

**TALLAHASSEE – LEON COUNTY
BLUEPRINT 2000 INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGENCY
Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2014
5:00 pm, City Commission Chambers**

MEMBERS PRESENT

<u>County</u>	<u>City</u>
Commissioner John Dailey	Commissioner Andrew Gillum
Commissioner Bryan Desloge	Commissioner Scott Maddox, Chair
Commissioner Nick Maddox	Mayor John Marks
Commissioner Bill Proctor	Commissioner Nancy Miller
Commissioner Mary Ann Lindley	Commissioner Gil Ziffer

CITY/COUNTY STAFF

Autumn Calder, Blueprint 2000	Gabriel Menendez, COT
Charles Hargraves, Blueprint 2000	Tony Park, Leon County
Wayne Tedder, PLACE	Harry Reed, CRTPA
Shelonda Meeks, Blueprint 2000	Ashley Edwards, Parks & Rec
Angela Ivy, Blueprint 2000	David Jackson, Leon County
Patrick Twyman, COT	McKenzie Horne, Leon County
Ivan Maldonado, COT	Regina Glee, Leon County
Allie Fleming, COT	Lonnie Ballard, COT
Gary Zirin, Leon County	Cassandra Jackson, COT

OTHERS PRESENT

Dave Snyder, Michael Baker, Jr.*	David Jones, BP2K CAC
Gary Phillips, Michael Baker, Jr.*	Larry Hendrix
Susan Emmanuel, QCA. Inc*	Fred Conrad
Maribel Nicholson- Choice, Greenberg Traurig*	Philip King
Linda Figg, Figg Engineering	Jim Stevenson, BP2K CAC
Dwight Dempsey, Figg Engineering	Cameron Snipes, Kimley Horn
Manuel Feliciano, Figg Engineering	

* Indicates Blueprint 2000 Consultant

Commissioner Scott Maddox called the meeting to order at 5:16 pm with a quorum.

I. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

Charles Hargraves stated that there were two agenda modifications. A new item, number M1 discussing the Centennial Field Commemoration Concept. As well as a revision to the operating budget. Wayne Tedder offered to make a presentation to the Board on Centennial Field or suggested that the item could be added to the consent agenda. With there being no objection from members, the item was added to consent by Commissioner Scott Maddox, Chair of the IA Board.

Commissioner Dailey stated that he also had an issue that he would like to bring before the IA that was based on conversation held earlier in the day at the CRTPA meeting. It would be discussed during the Capital Budget agenda item.

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

Terence Hinson was unable to make the meeting due to a family situation. No report was given.

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. CAC Meeting Minutes (May 29, 2014)

This item was presented as informational only.

2. Project Updates

This item was presented as informational only. A brief photo slide presentation was given to show progress of the active Blueprint projects. Charles Hargraves spoke briefly about each.

Commissioner Miller questioned when FAMU Way could be expected to connect to Lake Bradford Road. Mr. Hargraves stated that the extension of FAMU Way was a City Public Works project, not Blueprint. While the IA waited for Mr. Gabe Menendez to reach the podium, Commissioner Miller asked if it was a joint project to Lake Bradford Road. Mr. Hargraves confirmed that the joint project termini was at Gamble Street.

Regarding the connection of FAMU Way to Lake Bradford Road, Mr. Menendez stated that Public Works was working on the design of Phase 3. They anticipated letting it in 2017 with a schedule of approximately 12 to 18 months to complete.

Commissioner Proctor questioned if the MBE policy had been reviewed, in regards to "boots on the ground" workers. Also, if contractors were meeting the target goals. Wayne Tedder stated that there was no federal funding invested on that project, therefore the contractors were following Blueprint's MBE policy of 22% for construction. Mr. Proctor requested a compliance report on the subject. Mr. Tedder agreed to completing it.

IV. CONSENT ITEMS

3. IA Meeting Minutes (June 30, 2014)

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option 1: Approve minutes as provided.

Action by TCC and CAC: This item was not presented to the TCC or CAC.

Commissioner Ziffer moved approval of the consent agenda. Commissioner Desloge seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

4. Proposed 2015 IA, TCC, and CAC Meeting Schedules

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option 1: Approve the dates as presented.

Action by TCC and CAC: The CAC voted unanimously to approve the dates as presented. The item was not presented to the TCC.

Commissioner Ziffer moved approval of the consent agenda. Commissioner Desloge seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

5. Advance Fund FDOT and Accept Repayment for Bold Initiative Landscape in the Capital Circle Southeast Woodville Highway to Tram Road (E-2) Corridor

Commissioner Scott Maddox requested a synopsis of why it was good, for the benefit of the public. Charles Hargraves stated that Jeff Castor with FDOT, made a presentation to the IA in February 2014 on the FDOT's Bold Initiative Landscaping. The IA agreed with the direction of the Department allowing Blueprint to secure additional funding from FDOT to revise and replace landscaping and install irrigation through the segment.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option 1: Authorize Blueprint 2000 to advance fund FDOT for the implementation of the Bold Initiative in the Capital Circle Southeast Project from Woodville Highway to Tram Road (E-2) and accept the repayment of the advance funding in fiscal year 2017. The funding source is the E-2 project, and if additional dollars are needed, the source will be unallocated funds. In fiscal year 2017, the repayment from FDOT will be deposited into Blueprint 2000's unallocated funds.

Blueprint 2000 Project Definitions Report Consistency: Landscape design is not detailed to this level in the Blueprint 2000 Project Definitions Report project summaries. However, this request is consistent with the objectives of the adopted Multi Modal Design Guidelines for Blueprint 2000 projects and the Blueprint 2000 holistic philosophy as described in the 1999 Economic and Environmental Consensus Committee report.

Action by the CAC and TCC: The TCC concurred with the Blueprint recommendation, and the CAC voted unanimously to approve the Blueprint recommendation.

Commissioner Ziffer moved approval of the consent agenda. Commissioner Desloge seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

6. Approval to Extend General Engineering Consultant Contract

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option 1: Approve the extension of Michael Baker Jr.'s contract with Blueprint 2000 for an additional one year period.

Action by the TCC and CAC: The CAC voted unanimously to approve the one year extension of the GEC contract. The TCC did not review this item.

Commissioner Ziffer moved approval of the consent agenda. Commissioner Desloge seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

M1. Centennial Field Commemoration Concept

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option 1: Do not use the synthetic surface for an accessible and universal field in the Centennial Field Commemoration and allow staff to continue to work with stakeholders to make the Commemoration as accessible as practical.

Action by TCC and CAC: The CAC discussed the proposed universal and accessible field many times since September 2012 and took the following action:

1. August 29, 2013 CAC meeting: the CAC voted unanimously to bring all the interested Centennial Field parties (Fans of Centennial Field, David Jones, Blueprint staff, and Parks Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs) together to identify a mutually agreeable commemoration concept.
2. February 2, 2014 CAC meeting: the CAC voted unanimously to allocate \$75,000 and begin design plans for a Centennial Field memorial that includes an accessible and inclusive playground component.
3. May 29, 2014 CAC meeting: although there was no quorum, the CAC strongly urged the IA to move forward with the issue of Centennial Field.
4. August 28, 2014: the CAC voted unanimously for staff to create an agenda item regarding Centennial Field to be properly discussed by the IA in their September 15, 2014 meeting; furthermore, the design of the Centennial Field Commemoration needs to include safety improvements at South Monroe Street and Bloxham Street to keep children from running into the street to retrieve balls.

The TCC did not review this item.

Commissioner Ziffer moved approval of the consent agenda. Commissioner Desloge seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

V. PRESENTATIONS/ACTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

7. Citizen's Advisory Committee Appointments

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option 1: Approve the following nominations:

Representative from the disability community: JR Harding
Representative from the EECC, planner: Neil Fleckenstein
Representative from the EECC, EECC member: Henree Martin

Action by TCC and CAC: The CAC unanimously approved the three nominations. The TCC did not review this item.

Commissioner Miller moved option 1. Commission Proctor seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

8. Capital Cascades Connector Bridge

Charles Hargraves stated that per the agenda item, Blueprint requested revisions to the contract documents to allow for flexibility in choosing which amenities would be included without deviation from the original structural design. That was a result of the lowest bid coming in at approximately \$1.8M over budget.

Linda Figg, with Figg Engineering, began her presentation of the item and background to the IA; a copy of which is on file at Blueprint. Her presentation was interrupted for the public hearing on the budget.

VI. PUBLIC HEARING: 5:30 PM

Commissioner Scott Maddox opened the Public Hearing. He stated that he had two speaker cards, the first was David Jones, to speak on Centennial Field. Commissioner Maddox stated that the IA had already voted on the item, however, welcomed him to speak.

David Jones stated that the process around the Centennial Field project had been incredibly frustrating for him. He worked diligently for two and a half years to further the interests of people with disabilities and had hit road blocks. He tried working with staff and directors to move the issue forward that the CAC put forth. Opinions on the street were that the project had not received fair representation or discussion.

Mr. Jones stated that he had not had the opportunity to speak before the Board, with the exception of three minute blocks allowed for Citizens to Be Heard. It was clear to him that going through the IA was not working therefore, using a citizen's advocate and an individual email campaign, he would bring the supporters of the disabled community to the Commissioners to discuss inclusion, equal access and opportunity for all abilities. That's what Centennial Field was, not a project for people with disabilities. But a project for Tallahassee; for all residents and visitors to Cascades Park to see the history, the importance of active leisure on health, wellness, and wellbeing. More importantly, it was a message of inclusion; that every demographic was welcome in the Tallahassee community. Centennial Field was a small project with a small cost associated that would have made a big impact with all three messages.

Mr. Jones further stated that his time on the CAC was up and with it the restrictions on communication under Sunshine Laws. He felt strongly about the Centennial Field issue still and

would pursue it through other avenues in the community. However, a more critical issue that had come from his experience was the process of citizen input to be heard and acted upon by elected officials. He wanted to improve the process for other citizens to provide comments and feedback on proposals and projects as they were developed.

His personal experience with the Centennial Field issue had been met with delayed communication and efforts for meetings were cutoff or otherwise unsuccessful. He did not want to blast staff, he continued to be understanding that Blueprint management was working from full plates. He loved Tallahassee and wanted to make it better and inclusive of all people with all abilities.

Larry Hendrix expressed his general disappointment that Blueprint money was not being used to address existing problems in existing neighborhoods that need sidewalks, had dangerous ditches. He was shocked that the IA was spending \$5M on a pedestrian bridge over Monroe Street when there were children in the community dodging cars and mud puddles to get to school because there are no sidewalks and some without shoulders on the road. There were other issues with infrastructure throughout the community with over pavement, improper design of streets, broken pavement or potholes, and other dangerous situations. He felt that it was continuing to subsidize developers through the area.

V. PRESENTATIONS/ACTIONS/DISCUSSIONS - CONTINUED

8. Capital Cascades Connector Bridge – Continued

Commissioner Proctor encouraged staff to halt the project and seek the intermediate criteria for the design of the bridge to remove the “major structure” classification and allow for local contractors to bid on the project.

Commissioner Gillum thanked Ms. Figg for her outstanding global example of excellence in business out of Tallahassee. He was curious about her opinion on the reclassification or would it only delay what might be the inevitable. Linda Figg stated that Figg and Blueprint would be meeting with FDOT at the end of September to discuss the classification.

Commissioner Miller stated, to clarify her understanding, that with the proposed changes the six component alternatives could be bid by local contractors, even if the major structures classification held. Ms. Figg confirmed that they could.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option 1: Revise the design and base bid package to include only the multi-use trail, electric utility sub-station parking lot and pedestrian bridge with minimal landscape and hardscape amenities. The bid will include bid alternates for the removed amenities that may or may not be added to the contract based on IA direction and funding approval at the February 2015 meeting.

Blueprint 2000 Project Definitions Report Consistency: This request is consistent with the project summary for Map 3 Old St. Augustine Branch Redesign Segment 2 Apalachee Parkway to South Monroe and Segment 3 South Monroe to Gamble Street.

Action by the CAC and TCC: The TCC concurred with the Blueprint 2000 recommended action. The CAC was provided a presentation on the status of the project, but they were not presented with a voting option.

Commissioner Proctor moved option 1. Commission Lindley seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

9. Capital Circle Southwest Joint-Use Stormwater Facilities

Autumn Calder gave a brief overview of the item.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option 1: Allow Blueprint 2000 to execute joint partnership agreements with corridor stakeholders including but not limited to the United States Forest Service, the Florida Department of Transportation and the Tallahassee Regional Airport.

Blueprint 2000 Project Definitions Report Consistency: This request is consistent with Map 2B Floodplain Preservation and Capital Circle SW Realignment (Blountstown Highway to Springhill Road). Preventing stormwater impacts to the Cascades Chain of Lakes associated with widening the existing road is indicated as a high priority.

Action by the CAC and TCC: The TCC concurred with the Blueprint recommendation, and the CAC did not vote on this item, but there were no objections to the recommendation.

Commissioner Nick Maddox moved option 1. Commissioner Ziffer seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

10. Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2015 Blueprint Operating Budget & Resolution No. 2014-XX

Commissioner Scott Maddox noted that the budget included a 19% reduction in GEC staff. With an overall 7.6% decrease from the 2013 Operating Budget.

Commissioner Desloge stated that Blueprint was a quasi-independent agency with the City handling all of the back office tasks. He thought the City was doing a fine job and yet felt it important to ask that the process be evaluated for possible improvements. He suggested that should it be decided that changes should be made, Blueprint could bring items in house or the County could handle them. It was all tax payer money and felt should be with whomever could offer the best resources for the money spent.

Wayne Tedder stated that the agreement was made between the City and County at the beginning of Blueprint for whose role would be what regarding recordkeeping, accounting, etc. After the concerns were voiced for the costs listed in the operating budget, Mr. Tedder met with City budget offices and felt “very comfortable” that the value received was far greater than the cost.

Commissioner Desloge appreciated that and requested that moving forward there be an annual review of services to ensure that it was the best use of sales tax dollars. Commissioner Scott Maddox concurred and stated that that it was good policy.

Commissioner Proctor requested clarification on how the Operating Budget was \$30M yet the Capital Budget was only \$9.2M. In particular, he asked for clarification on the \$27.6M in transfers and loans. Mr. Tedder stated Blueprint annual received approximately \$30M in sales tax dollars that was distributed between both budgets. He noted that Attachment 3 of the Capital Budget was a summary of annual expenses. The transfers listed in the Operating Budget were for three different bonds that were a substantial amount of debt that Blueprint was paying off on projects that were accelerated.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option 1: Adopt the FY 2015 Blueprint Operating Budget as presented and approve the FY 2015 Operating Budget Resolution (Resolution No. 2014-XX).

Action by the TCC and CAC: Although no quorum was present during the May 29, 2014 CAC meeting, the public hearing on the operating budget was held, and there were no speakers. This item was not presented to the TCC.

Commissioner Desloge moved option 1. Mayor Marks seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

11. Adoption of Fiscal Year 2015-2019 Blueprint Capital Improvement Plan, Budget Resolution No. 2014-XX, and the 2015-2020 Net Sales Tax Allocation Plan

Commissioner Dailey stated that at the earlier CRTPA meeting the discussion was held on priorities, specifically sidewalks on Magnolia Drive. Both the City and County had identified as that being a top priority and had or were in the process of taking action to provide dedicated funding

The information was just received that the three TIGER grant applications were not funded; one being specifically for sidewalks on Magnolia Drive. Part of that application process was to set aside matching funds to the projects. He stated that part of the \$7.1M in the Landbank line item in Blueprint’s Capital Budget was part of the matching money. Had the TIGER grants been successful, a portion of those funds would have been used toward sidewalks. Since the City and County named sidewalks as a top tier project, that funding was available through Blueprint’s Landbank, **Commissioner Dailey moved that staff prepare an agenda item for the IA, allowing Blueprint, the City and County to identify a revenue source that would have been used**

toward sidewalks anyway and move the project to completion. Commissioner Nick Maddox seconded the motion.

Wayne Tedder stated that the major intent of the Landbank was to advance fund right of way purchases on roadway projects that became available through willing sellers. It had also been used for sensitive land purchase and maybe stormwater projects as well. In the past three years, Blueprint had not used funding from the Landbank.

Mr. Tedder stated the Landbank was identified as a matching funding source for the Magnolia corridor along with the Market District sense of place. It was to be 40% of the grants. In particular, for the Magnolia sidewalk project, the match would have been approximately \$6M to \$7M. He further stated that there were balances available in other projects that were not moving forward. If there was direction to find funding sources, Blueprint would need to know what both the City and County were providing, have an estimated cost of the project, and determine the delta between that.

Commissioner Miller stated that there were two TIGER grants, one on the Magnolia corridor and the other on Timberlane School Road ponds. She requested that it be included as well. She stated that the roadway was a shared responsibility with sensitive lands to be protected.

Commissioner Dailey stated that he would prefer to see efforts concentrated on Magnolia Drive because of the fact that revenues had been dedicated for the PD&E. Furthermore, it was a proposed sales tax extension project and there could be future funding sources for it. It could be re-evaluated at a future meeting. However, it was a unique opportunity: there was a plan in place, sidewalks were identified as a priority, if was in alignment with efforts by CRTPA, there was the potential to bring in state funding, and could be a knocked out quickly with a tremendous benefit to the community.

Commissioner Gillum suggested that both items be returned in rank order, with Magnolia Drive as the priority.

It passed unanimously.

Commissioner Miller requested an update on the Market Square District and if funds were available she would like improvement made to the ponds at Timberlane School Road. Commissioner Desloge reminded the IA that the extension of the sales tax would have an overlay of that whole area. That would only be a few years in the future. Commissioner Miller stated that she was focused on that particular project and would like to see progress.

Commissioner Miller moved for Blueprint to bring an agenda item with possible funding in the Market Square District area; ranging from the ponds per the previous TIGER grant application. Commissioner Desloge seconded the motion. As further direction to staff, Commissioner Scott Maddox stated that it was the clear will of the IA that Magnolia Drive, from Lafayette Street to South Monroe, sidewalks have first priority between the two. There being no objections to the clarification, **the motion passed unanimously.**

Commissioner Proctor stated that per earlier discussion on repayment of debt services, he was curious if there would be enough money in the out years to complete the projects on the original tax. It did not appear to him that projected revenues would fund outstanding debt or projects. If projections were overspent, would revenue from the sales tax extension be encumbered to payback debts of the original tax projects? He wanted to be clear which tax paid for which set of projects.

Wayne Tedder stated that he felt “pretty good” that the remaining projects of the current tax and current project list would be funded with the exception of the construction of Capital Circle Southwest (W1). That was the only Tier 1 project that would be unfunded from the original sales tax.

Commissioner Proctor asked again if the sales tax extension, if passed in November 2014, would be allowed to be used to fund projects on the original sales tax project list. Maribel Nicholson-Choice stated that the decision would be the will of the IA. It was within their authority to have those discussions and prioritize that funding. Mr. Tedder stated that an interlocal agreement was in effect regarding the sales tax extension. He advised that their respective attorneys address that particular question because the agreement identified the projects that would be construction with the future sales tax, if approved.

Mr. Tedder reiterated that he was “very, very comfortable” with the projected revenues to complete all Tier 1 projects from the current list by 2019 with the exception of Capital Circle Southwest (W1).

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option 1: Adopt the FY 2015-FY 2019 Blueprint Capital Improvement Plan, appropriate FY 2015 of the Capital Improvement Plan, and adopt the Budget Resolution (Attachment 1).

Action by TCC and CAC: Although no quorum was present during the May 29, 2014 CAC meeting, the public hearing on the budget was held, and there were no speakers. This item was not presented to the TCC.

Commissioner Gillum moved option 1. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

VI. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were no additional speakers present.

VII. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Commissioner Gillum questioned how soon after the vote in November, assuming the sales tax extension passed, would Blueprint be able to begin bonding the money. He requested that the timing of and options around public/private partnerships that be an update at a future meeting. There were no objections from the Board on this suggestion.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Maddox adjourned the meeting at 6:24 pm.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Scott Maddox
Chair of Blueprint 2000 IA

Shelonda Meeks
Secretary to Blueprint 2000 IA