



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
EXECUTIVE WORKSHOP MINUTES
Tallahassee, FL

November 21, 2013

The Workshop began at 1:00 p.m.

1. Opening Remarks

David Hawk introduced Nick Finch, new Associate Division Administrator, with FHWA who was attending at the Turnpike Office. Brian Blanchard introduced Amanda Lewis, Administrative Assistant for Jim Boxold, and Patrick Overton with Pavement Management.

2. Review and Approval of Workshop Minutes

The October 2013 Workshop minutes were approved as submitted.

3. Procedures

Tana Ashbaker, Policies

010-000-050, Professional Engineer Training Program – Approved
375-000-005, Performance Based Maintenance Contracting – Approved

4. Recognition for District Two – Mathews Bridge

Brian Blanchard, Assistant Secretary for Engineering and Operations

David Sadler gave the presentation on the Mathews Bridge emergency repairs. Staff was commended for a job well done.

5. Financial Overview of Florida's Turnpike Enterprise

Nicola Liquori, Turnpike

Ms. Liquori gave a financial update of the Turnpike System and provided an overview of traffic and revenue performance for the most recent fiscal year and the impact to the Turnpike's finance plan. The Turnpike implemented an inflationary increase in June 2012 in accordance with 338.165(3), F.S., which resulted in an increase to Turnpike System toll revenues. The increase in revenues provided the Turnpike System with resources to finance additional capital projects on the existing system and to fund new alignments. The Turnpike has planned borrowings over the next five years totaling approximately \$1 billion, including a current bond sale of \$183 million. As a result of strong financial performance, the three major credit rating agencies recently affirmed the Turnpike's bond ratings (AA-, AA-, Aa3) with a stable outlook. These ratings are among the strongest in the toll industry and ensure interest costs associated with borrowing are minimized.

6. Approval Process for Permits / One Stop Permitting System

Leila Thompson, Maintenance

One-Stop Permitting (OSP) Phase II project is the second phase of a multiple phase initiative to establish electronic permitting, starting with the utility permit, for permits administered by the FDOT. One of the main objectives of this project is streamline the utility permit application administering process. To support meeting this and other objects, several user collaboration meetings were held to foster exchanges between FDOT staff and Utility Industry representatives. The OSP enterprise application when

deployed will, at a minimum, provide a framework to support development of other permit types, consistent process implementation, consistent governance and compliance, improve permit tracking and reduce cost through reduction/elimination of manual paper processes. Highlighted major features of the OSP enterprise application include online utility permit application submittal; online review, approval and issuance; and a geographic information system (GIS) feature to capture and display work location information: state road ID, section ID, beginning and ending mileposts, nearby utilities and nearby FDOT projects. The OSP Phase II project is in the implementation phase and deployment is scheduled for December 8, 2013.

7. SIS Designation Criteria
Brian Watts, Policy Planning

Brian Watts presented an overview of recent activities in the SIS implementation process:

- the draft Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) designation criteria, thresholds and implementation changes, and
- the results of the 2013 Data and Designation Review.

The process for measuring the “economic connectivity” criteria for Emerging SIS facilities was refined to better assess how specific types of hubs and corridors serve clusters of transportation-dependent industries. We also revised implementation guidance for the new urban fixed guideway transit corridors and terminals and commercial spaceports with new criteria for ‘hub-to-hub connectors’ and intermodal logistics centers (ILCs). Additionally, the new SIS ILC criterion was summarized.

Results from the 2013 Data and Designation Review were summarized outlining nine proposed additions to the SIS:

- 1 new Emerging SIS seaport
- 2 new Emerging SIS interregional passenger terminals
- 1 new Emerging SIS waterway
- 5 new Military Access Facilities

Additionally, there were two facilities dropping from SIS (Delray Beach Amtrak and Melbourne Greyhound) and several reclassifications of SIS facilities reflecting the proposed SIS criteria. These proposed criteria and designations are pending the Secretary’s adoption and approval.

8. Innovators! Right of Way Procedures (Follow Up)
Joe Jordan, District Two

An initial presentation was made at the October Executive Workshop relative to proposals made by the Innovators! Task Team for eliminating certain Right of Way procedures. The Districts were given an additional month to review and consider the material presented in October. This presentation at the November Executive Workshop was a recapitulation of the items discussed in October and summarized as follows:

1. Settlement Approval Authority – A proposal was made to move settlement approval authority to the districts with the Right of Way Manager, Production Director, and District Secretary having settlement authority at graduated levels. The District Right of Way Manager would inform the Director, Office of Right of Way about all sensitive or significant parcels of interest.
2. Mediation – A proposal was made to place full settlement authority and determination in the district without necessity of input from Director, Office of Right of Way. The Director would be provided written justification within 30 days of stipulated final judgment.
3. Binding Offers for the Purchase of Real Property (see item 5)
4. Interests in Real Estate (See item 5)
5. Binding Agreements – Items 3, 4, and 5 are very similar in that the present procedure requires Right of Way involvement with the Office of General Counsel on every parcel that Right of Way attempts to acquire. The proposal was made to preferably eliminate or modify the present policy and allow the Office of Right of Way flexibility with regard to this requirement.
6. Owner Retention – The proposal was to modify present procedural requirements for appraisal modification and new offer when the property owner wishes to retain an item which the Department has offered to acquire. The proposed process would allow for the salvage value of the item to be used for negotiation purposes instead of requiring a new offer.
7. Settlement Approval Authority – A proposal was made to allow someone other than SMS or SES employees to serve as the client representative for the Department at mediation. Some Districts need additional capacity for representation as a result of restructuring and reorganization of the District Right of Way Offices.
8. Warrant Cancellation – A proposal was made to modify the present requirement that the Production Director must approve district warrant retention every 30 days to allow for 90 day review period requirements and provide for Right of Way Manager's approval.
9. Appraisal and Appraisal Review – A proposal was made to eliminate the procedural requirement for development and review of Project Data Books and move this present requirement into the Guidance Document section of the Right of Way Manual.
10. Responsibilities of Deputy District Right of Way Manager, Appraisal – A proposal was made to eliminate the procedural requirement that the Appraisal Deputy must notify the Right of Way Manager of each occurrence when an updated appraisal value increases by at least \$10,000.00 and 15%.
11. Portability of the "Save Our Homes" Benefit - A proposal was made to eliminate this requirement from the Guidance Document Section of the Right of Way Manual. Present statutory provisions satisfy any need for concern regarding real estate taxation issues associated with project-related homestead displacement.

After the review of items under consideration for approval, Assistant Secretary Brian Blanchard opened the Workshop for questions and comments. Following the completion of questions and comments, District opinion was polled as to the passage of the proposals by the Task Team. The response was unanimous approval of the Task Team proposals. Mr. Blanchard requested Joe Jordan insure the approved proposals proceed

through the current Procedures Review Process of the FDOT Standard Operating System.

9. SHS Concrete Pavement Initiatives
Rhonda Taylor, Roadway Design

The current "Concrete Projects" policy and the use of the \$17 million statewide fund for helping districts build concrete pavement projects have been changed.

- This fund will be designated for "Concrete Pavement Initiatives".
- The first priority for use of this fund is Florida's Concrete Test Road reconstruction, on-going research and operating costs.
- Concrete candidates are to be submitted for the third year or later of the new tentative work program.

10. Future Corridors Initiative Update
Bob Romig/Jim Wood, State Transportation Policy

Mr. Romig introduced Jim Wood, the Director of the Office of Policy Planning, and announced that Mr. Wood would be presenting on Future Corridors. Mr. Wood provided a brief overview of the Future Corridors initiative, the five *Study Areas* in the state, and reviewed the Future Corridors Planning Process. Three of five *Study Areas* are currently in the Concept Stage, and two are in the Evaluation Stage. Mr. Wood detailed the Tampa Bay to Northeast Florida Study Area, reviewed the recommendations of the completed Concept Report and discussed a potential pilot evaluation study area. He then spoke about the Tampa Bay to Central Florida Study Area, the recommendations of the Concept Report and gave an update on Governor Scott's Executive Order authorizing the East Central Florida Corridor Task Force. Mr. Wood reviewed the make-up of the Task Force, its objectives, and future meeting dates. He explained that the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity would chair the Task Force as they are the land planning agency in the state and that Assistant Secretary Rich Biter would be on the Task Force representing FDOT. Mr. Wood concluded by asking for any questions and/or comments and there were none.

11. Mobility Performance Measures
Doug McLeod, Transportation Statistics

Doug McLeod gave an overview of FDOT's Multimodal Mobility Performance Measures Program, MAP-21 performance measurement requirements and FDOT/MPO consensus items related to mobility performance measures and roles and responsibilities. A statewide team encompassing all FDOT modal offices and District, as well as seven MPOs, have participated in the Multimodal Mobility Performance Measures Program. General consensus items and agreements on roles and responsibilities have been achieved. The statewide team will continue to address target setting, training and other activities. FDOT is positive about implementing mobility performance measures and is well along to meeting MAP-21 requirements.

Meeting adjourned at 3:43pm.