

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

Meeting Minutes

September 24, 2012

5:00 pm, City Commission Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT

County

Commissioner Akin Akinyemi
 Commissioner John Dailey
 Commissioner Bryan Desloge, Vice Chair
 Commissioner Kristin Dozier
 Commissioner Nick Maddox
 Commissioner Jane Sauls
 Commissioner Bill Proctor

City

Commissioner Andrew Gillum
 Commissioner Nancy Miller, Chair
 Commissioner Mark Mustian
 Commissioner Ziffer

CITY/COUNTY STAFF

Autumn Calder, Blueprint 2000	Tony Park, Leon County
Jeff Diemer, Blueprint 2000	Harry Reed, CRTPA
Ashley Edwards, COT Parks & Rec	Debra Schiro, Blueprint 2000
Charles Hargraves, Blueprint 2000	Wayne Tedder, Blueprint 2000
Angela Ivy, Blueprint 2000	Anita Favors Thompson, City Manager
Shelonda Meeks, Blueprint 2000	Jay Townsend, City Manager's Office
Gabriel Menendez, COT Public Works	Patrick Twyman, COT

OTHERS PRESENT

Linda Figg, Figg*	Marek Romanowski, Michael Baker Corporation*
Paco de la Fuente	Mandy Sauer, Tallahassee Symphony
John Gibby	Jim Shepherd, Jacobs Engineering*
Wendy Grey	Dave Snyder, Michael Baker Corporation *
Christic Henry, CAC	Jeff Walters, Figg*
Maribel Nicholson-Choice, Greenberg Traurig*	Tamera Waters, Tallahassee Democrat
Gary Phillips, Michael Baker Corporation*	Alisha Wetherell, Kimley- Horne*
Margie Quillman, Michael Baker Corporation*	Ray Youmans, THC*

* Indicates Blueprint 2000 Consultant

Commissioner Nancy Miller called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

I. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

None

II. CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Ms. Christic Henry, Chair of the CAC, stated that the Citizens Advisory Committee discussed several issues as follows:

- CAC budget meeting
- Support of the Cascades Park Dedication Celebration
- Local preference should be given to the Boca Chuba Pond statue
- Support of the universal design of Centennial Field
- Capital Circle Southwest PD&E study

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. CAC Meeting Minutes (June 7, 2012 and August 2, 2012)

This item was presented as informational only.

2. CCNW/SW: South of US 90 to Orange Ave Update

This item was presented as informational only.

3. Franklin Boulevard Flood Relief and Roadway Update

This item was presented as informational only.

4. CCSE: Woodville Highway to Crawfordville Rd Update

This item was presented as informational only.

5. Blueprint 2000 MBE Status Report

This item was presented as informational only. However, Commissioner Miller noted that it was requested specifically by Commissioner Proctor and upon his arrival to the meeting would be given the opportunity to have a presentation on the item.

IV. CONSENT ITEMS

6. IA Meeting Minutes: May 21, 2012 and June 25, 2012

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve minutes as provided.

7. Proposed 2013 IA, TCC and CAC Meeting Schedules

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option 1: Approve the dates as presented.

8. Citizens Advisory Committee Appointments

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option 1: Approve the following nominations:

Representative from the Economic Development Council: Chris Klena

Representative from the Civil Rights Community: Dale Landry

Representative from the Capital City Chamber of Commerce: Terence Hinson

Representative from the Planning Commission: Timothy Edmond

Representative from the Big Bend Environmental Forum: Kent Wimmer

Commissioner Gillum moved Items 6-8; Commissioner Dozier seconded the motion. It passed 10-0.

V. PRESENTATIONS/ACTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

9. Property Purchase in Lake Lafayette Basin

Wayne Tedder stated that Blueprint and County staff were contacted regarding the subject parcel. Staff had determined that the parcel was consistent with Blueprint principles as outlined in the original EEC document. This parcel is 174 acres. After initial and review appraisal of the subject properties, a conditional offer was extended to the owners. There were several opportunities that could be created through the acquisition of the property. The property was contiguous to the existing Lake Alford Greenway. It also provided access to the open water of Lake Lafayette. Staff recommendation was to approve the purchase from the Lake Lafayette

Floodplain line item in the amount of **\$1,467,424**. Mr. Tedder made mention that should improvements be necessary, funding was available in the line item.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option 1: Authorize the parcel purchase from funds available in the Lake Lafayette Floodplain line item.

Commissioner Dozier moved staff recommendation, Commissioner Desloge seconded the motion. The motion passed 10-0.

10. Capital Circle SW PD&E Study, Design & Construction

Mr. Tedder stated that FDOT allocated \$2.7 million to complete the design for Capital Circle Southwest, which is from Orange Avenue to Springhill Road. He was contacted by FDOT who stated that they wanted more control of state road projects and that they were rescinding the LAP Agreement funding the design. The project budget needed to be amended to reflect the loss of the \$2.7 million. It did not mean the money is going away however FDOT would manage the design of the roadway. In meeting with FDOT Mr. Tedder stated his concerns for maintaining the Blueprint philosophy for the road design. FDOT verbally agreed that they would maintain the design consistent with that philosophy. He further stated that FDOT anticipated that the project would be put out for bid by the end of 2012, but that had not yet been confirmed.

In order to complete the PD&E study Blueprint would need to indicate that funding was allocated for design in the five-year plan. The allocation was shown as \$2.1 million. Furthermore, the intersection of Orange Avenue and Capital Circle Northwest/Southwest had yet to be designed.

Commissioner Gillum inquired as to how much of a precedent this policy change was for FDOT; that they withdrew the design from the local authority. Mr. Tedder stated that he felt that it was a relatively new trend. Commissioner Gillum expressed concern over how political road construction had become. The Commissioner requested that FDOT be made aware of the local municipalities goals of creating a certain kind of vision for their projects. He felt that if local money was invested in the project the locality should have input. Mr. Tedder stated that he had written FDOT expressing some of his concerns however a response has not been received. Mr. Tedder's understanding of the policy shift was that FDOT had issues on other roadway projects in Florida and that an effort was being made to exert more control.

Commissioner Akinyemi strongly supported Commissioner Gillum's concerns. Commissioner Akinyemi asked if there was still time to raise objection to the decision. Mr. Tedder stated that there was. Commissioner Dozier stated that her primary concerns were with the design issues and felt that raising an objection would not be productive. She requested to amend the staff recommendation to include that FDOT put in writing their commitment to using Blueprint design standards.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option 1: Authorize staff to amend the Blueprint 2000 Capital Budget for Capital Circle Southwest to remove the design, from Orange Avenue to Springhill Road, and the associated funding of \$2,708,503.

Commissioner Dozier moved staff recommendation, Commissioner Ziffer seconded the motion.

Commissioner Nick Maddox supported Commissioner Gillum's concerns and expressed his own that FDOT would not adhere to the design standards or philosophy. Commissioner Ziffer, however, supported Commissioner Dozier's line of reasoning.

There was one public speaker. Mr. John Gibby felt that Blueprint 2000 was fired for doing nothing; FDOT took the money from them due to Section 8 from the letter. He raised concerns about how future money would be spent and requested that an audit be conducted.

Commissioner Miller requested that counsel respond to Mr. Gibby's claims. Ms. Maribel Nicholson-Choice said that as of several months ago, she was aware of Mr. Gibby's claims. Ms. Nicholson-Choice had not seen anything from FDOT to connect the two claims.

Mr. Tedder reiterated the source of the funding and that FDOT would be responsible for applying them to the project. Commissioner Dozier supported Commissioner Gillum's request for FDOT to decide on the design standards.

Commissioner Gillum stated that he did not think the Board should take any action at that point because all that occurred was that they were informed of the LAP termination. He spoke to the history of positive relationship between Blueprint staff and FDOT personnel and because of that, was surprised by the way the information was communicated. He stated that he would like clarity on why the change occurred.

Mr. Tedder stated that through his meetings with FDOT staff he understood that FDOT would use comparable design guidelines. However, local financial support would need to be utilized for options that went above and beyond the design standards. Mr. Tedder stated that he had no issue with sending FDOT a letter based on the preceding conversation. Commissioner Miller then recapped the motion.

Commissioner Proctor asked if the action by FDOT “killed the project.” Mr. Tedder denied that; it was still available however it would be with a different agency to fund and manage the project; FDOT instead of Blueprint. Commissioner Miller asked if it would require changes to any of the contractors on the project. Mr. Tedder clarified that the project has not gone out to bid, therefore there were no contractors at that point.

Commissioner Proctor inquired as to whether or not the MBE requirements would be different because of the change. It was pointed out that the funding was for roadway design only; construction funding had not been designated. However, FDOT had emphasized their desire to complete the design. Commissioner Dozier stated that because state funding would be used for the design Blueprint would be required to use FDOT standards regardless of Blueprint policy. Commissioners Proctor and Gillum recapped their thoughts on the community and the termination of the LAP agreement. Commissioner Gillum reiterated that he wanted to know why it happened and that he is not happy about it. Therefore, he would not be voting for the motion.

The motion carried 9-2 with Commissioners Gillum and Maddox casting the dissenting votes.

14. Adoption of the FY 2013 Blueprint Operating Budget and Resolution No. 2012-08

Mr. Tedder stated that the budget was essentially the same as the previous year and through the continued reorganization. It would be reduced once the final numbers of employees were in place. Mr. Tedder noted for clarification that there was a misstatement in the agenda item. The September 6, 2012 meeting was a publicly noticed meeting. Blueprint was not required to hold a public hearing. Staff recommended approval of the operating budget as presented.

There was one public speaker. Mr. John Gibby wished to point out the discrepancy in the public hearings stated in the agenda item. He supported the newspaper budget announcement.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option 1: Adopt the FY 2013 Blueprint Operating Budget as presented and approve the FY 2013 Operating Budget Resolution (Resolution No. 2012-08).

Commissioner Dailey moved Option 1. Commissioner Desloge seconded the motion. It passed 10-0.

15. Adoption of Fiscal Year 2013-2017 Blueprint Capital Improvement Plan, Budget Resolution No. 2012-09, and the 2013-2020 Net Sales Tax Allocation Plan

There was one public speaker. Mr. John Gibby merely duplicated his previous comments. He also stated that he would like more time to review the information and that two weeks were required for publication.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option 1: Adopt the FY 2013-FY 2016 Blueprint Capital Improvement Plan, appropriate FY 2013 of the Capital Improvement Plan, and adopt Resolution No. 2012-09.

Commissioner Dailey moved Option 1. Commissioner Desloge seconded the motion. It passed 11-0.

Commissioner Dailey concurred that the more time citizens had to read the agenda items the better.

5. Blueprint 2000 MBE Status Report

Commissioner Miller revisited Item 5 due to Commissioner Proctor's arrival (at approximately 5:15 during the discussion of Item #10). Commissioner Proctor stated that he had reviewed the information compiled by staff and in his opinion, the numbers had been fulfilled. He inquired as to where the MBE percentage requirements originated from. Mr. Tedder stated that the numbers were maintained by Blueprint and reviewed by the City's Equity and Workforce Development Agency. The percentages were goals created by Blueprint that were based on the requirements of the City and County. Furthermore, the goal set by Blueprint was higher than either the City or County. Commissioner Proctor then requested a higher percentage of MBE for Blueprint.

11. Capital Cascades Trail Segment 3 Update

Gary Phillips stated that the purpose of the item was to inform the Board of the progress of Capital Cascades Segment 3 as outlined in the agenda item and to seek approval of the preliminary Van Buren Pond design. Mr. Tedder interjected that he wanted to ensure that the board was aware that excess funding from the Coal Chute Pond construction would be applied to the excess cost of segment 3A.

Mr. Phillips stated that the CAC requested staff evaluate the removal of the stairway on the north side of the Connector Bridge and the parking lot adjacent to the development; and requested screening options instead. The screening options have the opportunity to be included in the construction contract. Mr. Tedder stated that it would provide the opportunity to move the parking away from the front of the building and to the side consistent with land development regulations. These changes would also serve to enhance redevelopment along the trail.

Commissioner Dailey if there was sufficient parking to allow for public access to the park if the aforementioned parking were removed. Staff confirmed that there was. Commissioner Dailey questioned the width of the path leading to the bridge. Staff stated it was 12-feet wide; the same as the bridge width. Commissioner Miller questioned why the parking would not be used by the adjacent business. Mr. Tedder responded that it was a possibility.

Commissioner Akinyemi stated that at street level people could potentially just walk across Monroe Street. Mr. Tedder stated that staff was reviewing possible solutions to that.

Linda Figg presented various Connector Bridge Perspectives. Commissioner Dozier inquired as to whether or not the bridge contained anti-graffiti stain. Ms. Figg stated that it could be applied to the bridge. Mr. Tedder restated the CAC request that something be done to hide the orange motorsports building. Commissioner Ziffer asked if murals had been proposed for the area. Mr. Tedder stated that he was not aware of any proposals. Commissioner Proctor questioned how much it would cost to purchase and demolish the building. Mr. Tedder stated that the site was designated by the EPA as a superfund site and would require remediation; therefore it would be quite costly to consider.

Mr. Phillips recapped the design of the Van Buren Pond and its site requirements. He stated that FAMU School of Architecture had been contacted to come up with possible visioning analyses for the trail and pond. The concepts would be taken to FAMU Administration for final approval. Commissioner Dailey expressed support for the Plan and was happy to see that FAMU was being consulted. He requested that effort be made so that it would not look like a walled off retention pond.

Commissioner Gillum asked if there was vision for how the pond would look. Mr. Phillips replied that there was a general idea however the FAMU students were instructed to be creative as possible. Commissioner Gillum enquired as to the possibility for underground storage rather than a 20-foot deep stormwater pond that would be dry at most times. Mr. Phillips stated that it was looked at early on and was eliminated because it was an incredibly expensive option.

Commissioner Proctor asked about FAMU's involvement with the holding pond design. They have been involved through the FAMU Way extension project and Blueprint organized meetings. Commissioner Proctor spoke on the roundabout planned for FAMU Way.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option 1: Approve the Preliminary Van Buren Pond Design

Commissioner Ziffer moved Option 1; the motion was seconded and passed. 8-3. Commissioners Proctor, Gillum, and Nick Maddox dissented.

Debate on FAMU's awareness of the stormwater pond design continued. Mr. Phillips described the purpose and location of the stilling pond. Commissioner Ziffer requested a price for underground stormwater storage for informational purposes.

12. Capital Cascades Trail – Segment 3 (Stilling Pond): Right-of-Way Acquisition and Authorizing Resolutions

The item sought approval of Resolutions NO. 2012-06 and -07 in order to construct the stilling pond.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option 1: Approve the Resolutions allowing the acquisition of the two (2) privately owned parcels, which are required for the construction of the Stilling Pond stormwater facility.

Commissioner Dozier moved Option 1. Commissioner Dailey seconded the motion; it passed unanimously.

13. Cascades Park Update

Cascades Park Dedication Celebration

Ms. Calder provided an overview for the Cascades Park Dedication Celebration. The date of the opening was yet to be determined. Information included planned events and funding proposals.

RECOMMENDATION:

Support the utilization of Blueprint 2000 unallocated funds for the Dedication Celebration expenses which go beyond the dollars collected through donations and sponsorships.

Commissioner Ziffer moved item and it was seconded. Commissioner Dozier pointed out the need to have parking agreements with the state in place prior to the opening; noting that Fridays would be the most difficult days to coordinate parking. Mr. Tedder stated that the City's Real Estate Division was drafting an agreement with the State. Commissioner Miller requested a representative from City Properties be present at the next IA Meeting to give an update on the status. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Alternatives to the Boca Chuba Sculpture

Staff sought approval of the Request for Proposals and allocation of a budget. Commissioner Dozier expressed support. Mr. Tedder clarified the process and the possible cost savings.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the proposed selection process and allocated budget for the sculpture in Boca Chuba Pond.

Commissioner Gillum moved item. Commissioner Dozier seconded the motion; it passed unanimously.

Smokey Hollow Commemoration

Ms. Calder provided an update on the Smokey Hollow Commemoration including the Commemoration design.

There was one public speaker. Wendy Gray suggested that ongoing maintenance and operations need to be a point of focus.

Possible Sink Hole at Cascades Park

Mr. Tedder stated that after a recent rain event there was evidence of sink hole in Boca Chuba Pond. A consultant was currently investigating the issue. The extent of it was as of yet undetermined; the results would be brought back to the Board in the future. Mr. Tedder requested an increase in funding by \$500,000.00 to address the issue. The funding would come from the Landbank for contingency.

Commissioner Dozier moved the approval of a \$500,000 increase to the project budget. There was not a second for her motion; however, it passed unanimously 11-0.

VII. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

None

VIII. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

None

IX. ADJOURNMENT


There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by consensus at 7:35 PM.

APPROVED:



Nancy Miller
Chairman of Blueprint 2000 IA

ATTEST:



Shelonda Meeks
Secretary to Blueprint 2000 IA