

Florida Freight Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Florida Department of Transportation
605 Suwannee Street, Auditorium, Tallahassee, Florida 32399

April, 21, 2017

Mr. Gerard O'Rourke made welcoming remarks and thanked the attendees for their participation in the First Florida Freight Advisory Committee. He introduced himself as the Freight Logistics and Passenger Operations Administrator of FDOT. He stated that this committee is one of the many steps FDOT has taken to ensure that our public and private stakeholders are at the table every step of the way as we plan the future of Florida's transportation industry.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Mr. Rickey Fitzgerald.

INTRODUCTIONS

The following members participated in the Florida Freight Advisory Committee meeting on April 21, 2017: Amy Miller, Port of Pensacola; Barbara Pimentel, FCBF; Bob O'Malley, CSX Transportation; David Anderton, Port Everglades; Eric Lindstrom, Hillsborough County; Gary Goldfarb, Interport Group; Greg Stuart, Broward MPO (TPO); Jake Swab, Purina; Joe Arbona, Genesse & Wyoming; John Dohm, Florida Transatlantic/Infinity Real Estate; Malcom Wade, US Sugar; Mark Bontrager, Space Florida; Mary Beth Washnock, West Florida Regional Planning Council; Pete Coultas, Duda & Sons; Richard Dubin, Caribbean Ship Services; Robert Midgett, Walmart; Ryan Stoeger, Mosaic Company; Scott Fernandez, Aquagulf; Stan Parkes, Crowley Maritime; Tisha Keller, Florida Trucking Association; Tony Cugno, Jacksonville Aviation Authority; Toy Keller, Florida Ports Council; Troy Post, North Brevard Economic Development Zone; Casey Grigsby, CDM Smith; Holly Munroe, FDOT; Stacie Blizzard, FHWA; Bob Emerson, FDOT; Ricky Fitzgerald, FDOT; Keith Robbins, FDOT; Gerard O'Rourke, FDOT; Greg Hall, FHWA; Beth Morse, FDOT; Thomas Knox, CDM Smith; Christopher Emmanuel, Florida Chamber of Commerce, Robert Palmer, RS& H; Kathy Singer, Broward MPO; Arlene Davis, FDOT; Sean O'Keefe,; Ivan Jimenez Urena; Losa Wilson, FDOT; Kevin Walford, Miami-Dade MPO; Carlos Roa, Miami-Dade MPO; Lisa Silva; David Jaskolski, Kwentin Eastburg, Diana Alarcon, Juan Calderon, Brian Hunter, FDOT, Justin Ryan; Jeremy Upchurch, FDOT; Jason Klempin, FDOT

Mr. Fitzgerald provided an overview of what the Committee would be addressing and considering. He asked the Committee if there were any questions or discussion regarding the overview. No questions were asked.

AGENDA ITEM #1 - ADOPTION OF BYLAWS

Mr. Fitzgerald presented the bylaws and stated that this committee is not statutorily required or bound so these bylaws can be changed, updated, and revised as needed. Mr. Fitzgerald asked if there were any questions on the Florida Freight Advisory Committee Bylaws.

Ms. Washnock asked for clarification on a section in the bylaws that discusses a governing board and then this committee.

Ms. Grigsby responded that the Governing Board is essentially the ex-officio Administrative Director, which would be Mr. Fitzgerald; a Chair and Vice-Chair will be selected by the Committee those individuals and staff will be the Governing Board that sets up the meetings.

Ms. Grigsby stated that this is not a decision-making committee it is strictly an advisory committee.

Mr. Robbins from District One requested to have the Executive Affiliates explained.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that the Executive Affiliates can attend the meetings as affiliates and in the event, that someone steps down they may be able to move up into the Committee. He stated that this could be done by a nomination and vote by the committee.

MOTION BY MR. STUART TO APPROVE THE FLORIDA FREIGHT ADVISORY COMMITTEE BYLAWS AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY MR. O'MALLEY. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

AGENDA ITEM #2 - NOMINATIONS OF CHAIR/VICE-CHAIR

Mr. Fitzgerald presented this item. He stated that as per the bylaws the FLFAC meetings are led and organized by a Governing Board consisting of: a Chair, Vice-Chair, and an Administrative Director. The Administrative Director is the ex-officio member from FDOT, myself, who serves as the staff member to aid the committee, while the other positions are elected position by peers.

Discussion ensued on nominations.

Ms. Barbara stated that it is hard to nominate an individual when we are unfamiliar with what their backgrounds is.

It was suggested that anyone interested in running for Chair or Vice-Chair email Mr. Fitzgerald a bio and short summary of what they can bring to the Committee if chosen. Mr. Fitzgerald will email out all the bios and set up a polling system for voting. The Chair and Vice-Chair are only open to current Freight Advisory Committee members.

MOTION BY MS. MILLER TO TABLE THIS ITEM UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING. SECONDED BY MR. ARBONA MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

AGENDA ITEM #3 - NATIONAL HIGHWAY FREIGHT PROGRAM (NHFP)

Mr. Anderson asked for clarification on what the members are being asked to review, make recommendations on, and prioritize.

Mr. Fitzgerald explained that they are looking for recommendations on the projects for use by FDOT. FDOT would like to know the Committee members thoughts on the different projects.

Mr. Anderson stated that he hopes that there will be time allowed after this committee gives their input on the projects for other stakeholders to also be able to give their input into the projects.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that the recommendations given today will not be the final recommendations because the Committee has not officially been formed. He stated that the goal today is to capitalize on our time together and still get some recommendations on these projects today.

Discussion occurred on what has happened since the FAST Act was enacted in 2012 regarding infrastructure projects.

Mr. Goldfarb asked Mr. Fitzgerald to explain how they went about assigning priority so they will have a better understanding when reviewing the projects.

Mr. Fitzgerald responded that they had to build the network (shown during presentation) and it was built off the following criteria: connectivity, reliability, and safety. The network itself is a strategy and then we had to look at the feasibility. He stated that they try to avoid a wish list scenario but if they had a project come up and it was cost feasible it would make it onto the list. Once the list was created it was sent out to the District Freight Coordinators and they would review it with additional stakeholders.

A member of the Committee asked again if Mr. Fitzgerald was looking for final recommendations today.

Mr. Fitzgerald responded that they sent the information out to the Committee members early so that they could review it and come with recommendations but since the Committee is not formed today any recommendations given today are just working recommendations that can be explored and built upon.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that he does want new projects being brought forward to be added to the list but they do need to be vetted through the same process.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that they would go through the projects district by district starting with District One.

Mr. Robbins reviewed the projects in District One:

Item Segment	Facility	Project Limits	Description
4192433	US 27	From CR 630A to Presidents Drive	This project includes the widening of US 27 from CR 630A to Presidents Drive from 4 to 6 lanes to allow for increased capacity. US 27 is a major north-south freight route through peninsular Florida.

4192432	SR 25 (US 27)	Highlands County Line to CR 630A	This project includes the widening of US 27 from the Highlands County Line to CR 630A from 4 to 6 lanes to allow for increased capacity. US 27 is a major north-south freight route through peninsular Florida.
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Ms. Keller with Florida Trucking association stated that Mr. Robbins has done a fantastic job working closely with the industry for these projects.

Mr. O'Malley with CSX also commended Mr. Robbins for his cooperation and coordination through this process.

The question was asked from District Two if the US 27/60 Lake Wales project has been approved?

Mr. Robbins responded no, they are still waiting to hear back from USDOT on the award selections for this round.

Mr. Ryan reviewed the projects in District Two:

Item Segment	Facility	Project Limits	Description
4338992	I-95 (SR 9)	@ SR 115 (US 1)/ML King/20 th Street Expressway	Lower SR 115 under I-95 to increase substandard vertical clearance from 14.7' to 16'-6". Improve ingress/egress to existing loop ramps. Improves drainage. MLK Expressway serves as SIS -Connector between JAXPORT's Talleyrand Marine Terminal (TMT) and I-95.
4335751	I-295 (SR 9A)	@ US 17 to South of Wells Road	I-295 off-ramp widening and intersection improvements at US 17 Eldridge Ave., Old Orange Park Road and Wells Road to reduce excessive delays and heavy queuing impacting the I-295 mainline. This segment of I-295 experiences 14,410 AADT for trucks. This interchange also provides

			a direct connection to Naval Air Station Jacksonville, which is a multi-mission base hosting more than 100 tenant commands.
4230714	I-75 (SR 93)	@ SR 24 (Archer Rd.) Operational Improvement	Interchange add lanes-operational improvement. This segment of I-75 experiences on average 15,336 AADT, 20% of which is truck traffic. This interchange serves as key connection to regional retail shopping destinations, the largest trauma center and medical complex (UF, VA) in the region, warehousing & distribution and manufacturing centers in eastern Gainesville.
4394842	I-295 Interchange	@ Collins Road (Phase II)	Ramp widening and turning radius improvements. The interchange experiences severe AM and PM congestion. Project significantly improves the geometry for trucks turning eastbound to northbound (trucks occasionally misjudge the turn and have to stop and back up).

Mr. Fitzgerald & Ms. Munroe reviewed the projects for District Three:

Item Segment	Facility	Project Limits	Description
2179103	SR 75 (US 231)	From S of Pipe Line Road to North of Penny Road	This project is Phase II of the multi-laning of US 231, with intersection improvements. The project includes widening US 231 from 4 to 6 lanes from South of Pipe Line Rd to North of Penny Road. This project is 6.120 miles in length and located in Bay County.

2206353	SR 20	From SR 83 (US 331) to Washington CO Line	This project includes multi-laning and intersection improvements along SR 20 in Walton county. The Feasibility Study for this project will begin at the end of 2017. This project is 14.245 miles in length.
2206354	SR 20	From Walton Co. Line to SR 79	This project includes multi-laning and intersection improvements along SR 20 in Washington County. The Feasibility Study for this project will begin at the end of 2017. This project is 1.276 miles in length.
2206355	SR 20	From SR 79 to Bay Co. Line	This project includes multi-laning of SR 20 in Washington County. This project is 3.223 miles in length.
2206356	SR 20	From Bay CO Line to SR 75 (US 231)	This project includes multi-laning of SR 20 in Bay County. This project is 23.449 miles in length.
2224761	SR 8 (I-10)	@ SR 95 (US 29) Interchange	This project includes the modification of the SR 8 (I-10) interchange to eliminate left entrance ramp weaving condition.

Mr. Upchurch reviewed the projects for District Four:

Item Segment	Facility	Project Limits	Description
4130482	SR-9/I-95	@ Oslo Road Interchange	The I-95/Oslo Road (new) interchange is needed in order to provide improved regional connectivity for people and freight. The proposed interchange would improve regional connectivity and travel time for area travelers, provide an additional evacuation route for area residents, improve incident response time along I-95 in this area and

			complement and facilitate the County” planned vision for the area.
4358041	SR-9/I-95	@SR-804/Boynton Beach Blvd. Interchange	This project involves the reconstruction of the Boynton Beach Blvd. overpass and approaches in the same alignment to provide free flow right turns, new ramp connections and side street improvements to facilitate the efficient last mile movements of people and freight in this area which is home to numerous freight related businesses.
4397581	SR-9/I-95	Northbound Off-Ramp at Indiantown Road	This project involves short term improvements to the I-95 northbound off-ramp. These improvements include: reconstruction and signaling the I-95 northbound off-ramp, lengthening the eastbound Indiantown Rd. left turn storage lane to the I-95 northbound on ramp to 600 ft., adding an auxiliary lane on Indiantown Rd. from the I-95 northbound exit ramp to Island Way, and restriping the existing right turn lane to a shared/through right turn lane from Island Way to Central Blvd.
4215481	SR-93/I-75 Interchange	@ Royal Palm from Griffin Road to S of SW 14 St.	This project involves reconstructing the ramps of the “Trumpet” interchange at Royal Palm Blvd. and I-75. This project will provide a more efficient last mile connection for people and freight accessing the western portions of Broward County including the Miramar freight district.

4151521	SR-93/I-75 Interchange	@ SR-820 Pines from North of Miramar Pkwy to North of Pines Blvd.	This project involves reconstructing the “Partial Clover Leaf Type B” interchange at I-75 to an urbanized version at Pines Blvd and the replacement of the Pines Blvd Overpass. This project will provide a more efficient last mile connection for people and freight accessing the western portions of Broward County including the Miramar freight district as well as the northern portion of Miami-Dade County that includes a heavy freight industry to the south of this project.
4397611	SR-9/I-95	Northbound and Southbound Off-ramps at Gatling Blvd	This project at Gatling Blvd and I-95 involves short-term improvements to both the northbound and southbound off-ramps which include: adding triple left and right turn lanes on the SR off-ramp with minor widening to the receiving lanes on Gatling Blvd and adding a third left turn lane and dual right lanes on the northbound off-ramp.
4397541	SR-9/I-95	Northbound and Southbound Off-ramps at Midway Rd.	This project involves short term interchange improvements to the northbound & southbound off-ramps at Midway Rd. and I-95 that includes adding second left turn lanes to both the NB and SB off-ramps. The Midway Rd. interchange provides direct interstate access to a handful of major distribution centers including Walmart and Tropicana.

Mr. Klempin reviewed the projects for District Five:

Item Segment	Facility	Project Limits	Description
4336511	CR 484	@ I-75 and CR 475	Improvements include additional turn lanes and turn lane extensions at both the CR 484/I-75 interchange and the CR 484/CR 475A intersection, reconstruction of the westbound through lanes, and modification of the existing I-75 bridge to accommodate the widening. The purpose of the project is to improve safety and traffic flow. The project will also improve bicycle lane and pedestrian sidewalk connectivity through the project limits. Modification to the existing median will be required for the roadway improvements.
4361251	I-95	@ Wickham Road	Add dual receiving lanes to the Wickham Road ramps to I-95. Wickham Road is proposed to be a 6 lane divided urban arterial with single left turn lanes servicing the northbound and southbound I-95 on-ramps. (Ramp No. 060 southbound and 063 northbound). Sufficient pavement width is being provided to permit restriping for dual lefts.
4397781	SR 518 (Eau Gallie Blvd)	@ John Rodes Blvd Intersection Improvements	Add an eastbound through lane (for a total of 3) and the associated receiving lane.
4397791	SR 518 (Eau Gallie Blvd)	@ SR 9 (I-95) Ramp Improvements	Add a second northbound right turn lane and signalize movement. Extend storage for the northbound right turn at off-ramp.

4074023	SR 528	From E of SR 524 (Industry) to East of SR 3	Widen capacity to 6 lanes, add capacity via express lanes; replace all bridges except eastbound Indian River Bridge; correct safety and deficiency issues; coordination with FEC for crossing over US 1.
4074024	SR 528	From East of SR 3 Port Canaveral Interchange	Widen capacity to 6 lanes, add capacity via express lanes; replace all bridges except eastbound Indian River Bridge; correct safety and deficiency issues; coordination with FEC for crossing over US 1.

Mr. Castro reviewed projects from District Six:

Item Segment	Facility	Project Limits	Description
4149647	SR 9A/I-95	US-1/South Dixie Highway to S of SR 90/SW 8 Street	This project is intended to develop and evaluate capacity improvements for the Interstate 95 (SR 9A) corridor within District 6 to meet existing and future traffic needs. The study will evaluate existing conditions and identify improvement alternatives for the segment from US 1/Dixie Highway to SR 90/SW 8 th Street, including the evaluation of all interchanges, interchange influence areas, and ramp junctions, as well as post-implementation operational conditions of the 95 Express corridor improvements.
4149648	SR 9A/I-95	N of SR 90/SW 8 Street to S of SR 836/I-395	This project is intended to develop and evaluate capacity improvements for the Interstate 95 (SR 9A) corridor within District 6 to meet existing and future

			<p>traffic needs. The study will evaluate existing conditions and identify improvement alternatives for the segment from north of SR90/SW 8th Street to south of SR 836/I-395, including the evaluation of all interchanges, interchange influence areas, and ramp junctions, as well as post-implementation operational conditions of the 95 Express corridor improvements.</p>
4149641	SR 9A/I-95	From S. of SR 836/I-395 to Broward County Line	<p>This project is intended to develop and evaluate capacity improvements for the Interstate 95 (SR 9A) corridor within District 6 to meet existing and future traffic needs. The study will evaluate existing conditions and identify improvement alternatives for the segment from south of SR 836/I-395 to the Broward County Line, including the evaluation of all interchanges, interchange influence areas, and ramp junctions, as well as post-implementation operational conditions of the 95 Express corridor improvements.</p>
4233734	Golden Glades Truck Travel Center		<p>A 10-acre lot owned by the Department has been recommended to be developed as a truck travel center by the 2006 Golden Glades Multimodal Transportation Facility PD&E Study and the follow-up 2017 Re-evaluation Study. This project is intended to design and construct a motor carrier facility with</p>

			essential amenities for the safe and efficient transportation of goods.
4406171	Port of Miami Inland Terminal		Located in Dodge Island, PortMiami is land-locked and has to balance land use and investments between passenger services and freight. New planned cruise facilities may propel the cruise passenger volumes upward significantly, and the fast-growing cargo volumes coming into the port will need to be accommodated in additional land outside of the island. This project includes an empty container storage facility, land improvements, truck parking, rail access, and utilities.
4408791	SITE Feasibility Truck Parking Phase (SR 826/SR836 TTC & SR 997/SR 94 TTC)		This project aims to analyze, design, and construct two potential truck travel centers (TTCs) to tackle the acute shortage of truck parking facilities existing within Miami-Dade County. This study includes two sites that were recommended for further evaluation and potential development by the Assessment for Potential Truck Parking Locations within Miami-Dade County planning study.
4408771	SITE Feasibility Study Truck Parking Facilities Phase II		This project is a planning study for the development and evaluation of a truck parking facility and amenities on parcels of land under the control of the Department. It aims to serve as Phase II of the Assessment for Potential Truck Parking Locations

			within Miami-Dade County planning study and will recommended additional locations for potential development since the truck parking shortage in the County will not be resolved by previously identified potential developments.
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Mr. Hunter reviewed projects from District Seven:

Item Segment	Facility	Project Limits	Description
4407491	US 41	@ CSX Grade Separation South of Causeway Blvd.	This project will construct a railroad grade separation on US 41 over the CSX railroad tracks south of Causeway Blvd. This project includes PD&E, design, right-of-way, and construction.
4292511	I-75 (SR 93A)	From S of CSX/Broadway Ave to EB/WB I-4 Exit Ramp	I-75 from south of the CSX/Broadway to eastbound/westbound I-4 ramp – This project will address operational deficiencies along I-75 including interchange reconstruction at SR 574. This project includes design and construction.
4410841	I-4 Eastbound Weigh Station	Merge Lane Improvements	This project will lengthen the eastbound merge ramp to allow safer merging for trucks leaving the weigh station. This project includes design and construction.
4410833	I-75 Northbound Rest Area	Reconstruction and Expansion	This project will reconstruct and expand the northbound rest area in Southern Hillsborough County including an expansion of the truck parking area. This project includes design and construction.
4410832	I-75 Southbound Rest Area	Expansion	This project will reconstruct and expand the

			southbound rest area in southern Hillsborough County including an expansion of the truck parking areas. This project includes design and construction.
4274543	I-75 Northbound on Ramp	From NB US 301 to I-75 NB	This project will improve the operational efficiency of the US 301 northbound ramp to I-75. This includes the widening of the ramp to remove the bottleneck on US 301. This project includes construction as design is already completed.
4303351	I-4 (SR 400)	East of I-75 (SR 93A) to East of Williams Rd	This project includes improvements to the I-4 eastbound ramps from I-75 northbound and southbound. Specifically, the I-75 southbound to I-4 eastbound entrance ramp is converted to a parallel merge condition (from an existing taper merge) with a 1,200-foot acceleration lane and a 300-foot taper. This project includes construction as design is already completed.

AGENDA ITEM #4 - PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Fitzgerald went by District to see if there were any public comments.

No comments were received.

AGENDA ITEM #5 - MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Fitzgerald asked for comments from the members.

Mr. Anderson with District Four, requested a State priority order of the projects or criteria for the entire state, not just by District.

Other comments made were that the members would like to know how much funding has already been allocated for the projects because some of these projects have additional funding and some of

these projects are already on going and need this funding for completion. A member stated that information would help to determine the priority and urgency of the project.

Another member stated that he wants to make sure that they projects are being spread across the districts and not all going to one district.

Mr. Fitzgerald summarized the concerns of the members:

1. We need more context on the projects to see how they are affecting the areas they are in,
2. How do we prioritize these projects as a State?

He asked the committee for their expertise on how the projects should be prioritized. He wanted to know if they felt that they should be ranked in structure or not. He was hoping that the committee could address having the qualitative meet the quantitatively to prioritize the projects.

A member stated that next time they meet will be a more productive meeting if they can all meet in the same room to discuss and have a larger image of where the project start and finish by district to determine how all the projects connect. If a segment is missing from the project it doesn't make sense to prioritize that project highly.

A member suggested that at the next meeting they need to have a score card with 3-4 criteria to evaluate each project to prioritize.

A member asked if the next meeting could be held in Orlando.

Response was that the next meeting will be via webinar until the Committee is formed.

A member requested the freight volume percentage around each project.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that they will have that available as a tool for the members.

AGENDA ITEM #6 - FUTURE MEETING DATES

Mr. Fitzgerald asked for all interested members to email bios for Chair and Vice-Chair by April 28, 2017.

Polling for Chair and Vice-Chair, survey to be completed by May 5, 2017.

Staff will send out additional information for review by April 26, 2017.

Send additional projects to be added to the list by May 5, 2017 with justification.

May 8-12, 2017 review new projects.

Next meeting between May 15 - May 26, 2017. A member suggested having a few options of a meeting date to vote for on survey monkey. Make sure the newly appointed Chair and Vice-Chair can make the meeting.

A member stated that in order to make this Committee work we need to make sure that we have at least one face to face meeting.

All the committee members stated that they were okay with the above schedule.

ADJOURNMENT