

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

**Meeting Minutes**

**March 1, 2010**

**3:00 pm, City Commission Chambers**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

**County**

Commissioner John Dailey  
Commissioner Akin Akinyemi  
Commissioner Bryan Desloge  
Commissioner Bill Proctor  
Commissioner Bob Rackleff  
Commissioner Jane Sauls  
Commissioner Cliff Thaeil

**City**

Commissioner Debbie Lightsey  
Commissioner Andrew Gillum  
Mayor John Marks  
Commissioner Mark Mustian  
Commissioner Gil Ziffer

**CITY/COUNTY STAFF**

Ramon Alexander, City Commission  
Dave Bright, Blueprint 2000  
Jim Davis, Director, Blueprint 2000  
Shelonda Meeks, Blueprint 2000  
Gabriel Menendez, City Public Works  
Phil Maher, Blueprint 2000

Harry Reed, CRTPA  
Angela Richardson, Blueprint 2000  
Wayne Tedder, Planning  
Jay Townsend, COT  
Patrick Twyman, COT  
Bill Woolery, COT

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Althemese Barnes, Riley House  
Richard Barr, Kimley-Horn  
Melissa Brock, Tetra Tech  
Paige Carter-Smith, Governance  
Paco de la Fuente  
Barry Eady, Culpepper  
Steve Ghazvini, Sandco  
Joey Gordon, The LPA Group\*  
Carlana Hoffman, Quest\*  
Mark Jones, CRI

Harold Knowles, Pinnacle Construction  
Frank Lesene, Tetra Tech  
Maribel Nicholson-Choice, Greenberg Traurig\*  
Sean Pittman, Pittman Law Group  
Gary Phillips, The LPA Group\*  
Margie Quillman, The LPA Group\*  
Dave Snyder, The LPA Group\*  
Lamar Taylor, CAC  
Latesa Turner, Jacobs Engineering\*

\* Indicates Blueprint 2000 Consultant

**Chairwoman Jane Sauls called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m.**

Chairwoman Sauls acknowledged Mr. Sean Pittman, The Pittman Law Group, for his \$100,000 donation to the Smokey Hollow portion of the Capital Cascade project. Mr. Pittman stated that he appreciated the Board recognizing the importance of the neighborhood and making it a part of the park system and giving him the opportunity to provide the resources so that others could learn about it as well.

Mr. Davis stated that Blueprint 2000 had received three awards and plaques in recognition for its work. The first was from Stormwater Solutions Magazine for Martha Wellman Park. The other two plaques were from the Big Bend Chapter of the American Public Works Association for Capital Circle SE and Martha Wellman Park.

## **I. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS**

There were two agenda modifications: Item #7- **Capital Circle Northwest/Southwest Project Funding Update and US 90 to SR 20 (Modified Construction Limits) Design Supplemental** which reflects an additional \$75,000 to be transferred for post design engineering services. Also, Item M-1 **Capital Cascade Trail - Segment 1 - Authorization to Amend the Master Plan to Incorporate Grants Received for the Flood Relief Project** which asked for authorization to amend the Master Plan to incorporate any grant money received for Capital Cascade Trail Segment 1 flood relief project.

## **II. CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) CHAIRMANS REPORT**

Mr. Lamar Taylor, CAC Vice Chairman, stated that he wanted to give the Board a brief run down of the CAC's February meeting. He stated most notably the sales tax drop might be leveling off and that Blueprint 2000 had received another clean audit. The Capital Cascades Trail update generated the most discussion because bids had been received and some of the amenities were not included in the initial construction cost, i.e. the hydrological cycle fountain, shade structure, History Fence, Smokey Hollow and Boca Chuba. He stated that members were concerned that those items were not funded and suggested more community outreach to obtain funding.

## **III. INFORMATION ITEMS**

- 1. CAC Meeting Minutes (October 29, 2009 and December 3, 2009)**  
This item was presented as informational only.
- 2. Capital Circle Southeast: Woodville Highway to Tram Road – Design/Build Project**  
This item was presented as informational only.
- 3. Capital Circle Southeast: Woodville Highway to Crawfordville Road – Design/Build Project**  
This item was presented as informational only.
- 4. Capital Cascade Trail – Segments 3 and 4 Design Update (Coal Chute Pond and Pond 5)**  
This item was presented as informational only.
- 5. Sales Tax Receipts Update**  
This item was presented as informational only.

## **IV. CONSENT**

- 6. IA Meeting Minutes: September 21, 2009**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**  
Approve minutes as provided.

**7. Capital Circle Northwest/Southwest Project Funding Update and US 90 to SR 20 (Modified Construction Limits) Design Supplemental**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**Option 1:**

1. Authorize a new contractual limit for Contract 772 with H.W. Lochner, Inc. for consultant services for the Capital Circle NW/SW Project (US 90 to Orange Avenue) in the amount not to exceed \$5,892,000.00 which includes the previous contract amount of \$5,467,000 (including Supplemental Agreements Numbers 1 through 9 with H.W. Lochner, Inc.).
2. Authorize Supplemental Agreement #10 with H.W. Lochner, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$425,000, to modify the plans and permits to stop the project north of SR 20 and to provide additional funding for post-design services.
3. The \$425,000 requested in this agenda item will come from FDOT funding not utilized under the current design contract; incorporate the \$425,000 into the approved Master Plan and Capital Budget.
4. In the event that additional project funding is secured through Federal Stimulus:
  - a. Authorize Blueprint staff and the IMC, as appropriate, to amend the contract with H.W Lochner, Inc. to prepare plans required to implement the intent of Option 2 (June 17, 2009, IA meeting) extending the project limits to south of SR 20.
  - b. Authorize Blueprint staff to complete design, right-of-way and permitting activities and turn all project materials over to FDOT District III, as the contracting entity.
  - c. Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a JPA with FDOT to provide the identified funding (approximately \$40.5 Million) for the project.

**8. Capital Cascade Trail – Capital Cascade Connector Bridge – Authorization to Advertise, Negotiate and Award the Design Contract**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**Option 1:**

1. Authorize the IMC to advertise, negotiate and award a design contract with the top ranked firm at a cost not to exceed \$250,000 and if negotiations are unsuccessful be authorized to move to the next firm in sequence. The \$100,000 in excess of the federal grant funds will come from Segment 3 and 4 design funds.
2. Amend the Master Plan and incorporate into the Capital Budget any grants received for Segments 3 and 4.

**9. Revised Citizens Advisory Committee Bylaws**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**Option 1:**

Recommend approval of the Revised CAC Bylaws as presented.

**10. Acceptance of FY 2009 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and Appropriation of FY 2009 Operating Fund Balance**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**Option 1:**

Accept the FY 2009 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and approve additional appropriation to the FY 2010 Operating Budget of \$53,953 for encumbrances and \$48,312,800 for transfer to the Capital Projects Fund.

**M-1 Capital Cascade Trail - Segment 1 - Authorization to Amend the Master Plan to Incorporate Grants Received for the Flood Relief Project**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**Option 1:**

Authorization to amend the Master Plan and incorporate into the Capital Budget any grants received for Segment 1 Flood Relief Project.

**Commissioner Dailey moved to approve the consent agenda items.** Commissioner Lightsey seconded the motion. Commissioner Gillum pointed out that the minutes reflected Commissioner Thael as a city commissioner rather than a county commissioner. The motion carried unanimously 10-0 with the correction to the minutes. Commissioner Rackleff was not present for the vote.

**V. PRESENTATIONS/ACTIONS/DISCUSSIONS**

**11. Cascade Park Update**

Mr. Davis stated that the purpose of the item was to bring the Board up to date regarding the project as outlined in the agenda item. He pointed out that Capital Cascade is designed to be a floodable park that will be built to handle 100 acre-feet of stormwater. He stated that when the bid process was set-up there were 4 levels in which each vendor could bid with level A including all of the amenities and level D including the least number of amenities, and that the maximum bid was \$23 million to be considered responsive. He stated that there was a contingency fund due to the fact that there were so many unknown issues that could be underground, because of the history of the park. Mr. Davis stated that the Intergovernmental Management Committee would not make a decision on who the winning bidder would be until some issues had been resolved. Also Legal Counsel had advised that the issues not be discussed at the Board meeting. He pointed out in the agenda item which infrastructure and amenities had been designed and fully funded and which of those that were only designed. He stated that he hoped that organizations and/or individuals would help fund some of the amenities.

Mayor Marks asked if the decision on which shade structure would be installed would come back to the Board for a decision. Mr. Davis stated that staff would bring the item back to the Board for guidance. He stated that he wanted to acknowledge Commissioner Ziffer's efforts to fund the amenities through private donations and he pointed out the donations and grants that had been secured.

Commissioner Rackleff and Commissioner Mustian were present from this point forward.

Mayor Marks asked if there was any thought to having an artistic structure in the park that would be unique to Tallahassee such as the Archway in St. Louis and the Washington monument are to those communities. Mr. Davis stated that the signature bridges would be that artistic element for the park. Mayor Marks asked if the Board could get a drawing of how the signature bridges would fit in with the amphitheatre shade structure. Mr. Davis said that staff would provide the drawings.

Commissioner Thaelle stated that the waterfall was the signature feature of the area when the area was selected as the capital for the state of Florida. Mr. Davis stated that the waterfall structure was funded.

Commissioner Ziffer stated that the entire park, and all of the amenities, would be the signature piece for the community because of how special it would be. Commissioner Ziffer pointed out that the amphitheatre's dual purpose/reversible stage was a signature feature that would seat from 200 to 3,000+.

Commissioner Rackleff asked if there would be a water feature for children to splash around in the summertime. Mr. Davis stated that there would be an interactive, programmable water feature which was adjacent to the bathhouse. He stated that Smokey Hollow would have a misting fountain which would use potable water.

There was discussion of the shade structure.

Commissioner Mustian pointed out that currently the building which was behind the Meridian Marker was an aesthetically undesirable state office building leased by Florida State University (FSU). The drawing of the plaza shows a beautiful 5-story building that does not exist. He suggested that the Commissioners contact the new President of FSU to discuss the opportunity for a trade of facilities. Mr. Davis stated that the current plan was to notch out a section of the plaza and move forward with construction without having control of the property. Commissioner Proctor requested the Chairwoman send a letter to FSU requesting special consideration of this project and the effects on the community.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

No action required, provided for information only.

**12. Capital Cascade Trail - Segment 3 Ditch Improvement Box Culvert Project**

Mr. Davis stated that due to funding shortfalls, the Board had previously directed staff to focus on high payoff stormwater improvements for the project area. Staff identified three water quality and flood relief projects: (1) Ditch Improvements from Monroe to Adams (2) Coal Chute Park Pond and (3) Pond 5 - Black Swamp Nature Park. Mr. Davis reviewed all of the options for the ditch improvements, as outlined in the agenda item, and discussed the staff's recommendation. He stated that his direction to staff was to design the box culvert larger than necessary to

accommodate any future growth. There was discussion of the location of the entrances to the box culverts and the safety guards to the public.

Mayor Marks asked if the park was designed to handle the 100-year flood criteria. Mr. Davis affirmed that it was.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**Approve Option 1:** Concrete box culvert and authorize staff to proceed with the design and permitting associated with this improvement.

**Commissioner Desloge moved staff recommendation.** Commissioner Gillum seconded the motion.

Commissioner Akinyemi recused himself from voting on the issue because he was a sub-consultant on the project.

Commissioner Proctor asked what the cost of the box culverts was compared to the other options. Mr. Davis stated that the box culverts would be \$833,000, the U-shaped channel would be \$500,000 and the Gabion Channel lining would be \$952,000. He stated that with the other choices there would be additional costs for right of way for the trail heads.

There was discussion of using the railroad line as a local subway transit line.

Commissioner Rackleff suggested that staff use the FSU Master Craftsmen Studio for architectural elements in the park. Mr. Davis stated that staff had contacted them regarding the Timeline Fence which was currently unfunded. Mr. Davis stated that students from the FAMU School of Architecture were building a scale model of the project that should be ready in 60-days. Furthermore staff was working with FSU's High-Performance Materials Institute in hopes of winning part of a \$9.5 million federal grant to be used on the Connector Bridge. It would showcase and test new technologies in bridges.

Commissioner Thae'll asked if the high transmission lines would be moved. Mr. Davis stated that it would be cost prohibitive to move the lines.

The motion carried unanimously 11-0. Commissioner Akinyemi recused himself from the vote.

**VI. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

There were no citizens to be heard.

**VII. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Proctor asked if the box culvert would relieve flooding at Leon High School. Mr. Davis stated that Franklin Boulevard was part of the Capital Cascade Trail project, Segment 1, which is the last segment that is scheduled to be done. He stated that due to budget shortfalls,

there was no money in the budget to complete that portion of the project. Furthermore there were issues with the limits of the Blueprint program which begins south of E. Tennessee Street; therefore the Board had no authority over the parking lot at Leon High School.

Mr. Davis stated that the Board had previously set aside \$5M for interim improvements on Franklin Boulevard, however when the budget was revised that money was removed from the project. The interim improvements would include a box culvert on Franklin Boulevard that would flow into Capital Cascade Park and alleviate **some** of the flooding. He reiterated that it would only be an interim solution that might only work for 10 years of partial relief and that the total cost for the full solution to reconstruct Franklin Boulevard is \$22M.

Mr. Davis stated that the problem needed to be fixed long term, beginning at Lafayette Park down through Leon High School. He described what was causing the problem upstream of Franklin Boulevard and the flooding in the parking lot as well as the different interim solutions that were explored. He stated that staff had investigated installing a box culvert at the south end of Franklin Boulevard near the park and up to just north of Park Avenue, and gunite the remaining portion of Franklin Boulevard up to East Tennessee. He further provided alternatives for moving the parking lots at Leon High School.

There was further discussion of the history of the property and the fact that Tallahassee had been experiencing a drought and was returning to normal amounts of rainfall. There was discussion of an early warning notification for students parking at Leon.

Commissioner Mustian stated that he was less inclined to do “throw away” improvements that would not alleviate the flooding problem at the high school; Mr. Davis’s idea of a tie in into the park was the better solution. He stated that a long term solution was most likely 10-years away but that he was concerned about students being hurt during a flood event. He stated that he felt that the City and the School Board needed to address the issue and then come to the County for assistance.

Commissioner Lightsey concurred with Commissioner Mustian; as did Commissioner Ziffer. Commissioner Lightsey felt that the Blueprint 2000 money needed to be used for long-term solutions that would stay in place.

Commissioner Rackleff stated that he was not inclined to spend money for parking when students have other means to get to school. He suggested angled parking on Tennessee St.

Mayor Marks asked if the sports fields flood. He suggested that the football field needed to be reconfigured to where the parking lot currently is.

Mr. Davis stated that the information that he had provided to the Board was very preliminary and that staff was meeting with a firm, which the School Board had hired, to address the problem.

Commissioner Akinyemi asked how many intersections would be taken care of with the \$1.7 million. Mr. Davis said only two would be improved. Commissioner Akinyemi stated that there needed to be an interim and a long term solution to the problem at the high school.

Commissioner Proctor stated that just placing orange cones at the entrance of the parking lot on rainy days would solve the problem the most cost effectively.

Commissioner Proctor also stated that he would like to nominate Ms. Althemese Barnes to serve as a consultant for the Smokey Hollow site in the Capital Cascade project. Mr. Davis stated that staff and CAC members had met with Ms. Barnes and were working on a Scope of Services for her services.

Commissioner Akinyemi asked if there was a map that shows the Riley House in relation to the park. Mr. Davis stated that there was not; however he pointed out, on the site plan, where the Lake Hall school house would be placed.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chairman Sauls adjourned the meeting at 4:35 pm.

**APPROVED:**

**ATTEST:**

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**Jane Sauls**  
**Chairman of Blueprint 2000 IA**

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**Shelonda Meeks**  
**Secretary to Blueprint 2000 IA**