

Blueprint 2000 CAC Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 21, 2009
Blueprint 2000 Office – Koger Center
1311 Executive Center Drive – Suite 109

Lamar Taylor, Vice-Chair, called the Citizens Advisory Committee meeting to order at 4:40 p.m.

Committee Members present:

Lamar Taylor	Scott Balog
Jess Van Dyke	Nancy Miller
Kevin McGorty	Burt Davy
Kathy Archibald (telephonically)	Jerry Conger

Guests/Presenters/Staff:

Jim Davis	Gary Phillips
Dave Bright	Margie Quillman
Phil Maher	Latesa Turner
Dave Snyder	Angela Richardson
Jim Shepherd	Harry Reed

Agenda Modifications

There were none.

Information Items

Item #1: Leveraging Update

This item was informational only. Dave Bright provided a brief update on several of the leveraging items.

Item #2: Martha Wellman Park Dedication

This item was informational only.

Item #3: Capital Circle Southeast: Woodville Highway to Crawfordville Road – Design/Build Project

This item was informational only.

Item #4: Capital Circle Southwest PD&E Study Update

This item was informational only.

Item #5: Capital Circle Northwest/Southwest: Modified Construction Project Limits – US 90 to SR 20

This item was informational only.

Item #6: Project Schedule Update

This item was informational only.

Item #7: Capital Cascade Trail Segment 2 – Cost and Amenities

This item was informational only however there was some discussion amongst the committee. Unfortunately, due to technical difficulties, this portion of the meeting was not recorded.

It was mentioned that any discussion on Items 3, 4, 5 and 7 would be held during the Master Plan and Capital Budget discussion (Item 12).

Consent Items

Item #8: CAC Minutes: February 5, 2009

Kevin McGorty noted clarifications of his comments within the minutes related to economic development and more specifically implementing the Southern Strategy. Unfortunately, due to technical difficulties, this portion of the meeting was not recorded. Updates were made to the minutes based on hand-written notes. Kevin McGorty moved the Minutes as revised, seconded by Jess Van Dyke. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentations/Discussion

Item #9: CAC Appointments

Unfortunately, due to technical difficulties, this portion of the meeting was not recorded; the following is from handwritten notes.

Windell Paige was approved as the Capital City Chamber of Commerce representative in a unanimous vote by the committee. Dave Bright stated there were still two vacancies on the CAC and that Blueprint had been having a difficult time generating nominations for the open positions. The CAC Bylaws stated that the nominations needed to come from specific agencies. Kathy Archibald requested a sub-committee be formed to review the CAC by-laws and list of Agencies from which members could nominate applicants. Kevin McGorty noted that it was the responsibility of the CAC, not Blueprint staff, to recruit additional members. He noted that diversity on the committee could be recruited via the larger community versus specifically named groups or agencies. Jerry Conger suggested that they broaden the definitions of the Organizations or Agencies to allow more flexibility for nominees. Dave Bright and CAC Chair Tom O'Steen were assigned the responsibility to review the Bylaws and make appropriate recommendations to these and any other changes.

Item #10: FAMU Way Extension – from west of Lake Bradford Road to east of South Monroe Street; Coordination with Capital Cascade Trail Segment 3

Unfortunately, due to technical difficulties, this portion of the meeting was not recorded.

The several cross-sections for the combined FAMU-Capital Cascade Trail project were reviewed with the CAC, noting that Blueprint had been asked by the city to provide some cost estimates for the overall FAMU Way extension project. It was noted that the option of placing the peak

stormwater flows in an enclosed box culvert was different than the initial open/enhanced stream concept presented by the Blueprint authors. Blueprint wanted to present these options to the CAC and get their reactions to the possible options.

The committee generally agreed that the concept which placed peak flows in the box culvert and provided a smaller base flow stream at grade level would be an acceptable design, and indicated the relationship to the adjacent Railroad Square properties might be enhanced with this design.

Presentations/Discussion

Item #11: Proposed FY 2010 Blueprint 2000 Operating Budget

Unfortunately, due to technical difficulties, this portion of the meeting was not recorded.

Phil Maher reviewed the proposed Operating Budget and changes for FY 2009, as outlined in the Agenda Item.

There were no speakers for the Public Hearing which had been advertised for 5:30 pm.

Item #12: Revised Master Plan and Proposed FY 2010 – FY 2014 Blueprint Capital Budget

Unfortunately, due to technical difficulties, the majority of this discussion was not recorded. The following is all that is available from the recovered portion of the tape.

There were no speakers for the Public Hearing which had been advertised for 5:30 pm.

Lamar Taylor questioned whether money coming in for CCSE (Woodville Highway to Crawfordville Road) presented an opportunity to move spillover funds back into Capital Cascade Park. Jim Davis said that these funds were entirely new and there were no local funds for the segment to move. The funding was totally federal stimulus funding, and were specific for this section of Capital Circle.

Harry Reed, CRTPA, stated that Capital Cascade Park would be a Central Park for Tallahassee. Kevin McGorty did not see that coming to fruition if Blueprint continued to “chip away financially” at the project. He suggested a third option for the agenda item; for staff to review other areas to cut funding outside of Cascade Trail Segments 3 and 4. Kathy Archibald questioned if Capital Circle NW/SW (US 90 to Orange Avenue) could be moved to the outer years (FY 2017) to find a way around the budget crunch and keep the money in Cascade Segments 3 and 4.

Jim Davis stated that the implication was that Blueprint pulled all the money out of Capital Cascade Trail however that was not accurate. Staff realized the impacts on transportation and had tried to find a balance in absorbing \$32M in additional cuts. Referring to Item 5, CCNW/SW, staff recommendation was to terminate construction north of Blountstown Highway. Kevin McGorty suggested looking at the cumulative effect; asking what was the original budget for Capital Cascade Trail. Mr. Davis stated it was \$88M. Mr. McGorty pointed out however that through leveraging, grants, etc it ballooned up to approximately \$160M.

Regarding a third option, Phil Maher stated that not building CCNW/SW would be the only alternative because there was not any thing else that could be cut with the exception of the Headwaters of the St. Marks (which was mentioned in Option 2 under Landbank) or City/County Water Quality dollars. There simply were no other dollars to make up the difference.

Jim Davis stated Capital Cascade Park (C2) had not been touched in the budget cuts; in fact \$1.5M was added to the Park segment. Furthermore, the \$10M in outside funding Blueprint hoped to raise for amenities had not materialized. That portion of the downtown "Central Park" minus some of the amenities would be there and open in 2011 (due to permitting problems). Gary Phillips stated that the economic downturn had an incentive for the competitive bidding process. Staff expected low bids for the base improvements to come in 20-30% lower than the original estimate, now the estimate is about \$28M.

Phil Maher talked through the changes to the Master Plan explaining how staff came to the cuts they did. The bottom line continued to be: take money from N2 (i.e. do not build it), take money from Capital Cascade Trail or do not build or follow through on environmental projects from 2010 on out in lieu of Cascades. Lamar Taylor suggested that staff push the permitting through for C2 and get it under contract as soon as possible. To ensure that it is funded; they could deal with moving money around in the out years. Mr. Maher agreed as did Jim Davis.

Kevin McGorty stated that he felt it was time to send a symbolic recommendation to the IA. To return to the stormwater functions and the gray/green C2 was to represent. If the majority of commissioners still felt the way they did a few years ago, the shift in the dynamic and Blueprint should be 'how to get to the Airport the quickest' so be it. They were the decision makers of the community. The CAC and members of the EECC, wanted to make Blueprint much more than that. **Mr. McGorty moved that the IA review other options so that there wasn't a financial impact to Capital Cascade Trail. Nancy Miller seconded the motion.** Not because she felt Blueprint had not done the best they could, but as a symbolic gesture for the commissioners. If Blueprint had been put out to voters as a "road to the Airport" it would not have passed, she said. Mr. Maher reiterated that the other option was to cut N2. It was suggested that staff ask what the implications were as related to the State SIS dollars and Federal Transportation Bill dollars that had been provided to the project, if the CCNW?SW project were moved out in the Master Plan.

Dave Bright interjected that with ten members on the CAC and only five present (Kathy Archibald lost the teleconference connection) they did not have a quorum. They could send a message / recommendation to the IA but could not vote.

Phil Maher clarified that in Option Two, he eliminated the Headwaters of the St. Marks and Land Bank funds in lieu of cutting \$14M from Capital Cascade Trail Segment 3 and Segment 4. He also noted that environmentally sensitive land acquisitions had to come from willing sellers; it was not land that Blueprint could condemn. Mr. Davis stated that even with Option 2, staff would still have to take money from N2 to the point of not being able to complete the project south of Blountstown Highway. Mr. Davis asked the CAC to please, consider NOT eliminating the Land Bank. Part of its purpose was contingency funds for unforeseen contractual commitments, i.e. sinkholes etc, and not having the reserves to deal with that or similar types of problems would be a huge problem.

Mr. McGorty stated he held with his motion to generally look at other options in order to not lose any more funding from Capital Cascades. **All members present were in agreement.**

Citizens To Be Heard

There were none.

Items From Members Of The Committee

There were none.

Adjourn

Nancy Miller moved to adjourn; it was seconded by Kevin McGorty. The meeting adjourned at 6:47 pm.