

**HERNANDO COUNTY
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

TRANSIT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (TTC)

Thursday, June 25, 2009 - 2:00 P.M.

MEETING LOCATION: Planning Department Conference Room, Hernando County Government Complex/Administrative Building, 20 North Main Street, Room 261, Brooksville, Florida.

AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**
2. **MEETING SYNOPSIS OF JANUARY 21, 2009***
3. **TRANSIT SYSTEM STATUS REPORT**
 - Service Summary
 - Ridership and Performance Summary
 - Upcoming Activities
4. **HERNANDO COUNTY ACTIONS REGARDING TRANSIT SERVICE DELIVERY**
 - Assessment of Hernando County Transit System
5. **REVIEW OF CURRENT TRANSIT MARKETING AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES**
 - Hernando County Marketing Program
6. **2009 MAJOR TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN UPDATE**
 - Transit Demand and Mobility Needs
 - Public Input
 - TBARTA and Other Regional Partners
 - 2035 Transit Needs Plan
 - 10-Year Transit Alternatives
 - Comments from Committee Members
7. **OTHER ISSUES**
8. **ADJOURNMENT**

*Attachments

**HERNANDO COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TRANSIT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (TTC)**

January 21, 2009 Meeting Synopsis

The Hernando County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Transit Technical Committee (TTC) held a meeting on Wednesday, January 21, 2009, in the Planning Department Small Conference Room, 20 North Main Street, Room 261, Brooksville, Florida.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sue Rupe, Tourist Development
Mike McHugh, Business Development
Steve Gouldman, City of Brooksville
Bill Geiger, City of Brooksville
Mary Stahl, Mid Florida Community Services
Jan Malik, Mid Florida Community Services
Bill Ball, Tindale-Oliver & Associates
Dennis L. Dix, MPO Coordinator
Hugh Pascoe, MPO Transportation Advisor
Ricardo Feliciano, FDOT District VII (Via Teleconference)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Brenda Frazier, Community Relations
Jean Rags, Health and Human Services
Jack Stepongzi, Fleet Maintenance
Charles Mixson, Department of Public Works
Janice Rivers, Department of Children and Families

OTHERS PRESENT:

Nancy Branas, MPO Transportation Grants Controller
Steve Diez, MPO Transportation Planner II
Tina Duenninger, MPO Administrative Secretary II

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Pascoe called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m. Introductions were made.

MEETING SYNOPSIS OF AUGUST 6, 2008

The meeting synopsis of the August 6, 2008 TTC meeting were presented for review. There were no comments on the meeting synopsis.

TRANSIT SYSTEM STATUS REPORT

Mr. Pascoe noted that the Transit System Status Report agenda item was generally to discuss any issues of THE Bus and/or comments from the Operator on service, performance, etc. There were no comments.

REVIEW OF CURRENT TRANSIT MARKETING AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Mr. Dix commented that Trans-Hernando was working with Brenda Frazier and Rick Foti on THE Bus advertising and that it was going pretty well. Ms. Stahl shared Mid Florida's efforts in the community at various organizations, events, and businesses in order to build ridership. In response to Ms. Rupe, Ms. Stahl noted that businesses were now looking at advertising and that five advertising contracts had been signed to date. Additionally, most businesses were supportive of THE Bus and most requested bus schedules to post at their business. Mr. Dix stated that efforts were underway to coordinate with employers at the Airport Industrial Park through Bay Area Commuter Services (BACS) and a pilot program within the County.

****Mr. Geiger arrived at the meeting at this time.****

Mr. Ball stated that there had been a good increase in annual ridership from 2007 to 2008 and inquired whether the higher ridership had maintained with the current decrease in fuel costs. Mr. Dix replied in the negative.

****Mr. Ricardo Feliciano, FDOT District VII, teleconferenced into the meeting at this time.****

2009 MAJOR TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN UPDATE – Project Kickoff

Mr. Pascoe stated that the Transit Development Plan (TDP) was transitioning from a five-year to a ten-year plan. In addition, the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) was also being updated and is to be completed by December 2009. A draft TDP is scheduled to be presented to the MPO Board for approval in June 2009.

Mr. Ball provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Transit Development Plan (2010-2019), which was included in the agenda packet. The TDP is an FDOT requirement for State funding.

The Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority's (TBARTA) Preliminary Mid-Term, Long-Term Vision, and Network Summary maps were distributed at the meeting for review. In addition, the existing bus service, along with existing service maps, ridership trends, transit needs, 2008 rider survey results, and TDP schedule were reviewed.

Mr. McHugh expressed the need to connect Brooksville to the Airport. Mr. Ball stated that reallocation of existing resources could be reviewed, along with the stop level information. Mr. Pascoe stated that all suggestions should be looked at now during the TDP update process.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Pascoe noted that community workshops were tentatively scheduled in April 2009 and that various groups needed to be targeted, i.e., Airport Industrial Park, Wal-Mart Supercenter, etc. Ms. Rupe advised that Freedom Fest was coming up in March, the Hernando County Fair was coming in April, and the Fine Arts Council Festival was in May.

Mr. McHugh advised that the Pasco-Hernando Community College's new campus scheduled to open in the Fall 2010 will be located near County Line Road and US 19 and that route service should be looked at. The Spring Hill campus is scheduled to close.

Mr. Dix distributed an updated chart outlining transit ridership trends from March 2004 to September 2008. Mr. Dix commented that the first fare increase rates went from .50 to \$1.00 in April 2007 and that ridership immediately decreased by 16%. In the latest fare increase, ridership first decreased by 5.5% and 15.5% in December.

Discussion ensued on TD versus ADA service. Mr. Dix stated that there was an approximate cost of \$8.50 per rider for fixed route service, an approximate cost of \$25.00 per rider for ADA service, and an approximate cost of \$21.00 for TD service. If TD services are increased, 100% of the cost will be allocated to Hernando County.

Mr. Pascoe briefly discussed the Five-Year Operating and Capital Financial Plan, along with funding issues.

Ms. Malik addressed Medicaid coverage and advised that funding is to remain as is for the next three years, unless there are future cuts.

Mr. Diez inquired where did land use fit into the equation. Mr. Ball replied that one of the requirements in the TDP was to complete an assessment of the operating environment for the transit systems, which include land use. Mr. Diez replied that it should be part of the discussion and equation.

Discussion ensued.

****Mr. McHugh left the meeting at this time.****

Ms. Rupe requested that further marketing strategies and information be made available at the next TTC meeting in April 2009.

There were no further comments from the TTC.

OTHER ISSUES

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.