



Transportation Advisory Board Minutes

February 15, 2021 at 04:00 p.m.

Virtual | Winter Park, Florida

Present

Chairman Jonathan Thigpen called the virtual meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. Present: Michael Dively, Alexander Trauger, Rachel Andre, Katie Reischmann, Jeffrey Osleeb, Jonathan Thigpen and Jeffrey Sievers. Staff: Planning & Transportation Director Bronce Stephenson, Senior Planner Allison McGillis, Transportation Manager Sarah Walter, Engineer I Hongmyung Lim, Sustainability Planner Vanessa Balta, and Recording Secretary Mary Bush.

Approval of minutes

Motion made by Michael Dively, seconded by Jeffrey Osleeb to approve the January 11, 2021 meeting minutes.

Motion carried unanimously with a 7-0 vote.

Discussion/Action Items

GREENWAY PLAN

Mr. Stephenson provided the Board with a brief background of the Greenway Plan. He explained that the City Commission is working on a Progress Point Park development plan, which is being completed by the consultant ACi Architects. One of the sub components to the development plan is the Greenways Plan, which includes part of the Orange Avenue Overlay and a major part of Progress Point Park.

Mrs. McGillis provided a presentation regarding the first draft of the Central Greenways Connectivity Analysis plan. She provided the Board a visual mapping of the existing and proposed bike and pedestrian path connections to the City of Orlando. Mrs. McGillis noted that the overall plan is to connect to the Orlando Urban Trail by extending existing north and south connectors within Winter Park. The connections will allow citizens to easily travel to the Downtown and Hannibal Square areas by bike or by foot. Mrs. McGillis also mentioned the 17-92 planned improvements, which include increasing the sidewalks to make them a bit friendlier for bikers and pedestrians.

Mr. Stephenson further discussed the details of the bike and pedestrian paths included in the plan, noting that shade trees, bump outs, decorative lights, and necessary easements would also be included. Mr. Stephenson asked the Board for their input regarding the proposed plan.

The Board briefly discussed the item and raised questions regarding the following:

- ordinances that keep vehicles off of pedestrian and bike paths,
- possible bike connection from Denning Drive to Hannibal Square, the Amtrak station, and the downtown area,
- and connecting the gap of pathway between Holt Avenue and West Fairbanks Avenue.

Mr. Stephenson addressed the Board's questions and noted that it is planned to have the City Commission adopt a City-wide Greenways and Trails Plan in the future. He also noted that

there is an opportunity for an on-street connection from MLK Park and the Library and Events Center to the Downtown and Hannibal Square areas.

Mrs. Walter added that the Florida Statutes do not allow for motorized vehicles on mixed use paths.

The Board made the following recommendations regarding the Greenway Plan:

- adding more dedicated places for connections on the analysis map,
- and providing details to the Board regarding the various pieces and elements of the Transportation Master Plan as well as Staff's plan of action.

Public Comments

The Board heard comment from the following attendee:

The prior Winter Park Traffic Manager, Butch Margraf, addressed the Board and expressed that he felt the City was moving in the right direction with the Greenway Plan. He noted that a connection may be difficult to create for the crossings at Holt and Pennsylvania Avenues and at the railroad tracks and Fairbanks Avenue. He also noted that it would be relatively easy to create connections from Denning Drive and Pennsylvania Avenue toward the Urban Trail.

No one else from the public wished to speak. The public hearing was closed.

Planning & Transportation Update

A. Transportation Projects Update

- a. New York Streetscape Project - Mr. Lim reported that Traffic Engineering and Management/Control Specialists were identified as the lowest bidder for the signalization portion of the project. The contract will be going to the City Commission for approval on Wednesday, February 24, 2021. Mr. Lim noted that the project is anticipated to start in May 2021. Staff is currently awaiting cost estimates from the City's contractors who will be doing certain portions of the scope of work.
- b. Garden Drive - Mr. Lim reported that the project is a high-level sidewalk concept plan and the scope of the project spans from 17-92 to Denning Drive. The City's Planning & Transportation Department recently held an in person and virtual meeting for all residents of the City for feedback on the plans. Mr. Lim noted that most residents were pleased with the project but mostly concerned with removal of trees and vegetation on the exterior of their properties. Staff revised the plan drawings with the assistance of the City arborist to avoid removing as many trees as possible. The plans were then finalized and sent out to City residents, which were pleased by the revisions. Mr. Lim added that preconstruction is scheduled to start the first week of March 2021 and construction should begin within a week to two weeks thereafter.

B. Development Report

- a. No report.

C. General Staff Updates

- a. Bike Events - Mrs. Walter reported that Bike Winter Park typically takes place in March. Due to the pandemic and the normal grouping of bicyclists in very close proximity to each other, the event has been postponed to determine ways to socially distance the participants. Mrs. Walter noted that the event is

tentatively scheduled to occur again during the Fall of 2021, which will align with the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) mobility week. Mrs. Walter also reported that last year Bike 5 Cities took place in the month of October after being postponed earlier in the year. From a social distancing perspective, the event was very successful even though the number of participants had to be significantly reduced due to the pandemic. Mrs. Walter noted that this year's event was originally scheduled to take place in May, but following a recent committee meeting, it has been tentatively delayed until October 30, 2021.

- b. Work Session Topics - Mrs. Walter reported that Kimley-Horn will be attending the next work session on March 3, 2021 to present and discuss their analyses for the Orange Avenue Overlay and 17-92 projects.

Board Updates & Comments

Chairman Thigpen reported that the illuminated street signs are being blocked by the mast arms at the intersection of Pennsylvania and Orange Avenues. Mrs. Walter advised that Staff will reach out to FDOT to have the issue addressed.

Mrs. Walter informed the Board that SunRail recently added new dynamic envelope striping at their railroad crossings. This addition has resulted in a reduction of over 40% in accidents where vehicles do not completely clear the tracks.

Mr. Dively inquired about the City Commission's decision on the Micromobility Ordinance and the format for the next work session.

Mrs. Walter and Mr. Stephenson addressed Mr. Dively's inquiries. They noted that the City Commission approved the Micromobility Ordinance and the next work session format will be a virtual presentation on agenda items by Kimley-Horn and then Board discussion with no official action to be taken.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

Next TAB Work Session: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.

Next TAB Regular Meeting: Monday, March 15, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Bush
Recording Secretary

Approved by Board on April 19, 2021