



**Project Advisory Group (PAG)
Meeting # 6
Draft Meeting Notes**

Attendees: **PAG Members**

Date: March 25, 2015
Time: 2:45 pm – 4:30 pm

1. Carole Hinkley, R2CTPO
2. Gary Huttman, MetroPlan Orlando
3. Steve Cooke, Daytona Beach Intl Airport
4. Myles O’Keefe, LYNX
5. Heather Blanck, Votran
6. Mike Cash, Sanford
7. John Angiulli, Volusia County
8. Jon Cheney, Volusia County
9. Ron Paradise, Deltona
10. Jason Yarborough, Lake Helen
11. Alison Stettner, Orange City
12. Joe Bitar, FDOT
13. Sam Weekley, FDOT
14. Susan Sadighi, FDOT
15. John Booker, FDOT

Consultant Team to FDOT

- Alan Danaher, Parsons Brinckerhoff
- Adriana Rodriguez, Parsons Brinckerhoff
- Anoch Whitfield, Tindale Oliver
- Jamie Snow, AECOM (FDOT Modeling Contract)
- Pat Northey, Ghyabi & Associates (FDOT Public Information Liaison Contract)

Place: FDOT D5
Materials Office - Sailfish Room
1650 North Kepler Road
DeLand, FL 32724

Project 173970A
No.:
Re: Volusia Transit
Connector Study
Project Advisory
Group Meeting # 5

Prepared by: Anoch Whitfield

NOTE: These meeting notes are Parsons Brinckerhoff’s attempt at capturing the key discussion points, decisions, action/follow up items, and resolutions discussed at the meeting. If you would like to clarify or comment on any point, please notify Alan Danaher by phone (407-587-7835) or email (danaher@pbworld.com) within 48 hours of this email distribution. ***If no comments are received within 48 hours, these meeting minutes will be assumed to serve as the official meeting record.***

Meeting handouts:

- PAG 6 Agenda and Presentation
- Maps of Proposed Initial Project Build Alternatives

Meeting highlights

Welcome

Joe Bitar welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for a round of introductions. Joe provided a general overview of what would be covered in this PAG meeting and turned the meeting over to Alan Danaher.

PowerPoint Presentation & Related Discussion

1. FOLLOW-UP ACTION ITEMS FROM LAST MEETING (slide 4)

- Refine Purpose and Need Statement – Replaced “Premium” with “Enhanced”
- Verify population numbers – Population numbers and district boundaries were reviewed with the Technical Working Group (TWG). From the TWG discussion, the boundary between the Orange City District and DeBary District will be eliminated to create a single Orange City/DeBary District.
- Post Community Liaison Group (CLG) meeting notes on project website – Done.
- Project Fact Sheet and April Meeting information for PAG member websites – Copies of the Citizen Letter and public meeting flyer were sent to the PAG and CLG for distribution to their respective websites, event calendars, newsletters, email distribution lists, etc.
- Verify intermodal station location – Working to coordinate with Judy Pizzo, FDOT Project Manager for the ISB study, on the status of the station location decision.
- Feedback on PAG comments regarding initial corridor segment screening – Comments received on ProjectSolve were relative to environmental and cultural districts and tourist destinations. High scores were given to the Initial Alternatives that provide access to environmental/cultural resources/tourist destination. When a sensitivity analysis was conducted, the analysis showed little difference/change.
- Alison Stettner (Orange City) commented that each of the measures need expanded descriptions in order to provide greater clarity to the general public.

2. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES (slides 6 - 8)

- Pat Northey (Ghyabi & Associates, Public Information Liaison to FDOT) provided a brief overview of the upcoming April public meetings and asked the PAG members to help spread the word about the meetings. She explained the outreach strategies employed to get out the word, including four newspapers, email blasts, press release, Florida Administrative Register (FAR) and the meeting flyer.
- Jon Cheney (Volusia County) asked whether thoughts were given to holding one of the public meetings in Sanford. Joe explained that the Florida Hospital FISH Memorial

venue in Orange City was a central location for the southern part of the corridor and that the Department advertised the public meetings in the Sanford Herald. Mike Cash added that the Department will be presenting to the City Commission in May on study status.

- Mike confirmed that Sanford is okay with the public outreach strategy.

3. PRELIMINARY MODE SCREENING RESULTS (slides 10-12)

- Alan provided an overview of the five modes selected to be used in the development of the initial alternatives as well as their applicability to the corridor. These modes are: commuter rail, streetcar, bus rapid transit, express bus and local bus enhancements.
- There were no comments or discussions from the PAG on the selected modes.

4. INITIAL CORRIDOR SCREENING (slides 14 - 20)

- Alan presented the initial corridor screening process by corridor segment. Below are the comments/discussions by segment:
 - **South to Seminole:**
 - John Cheney asked for clarification on the scoring and what a “perfect score” would be. Alan and Adriana explained that the scores are based on identifying an average and a standard deviation by segment for each corridor for each mode. A perfect score would be 150. Jon suggested that it be made clear when presented to the public because an “80” out of 100 could be perceived as a good score but an “80” out of 150 would not be a passing score. Alan noted that they would make modifications to be clearer in the presentation of the materials.
 - Gary Huttman asked why the rail line was still referred to as “CSX” and not SunRail since the FDOT now owns the line. Joe said that the Department would evaluate and internally discuss the title of the line.
 - **DeBary to DeLand:** No discussion
 - **Rail to I-4:**
 - Jon asked why BRT was ranked a “No” along Saxon Boulevard. Alan explained that it was felt the high level of congestion on Saxon would preclude much time savings if BRT were implemented.
 - Gary asked about the logic/need for a SunRail station in Orange City because of its location in proximity to the DeBary and DeLand Stations. Alison Stettner (Orange City) commented that the City wants a station and that an Orange City station would still be about 5 miles from the DeBary station.
 - **DeLand:** No discussion other than Gary’s question on the current conditions of the existing spur.

- **East-West Connector:**
 - Heather Blanck (Votran) commented that the corridor screening table showed no local bus on U.S. 92; however, there is currently local bus service (a connector bus service) on U.S. 92. Alan replied that the table will be modified to reflect existing bus service on US 92. U.S. 92 serves more population at the ends of the corridor than I-4 and offers better connection between Daytona west of Interstate 95.
- **West Daytona:** No discussion
- **East Daytona:** No discussion

5. INITIAL PROJECT BUILD ALTERNATIVES (slides 22 - 27)

- Alan presented all six Initial Project Build Alternatives before opening the floor to questions and discussions. Below are the comments and discussion for each Alternative:
 - **Alternative 1: I-4/Orlando & S.R. 44 Express Bus:** No specific discussion
 - **Alternative 2: I-4 Commuter Rail from DeBary:** No specific discussion
 - **Alternative 3: I-4/DeBary Station Express Bus:** Alison commented that there are still challenges with travel times on U.S. 17/92 due to the 30,000 trips per day and two (2) school zones along this area.
 - **Alternative 4: U.S. 17/92 & DeLand Station BRT/Express Bus:** No specific discussion
 - **Alternative 5: I-4 Commuter Rail via S.R. 472:** No specific discussion
 - **Alternative 6: I-4 Express Bus via S.R. 472:** No specific discussion
- General Comments for all Alternatives:
 - Alison stated that Orange City has no comments because the initial alternatives (particularly Alternatives 5 and 6) provide the City its desired station.
 - She and Jon both commented that the study team needs to be prepared for questions from the public about removing Saxon Boulevard from the alternatives.
 - Jon pointed out that Slide 20 shows Express Bus in East Daytona as not being an option, yet there are alternatives that include Express Bus. This might cause confusion to the general public and cautioned the study team again to be sensitive to how information and materials are presented to the public and elected officials.
 - Ron asked Alison how the City of Orange City would feel about Alternative 6 which involves the cities of Orange City and Deltona sharing the station at S.R. 472 and I-4. Alison stated that Orange City would not be opposed to that.

6. DISCUSSION ON PUBLIC MEETING DRAFT BOARDS

- Alan and Adriana presented the draft public meeting boards to the PAG for comments, and the following comments were made:
 - Board # 2: Add information on service frequency and hours of service as that information would be of interest to the general public
 - Goals/Objectives/Measures Board: PAG questioned why we are asking the public to rank the goals and objectives if the measures are not going to be weighted. Decision was to not have a ranking exercise unless the results of the public feedback will be incorporated into the study results.
 - Jon suggested having a strategy for the public to vote on their preference for additional stations and/or additional routes. Alan replied that the study team would look into that.
 - Alan asked whether the PAG felt the public needs to see the corridor segment screening information, and the general consensus was that that would be information-overload. Instead, Jon suggested putting the information from Slides 11 and 12 on boards.

7. NEXT STEPS (slide 28)

- Continue to evaluate Initial Project Build Alternatives
- Community Liaison Group meeting on April 1st
- Joint PAG/CLG field review on April 8th – the group agreed to meet at 8:30 am at the City of Sanford SunRail station
- Public meetings on April 14th, 15th, and 16th
- Finalize the Existing Conditions Report and post on project website
- Prepare final draft of Purpose and Need/Evaluation Methodology Report and send to PAG for review.
- Prepare draft Initial Screening Alternatives Report

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- **Community Liaison Group (CLG) Meeting # 2**
Wednesday, April 1st, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm
Sanborn Activity Center
Conference Room 1
1650 North Kepler Road
DeLand, FL 32724
- **April Public Meetings (Round # 2 of public meetings)**
 - Tuesday, April 14, 2015 at the Daytona State College (Daytona Beach Main Campus)
 - Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at the Sanborn Activity Center (DeLand, Florida)
 - Thursday, April 16, 2015 at the Florida Hospital FISH Memorial (Orange City, Florida)
- **PAG Meeting # 7**
Wednesday, April 22, 2015, 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM
FDOT District 5 Materials Office

Sailfish Room
1650 North Kepler Road
DeLand, FL 32724

- **2nd Round of Elected Officials Briefings in May**

8. DISCUSSION

9. FOLLOW-UP ACTION ITEMS

1. Refine the Initial Corridor Screening slides to reflect PAG comments. *Responsible party: Parsons Brinckerhoff*
2. Refine the applicable Initial Project Build Alternatives as appropriate to reflect PAG comments. *Responsible Party: Parsons Brinckerhoff*
3. Get clarification on the appropriate title for the CSX rail line for the South to Seminole Initial Corridor Screening. *Responsible Party: Parsons Brinckerhoff*
4. Continue reaching out to Judy Pizzo regarding the status of the intermodal station in the ISB Corridor Study. *Responsible Party: Parsons Brinckerhoff*
5. Send confirmation and logistical details for the April 8th field review to all PAG members. *Responsible Party: Tindale Oliver/FDOT*

cc: Attendees
Other Invitees Unable to Attend
Parsons Brinckerhoff File #173970A