: Friday, November 25, 2005 9:07 PM

Posted To: Comments

Where and when is the 14 Dec 2005 meeting

Posted At: Saturday, November 26, 2005 9:42 AM

Subject: more bike paths

If the bike path could stretch from the Tav -Lee trail to both Eustis and Mt.dora, then along hywy 46 to Rock Springs Run in east Lake county, then the LakeSumter MPO would have developed a valuable asset.

This rich trail system could be used by locals who don't (or won't) have cars (and who currently ride their bikes daily along busy roads), as well as for the growing number of bicyclists, (& walkers, golf carters, skaters) who are discovering the natural beauty of Lake county.

We are originally from Wisconsin. There, places like Lake & Sumter counties are prime bicycling areas, even internationally known. Lake and Sumter counties have the climate advantage over any northern county and should maximize that advantage. An extensive trail system linking all the cities and parks together would cause local economies to absolutely flourish.

This should be a top priority for Lake and Sumter counties.

Sent: Monday, November 28, 2005 12:18 PM

Subject: Villages Transit Comment

We got a telephone comment on the Villages Transit initiative. A...called and left a voice mail stating that he is adamantly against expansion of transit in The Villages. He feels that it would be OK to expand transit in a big City, such as Ocala, but not in The Villages. He feels it is an exploitation by the businesses and that there is no need to bring more people. There are adequate numbers of people as is to support the businesses.

Posted At: Wednesday, November 30, 2005 9:50 AM

Subject: Information about comments

I do not have a comment, but I was wondering if you could email me back and let me know what some of the main comments about the MPO have been. Thanks for the help.

Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2005 11:31 AM

Subject: MPO Public Feedback

I emailed you a few weeks ago about public comments in response to the adoption of transportation plan C. I was wondering if you can update me on any feedback that you have received up to this point. I am just curious as to what people are saying about the new plan. Any information you could give me would be a great help. Thanks.
