

**TALLAHASSEE-LEON COUNTY INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGENCY
BLUEPRINT 2000 MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 18, 2002
CITY HALL CHAMBERS, SECOND FLOOR, CITY HALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT

City

Commissioner John Paul Bailey

Commissioner Charles Billings

Commissioner Debbie Lightsey

Mayor Scott Maddox

Commissioner Steve Meisburg

County

Commissioner Ed DePuy

Commissioner Tony Grippa

Commissioner Bob Rackleff

Commissioner Bill Proctor

Commissioner Jane Sauls

Commissioner Cliff Thael

Commissioner Dan Winchester, Chairman

STAFF/OTHERS PRESENT

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Winchester at 3:05 pm.

II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

Agenda Item No. 9 - Appointment to Citizens Advisory Committee was added and material provided for Agenda Item No. 8 – Approval of Selection of Independent Consultant to Review Water Quality Program. Chairman Winchester stated that without objection, the agenda was modified.

III. CONSENT ITEMS

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the November 19, 2001 Intergovernmental Agency meeting was approved by the members.

2. Approval of Blueprint 2000 Citizen Advisory Committee Bylaws

Ms. Henree Martin from the Blueprint 2000 Citizen Advisory Committee asked to address the Intergovernmental Agency. Ms. Martin spoke about the Tallahassee

Democrat series of articles relating to Capital Circle Northwest projects costing well above budget and other Blueprint project lists exceeding budget. She stressed that over 60% of Leon County voters agreed that the planning and design features of the Blueprint projects were what this community wanted and were willing to pay for. She asked that a loud and clear message be sent that Blueprint principles and projects have been reconfirmed today by the Intergovernmental Agency Blueprint 2000 and that the problems and challenges faced can be solved.

IV. CONSENT ITEMS PULLED

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

3. Update on Hiring of Blueprint 2000 Staff Director

City Manager Anita Favors stated that interviews have been set up for a week from Thursday with one or two possible candidates that have come to the forefront. A contract will be confirmed with a headhunter after that interview if a suitable candidate is not found.

4. Discussion of Blueprint 2000 Project Implementation

Chairman Winchester asked that the Blueprint 2000 integrity not change and to move forward and make it happen as promised to the voters.

County Administrator, Parvez Alam, explained statements regarding the cost factors involved and why the initial cost estimates have changed. He stated that over a period of time, grants and Federal funding could be obtained in order to get those projects completed.

Commissioner Grippa asked about the 230 foot road and the effect this would have on the community and businesses.

Mr. Michael Wright stated that City and County staff agreed to accelerate the projects in order to stay on schedule. He discussed the process of prioritizing the projects and establishing a timeline. A large amount of money involves inflation of the right of way costs, but the real chunk of the money involves financing of the projects in moving the projects up into the construction cycle.

Mr. Bob Inzer, Chair of the Finance Committee, explained the process used by the Finance Committee including the expenditure schedules, definition of projects involved and schedules provided by the Blueprint committees in order to program them out. He named the members of the Committee and explained the responsibilities of the committee: review revenues, expenditures of the projects to make sure that over the life of the projects, they are in balance. He discussed the revenue forecast and revenues in relationship to expenditures (construction) and the inflation involved. He discussed how

right of way costs have accelerated and looked at assumptions of how Blueprint 2000 was developed and approved. Because of a predicted shortfall, his recommendation was to refer this back to the Technical Coordinating Committee and Citizens Advisory Committee to bring forth options to consider and the Finance Committee will continue to meet and bring back recommendations regarding general financial structures/policies at the April meeting.

Commissioner Proctor requested a written process for advanced funding if it is participatory from Commissions or from some place else.

Commissioner Grippa asked if Blueprint 2000 had built in inflationary numbers for future years or were estimated based on present day. Mr. Wright said that the cost was not inflated but the revenue was deflated because at the time the decisions were being made, it was not known where the projects would fall.

Commissioners Rackleff and Billings discussed reasons for the shortfall.

Discussion ensued regarding the 230-foot corridor and the necessity for this.

Debra Schiro from the Legal Staff discussed the process used for estimating right of way costs for the Blueprint 2000 Capital Circle corridor.

Commissioner Rackleff made a motion to authorize staff to work with the Citizens Advisory Committee and Technical Coordinating Committee to develop recommendations for program implementation for Intergovernmental Agency consideration later this spring. Commissioner Meisburg seconded the motion and asked for B2000 to reaffirm their commitment made to the public regarding the goals and policies. Commissioner Rackleff accepted this as a friendly amendment. The vote was taken with Commissioners DePuy, Grippa and Proctor opposing the motion.

5. Approval of Development of Corridor Management Regulations and Official Corridor/Major Thoroughfare Map

The motion was made by Mayor Maddox and seconded to authorize staff to enter into contractual agreement with the Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR) for consulting services to proceed with the preparation of an official corridor/major thoroughfare map, required comprehensive plan amendments related to corridor management, and adoption of a countywide corridor management ordinance within the City and County land development regulations, for an amount not to exceed \$200,000. Approve funding from Blueprint 2000 dollars, contingent upon advance approval from the City of Tallahassee.

Commissioner Grippa stated he would like to amend the motion to also look at impact to the businesses that will be relocated throughout the projects and look at

the property tax that is being lost by the increased right of way within their scope of study.

Commissioner Proctor asked that the finance costs and interest be factored into the projects.

Commissioner Billings stated that he hoped citizens would donate land and he asked that staff investigate to see whether there is someone else such as a governmental agency that can handle this study other than CUTR. He felt the \$200,000 cost was excessive.

Commissioner Lightsey said this was the vehicle to do an effective right of way reservation plan. She said right of way reservation has been tried in the past with the City in an effort to deter accelerating costs. She felt CUTR was an expert in the field and was giving a cut-rate price.

Commissioner Grippa felt pleased that the law was in favor of the private property owner and made a substitute motion to RFP out this \$200,000 project and to look if another group can be found and it was seconded. He stated the property owners should be notified in advance.

Mr. Barrett said that CUTR is a governmental organization and cannot respond to requests for proposals in order not to compete with private consultants. He said their charge is salary hours rather than overhead which is a good deal. CUTR is one of the world's experts in this field and this is why they were chosen.

Commissioner Grippa redrew his motion.

Commissioner DePuy asked how this could be study could be done without knowing what the corridor is. Mayor Maddox explained this.

Commissioner Billings stated that he would still like to know if this project can be done better and at a lower cost than \$200,000 and requested that this be investigated.

Mr. Barrett said that the study will not include a cost analysis but will be looking at Ordinances, existing PD&E studies, proposed typical sections for Blueprint 2000, Land Development Regulations, and tools to notify and work with public.

The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

6. Approval of Funding Request for Capital Circle Southeast

A motion was made to approve construction of a .33 mile segment of the Blueprint 2000 Capital Circle Southeast improvements (from Centerview Drive to Monday Road); approve acceptance of a \$1.8 million loan from the City, subject to reimbursement of principal and lost interest, pending City Commission approval of

advance funding on February 13, 2001; authorize the Intergovernmental Management Committee to negotiate an agreement to formalize the loan and repayment schedule. The motion was seconded and a presentation was given by Bill Woolery and John Davis.

Chairman Winchester stated this was a loan from the City and discussed advance funding regarding Capital Circle Northwest. Commissioner Bailey stated that he and other Commissioners went to the Legislature to request \$16 million to be used for Capital Circle Northwest.

The motion was voted on and approved.

7. Approval of Procurement Policy for Blueprint 2000 Program

Commissioner Grippa made a motion to approve Procurement Policy as recommended and seconded by Commissioner Lightsey. Commissioner Grippa discussed adding the following changes to this motion: (1) have a threshold limit for professional fees and (2) asked for special incentive for local businesses of five points for any RFP. After discussion regarding professional fees, it was explained that a contract for professional fees would require approval by Blueprint 2000. Mayor Maddox asked that staff bring back a recommendation regarding special incentives for local businesses by incorporation of local preference provisions into the Procurement Policy.

The motion was voted on and approved unanimously.

8. Approval of Selection of Independent Consultant to Review Water Quality Program

Mayor Maddox made a motion to ratify Dr. Harvey Harper/ERD as recommended by the Intergovernmental Management Committee (County Administrator and City Manager). The motion was seconded and approved.

9. Appointment of Citizens Advisory Committee

There was a motion by Commissioner Bailey and seconded by Commissioner Billings to appoint Terrence Hinson from the Capital City Chamber of Commerce to the Citizens Advisory Committee. The motion was seconded and the motion was approved.

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

VII. UNAGENDAED BUSINESS

Commissioner Grippa pointed out that the bylaws need to be changed in the near future because they reference the MPO voting structure. He noted another technical correction will be given to staff.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 PM.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

COMMISSIONER WINCHESTER
Chairman of Blueprint 2000

BLUEPRINT 2000 Secretary