

**TALLAHASSEE – LEON COUNTY  
BLUEPRINT 2000 INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGENCY**

**Meeting Minutes  
September 21, 2009**

**5:00 pm, City Commission Chambers**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

**County**

Commissioner John Dailey  
Commissioner Akin Akinyemi  
Commissioner Brian Desloge  
Commissioner Bill Proctor  
Commissioner Bob Rackleff  
Commissioner Jane Sauls  
Commissioner Cliff Thaeil

**City**

Commissioner Debbie Lightsey  
Commissioner Mark Mustian  
Commissioner Gil Ziffer

**CITY/COUNTY STAFF**

Ramon Alexander, City Commission  
Peter Bolton, COT  
Dave Bright, Blueprint 2000  
Jim Davis, Director, Blueprint 2000  
Jim English, City Attorney  
Regina Glee, BOCC  
Shelonda Meeks, Blueprint 2000  
Tony Park, Leon County Public Works  
Gabriel Menendez, City Public Works

Phil Maher, Blueprint 2000  
Harry Reed, CRTPA  
George Reynolds, Blueprint 2000  
Angela Richardson, Blueprint 2000  
Debra Schiro, Blueprint 2000  
Lew Shelley, City Attorney's Office  
Rita Stevens, COT  
Wayne Tedder, Planning  
Patrick Twyman, COT

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Lois Decoteau  
Richard Decoteau  
Paco de la Fuente  
Claire Forbes, Blueprint 2000  
Steve Godfrey, Kimley-Horn\*  
Jamie Hart, Blueprint 2000  
Tom O'Steen, CAC  
Mark Llewelyn, Genesis Group\*  
Maribel Nicholson-Choice, Greenberg  
Traurig\*

Gary Phillips, The LPA Group\*  
Margie Quillman, The LPA Group\*  
Jim Shepherd, Jacobs Engineering\*  
Dave Snyder, The LPA Group\*  
Charles Stratton, Broad & Cassel  
Del Suggs  
Lamar Taylor, CAC  
Latesa Turner, Jacobs Engineering\*  
Ryan Wetherell, Kimley-Horn\*

\* Indicates Blueprint 2000 Consultant

**Chairman Jane Sauls called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.**

## **I. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS**

Mr. Davis stated that there were three agenda modifications: Item #2 FAMU Way Extension Cost Estimate has been pulled from the agenda; Item #3 Capital Cascade Trail Update has additional information that has been provided; both Items 2 and 3 are Informational Agenda Items. Mr. Davis reviewed the information on the four firms that had been shortlisted for the construction of Cascade Park. He further stated that Item #6 Citizens Advisory Committee Appointments has additional information added as provided. He mentioned that Commissioner Desloge asked that the item be pulled and moved to discussion.

## **II. CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) CHAIRMANS REPORT**

Mr. Lamar Taylor, CAC Vice Chairman, stated that the Board had been provided the draft meeting minutes of the CAC's August 27, 2009, meeting for the Board's information so that they would have an indication of the discussion and the actions of the CAC, especially as related to the Capital Circle Southwest discussion. He stated that the majority of the meeting discussion was regarding the alignment of Capital Circle Southwest. Mr. Taylor stated that the outcome was that the CAC supported the widening of the existing alignment which was motioned by Jess Van Dyke and seconded by Kathy Archibald who are very active environmentalists and who were original EECC members. He read excerpts from the CAC minutes. Mr. Taylor stated that Mr. Van Dyke had helped identify the person who had been nominated to replace him on the CAC. Mr. Taylor further noted that Mr. Van Dyke would be missed.

## **III. INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **1. CAC Meeting Minutes (May 21, 2009 and August 27, 2009)**

This item was presented as informational only.

### **3. Capital Cascade Trail Update**

This item was presented as informational only. Mr. Davis had previously mentioned the four firms shortlisted for the construction phase.

### **4. Capital Circle Southeast: Woodville Highway to Crawfordville Road – Design/Build Project**

This item was presented as informational only.

## **IV. CONSENT**

### **5. IA Meeting Minutes: June 17, 2009**

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Approve minutes as provided.

**7. FY 2008 Performance Evaluation**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Option 1: Accept Performance Evaluation as presented.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**Commissioner Desloge moved to approve the consent agenda items.** Commissioner Akinyemi seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously 9-0. Commissioner Proctor was not present for the vote.

**V. PRESENTATIONS/ACTIONS/DISCUSSIONS**

**6. Citizens Advisory Committee Appointments (Consent Item - pulled)**

Commissioner Desloge stated that he pulled the item not because there were any problems with the nominee but that he wanted to acknowledge the years of service of Jess Van Dyke and Kathy Archibald. He stated that they were original members of the EECC and that they had dedicated so much time to the CAC over the years, and that if there were more citizens who would step up and volunteer as they have, then the community would be in a better place. Commissioner Desloge stated that he would like to echo Mr. Taylor's comments regarding Jess and Kathy and to personally thank them for their service. He acknowledged that Mr. Van Dyke had only missed 2 meetings since he was appointed to the committee in 2001.

Commissioner Mustian stated that he would also like to echo what Commissioner Desloge stated and that he had worked with them both on the EECC and that Mr. Van Dyke is a quality person with great ideas for the resolution of environmental issues.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**Option 1:** Approve the following nominations:

Erin Ennis, Economic Development Council - (effective December 1, 2009)

N. Ronald Pease, Tallahassee Senior Citizens Advisory Council (Elderly Community) - (effective December 1, 2009)

Nancy Miller, Big Bend Environmental Forum - (effective December 1, 2009)

Dale R. Landry, NAACP (Civil Rights Community) - (effective upon approval)

Stephen Hogge, CONA - (effective upon approval)

Kent Smith, EECC Natural Scientist/Biologist - (effective December 1, 2009)

**Commissioner Mustian moved staff recommendation.** Commissioner Lightsey seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously 9-0. Commissioner Proctor was not present for the vote.

8. Proposed 2010 IA, TCC and CAC Meeting Dates

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Option 1: Approve the dates as presented.

**Commissioner Thaele moved staff recommendation.** Commissioner Desloge seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously 9-0. Commissioner Proctor was not present for the vote.

9. Capital Circle SW PD&E Study – Preferred Alternative

Mr. Davis stated that the item and tonight's decision was a milestone in the 4-year study. He noted that each commissioner had been briefed on the issues and the TCC and CAC's discussions prior to the meeting and that staff was prepared to provide a full presentation or to answer questions as needed.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**Option 1:** Approve the Widening Alternative as the preferred alignment for the Capital Circle Southwest PD&E study with aggressive commitments regarding the protection of the Chain of Lakes during construction and the possible segregation of West Ditch drainage from Grassy Lake along with water quality improvements to Black Swamp (as recommended by the CAC).

1. Authorize the Project Team to move forward with the completion of final documentation for the Widening Alternative in preparation for the Public Hearing.
2. Direct Blueprint 2000, Planning Department, and Growth Management Department staff to incorporate the adopted alignment and its future requirements (right-of-way, etc.) into all applicable plans and regulations as appropriate. Preservation of the adopted alignment should be pursued through the Transportation and Land Use Elements of the Comprehensive Plan and related land development regulations and requirements.
3. The Planning Department, in coordination with other Agencies and the public, should develop a future recommended Land Use Plan specific to the adopted corridor alignment, reflecting the Lake Bradford Sector Plan, the vision of the Economic and Environmental Consensus Committee, neighborhood and environmental issues, the Florida State University Southwest Campus Master Plan, and proposed roadway access classification.
4. Authorize staff to commence with a concept study to implement improvements to the West Ditch and Black Swamp utilizing funds remaining in the PD&E budget.

**Commissioner Lightsey stated that she would like to make a motion that was alternative neutral, which would require that no matter which alternative was selected, that no component of the project relating to any of the environmental protection elements (i.e. stormwater enhancements, on-site inspectors, extraordinary erosion and sedimentation controls, etc.) will be cut if the project runs short on money. She stated that for the Capital Circle NW project, that as money ran short, multiple millions of dollars were peeled out of**

**the project. She stated that this would be her motion.** Commissioner Thaelle seconded the motion for discussion.

Commissioner Sauls asked Commissioner Lightsey to shorten her motion for clarification.

Commissioner Desloge stated that he understood her motion to mean that if the project were to experience a shortfall in funding that it would be put on hold before the environmental protection elements were eliminated. Commissioner Lightsey reiterated her previous statement.

Commissioner Thaelle stated that he supported Commissioner Lightsey's motion; however he wanted a legal opinion on whether the current decision of the Board would bind the Board in the future. Maribel Nicholson-Choice stated that the Board could revisit the issue by majority opinion in the future. Commissioner Thaelle asked if there were a way to make the motion stronger and bind the hands of the Board in the future. Mrs. Nicholson-Choice stated that the Board could not bind a future body; however the Board could adopt a motion and document the intent of the current body. The future Board could weigh the intent based upon the conditions at that time.

Mr. Davis stated that staff could add conditional notes to the PD&E Study documentation as a project commitment, which is standard.

Commissioner Akinyemi asked what the difference was in Commissioner Lightsey's motion and the staff's recommendation. Commissioner Lightsey stated that her motion was a stand alone motion and that she wanted it to be voted upon separately.

There was one speaker regarding the item: Del Suggs stated that he had two reasons for attending the meeting (1) to wish the Board happy anniversary and (2) to be the Board's conscience. He stated that it was the fourth anniversary of the saving of Lake Bradford by the Board removing the widening alternative from consideration by unanimous vote. He stated that he would like to remind the Board of their decision to support and endorse the realignment. He also noted the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Blueprint 2000 and further stated that the citizens voted on the Blueprint 2000 program and that the realignment of Capital Circle SW was in the Blueprint document. Mr. Suggs asked the Board not to flip flop on their decision because the realignment was the right thing to do environmentally and economically.

Commissioner Sauls stated that the Board was provided a letter of support for the widening of Capital Circle from Linda Nicholson, Innovation Park.

Commissioner Sauls called for the vote on Commissioner Lightsey's motion. **The motion carried unanimously 9-0.**

**Commissioner Desloge moved staff recommendation.** Commissioner Mustian seconded the motion. Commissioner Desloge stated that he appreciated Mr. Suggs' comments and acknowledged the hard work of the CAC; however he stated that the decision to widen the existing roadway was the right thing, long-term for the community.

Commissioner Lightsey stated that the commissioners had received a letter from Lamar Taylor, CAC, who had suggested that Blueprint would be able to identify and leverage environmental and mitigation funds on this project from outside sources. She stated that this would be a great way to insure that the environmental enhancements are done. Mr. Davis stated that there were no funds on the project to supplant because the project was not funded beyond the PD&E study due to the economic down turn. He stated that if future funding were to become available for right-of-way, construction, etc. then it would be feasible. Commissioner Lightsey stated that since there was no funding for the project, then neither alternative would be done and that she was already in favor of the No Build alternative.

There was further discussion of the future funding of the project. Mr. Davis stated that the cost for the construction of the widening would be approximately \$130 million and that he did not know where that money would come from before 2020. It was possible however that Blueprint could potentially leverage funds to do some of the environmental improvements. He pointed out that part of staff's recommendation was to "authorize staff to commence with a concept study to implement improvements to the West Ditch and Black Swamp utilizing funds remaining in the PD&E budget."

Commissioner Rackleff asked how many lanes there would be in the area. Mr. Davis stated that it would be 6-lanes because that was the recommendation of the PD & E study. Commissioner Rackleff stated that Mahan was widened to 4-lanes. Mr. Davis stated that in order to remain eligible for federal funding, staff had to follow the NEPA process which projects future traffic demands and lane requirements. He stated that since there was currently no funding beyond the PD&E study, and the roadway would not be constructed for years to come, the current PD&E study would need to be re-evaluated in the future. At that time the reevaluation would review the traffic projections and resulting lane requirements. Commissioner Rackleff stated that he would like to have an explanation from the consultant on what the traffic projections are based on and the factors that were considered.

Commissioner Proctor was present from this point forward.

Commissioner Ziffer clarified that the Board would be voting on the widening the current alignment of Capital Circle Southwest and some of the environmental improvements that would be affected in the short term. Mr. Davis concurred.

**The motion carried 8-2.** Commissioner Lightsey and Commissioner Rackleff were in descent.

Chairman Sauls recessed the meeting at 5:40 pm for dinner break.

Chairman Jane Sauls called the meeting to back to order at 6:05 pm.

## **VI. PUBLIC HEARING – 6:00 PM**

### **10. Adoption of the FY 2010 Blueprint Operating Budget and Resolution**

There were no public speakers and there was no discussion of the item.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Adopt FY 2010 Operating Budget and related Budget Resolution.

**Commissioner Desloge moved staff recommendation.** Commissioner Lightsey seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously 10-0.

**11. Adoption of the FY 2010-FY 2014 Blueprint Capital Budget and Resolution**

There were no public speakers.

Commissioner Proctor asked if all of the projects carried an MBE stipulation for the expenditures. Mr. Davis stated that Blueprint followed the City's MBE policy of 15.5% for professional services and 21% for construction to MBE firms. Blueprint was exceeding those numbers in almost all cases as reflected on the monthly progress reports. Commissioner Proctor asked to what extent Blueprint anticipated further positive impacts of the federal stimulus funds. Mr. Davis stated Blueprint was hoping to receive a total of \$13 million for Capital Circle SE (Woodville to Crawfordville).

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Approve Option 1 to the Revised Master Plan & FY 2010-2014 Capital Budget as presented at the June 17, 2009, IA meeting and appropriate Fiscal Year 2010 of the Capital Budget and Related Budget Resolution.

**Commissioner Desloge moved staff recommendation.** Commissioner Ziffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously 10-0.

**VII. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

There were no citizens to be heard.

**VIII. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chairman Sauls adjourned the meeting at 6:12 pm.

**APPROVED:**

**ATTEST:**

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**Jane Sauls**  
**Chairman of Blueprint 2000 IA**

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**Shelonda Meeks**  
**Secretary to Blueprint 2000 IA**