



MEETING MINUTES

Date: June 15, 2006 - 9:00 AM
Re: SR 40 PD&E Study
Steering Committee Meeting No. 1

Attendees: See sign-in sheet

Bill Walsh, the FDOT Project Manager, began the meeting with some welcoming and introductory statements.

Next, Alex Hull, the consultant Project Manager, started introductions of the group and gave a brief introduction of the project. After the introductions, the meeting ran in an open comment format, where members were encouraged to dialogue and comment freely throughout the presentation. Below is a summary of the presentation and comments made throughout the meeting:

Alex gave an overview of the role of the Steering Committee and Executive Group as well as discussed the Task Force and PD&E decisions. He then gave an overview of the MOU:

- Alex handed out draft copies of MOU and encouraged comments;
- The MOU establishes a Steering Committee and Executive Group;
- It was stated that if other agencies would like to be signatures to the MOU, then please let FDOT know;
- The MOU discusses dispute resolution;
- The Executive Group oversees the steering committee and the Steering Committee provides direction to the project team.

The Steering Committee meeting schedule was discussed. The Committee will meet every two months and meeting notices will be sent out to the Committee Members.

Rick Lint gave an explanation of the project authority hierarchy:

- Decision makers are in the Executive Group
- Steering Committee promotes decisions at the lowest level and communication between all levels of organizations
- Issues are brought through in steps so that backing up does not need to occur

Dennis Hardin asked how the PAG fits in to the process?

Rick Lint mentioned that the PAG is a way to disseminate information to and from a wide range of stakeholders including agencies, NGOs, private citizens and general public. Alex Hull also explained that the PAG will be used as a sounding board for general input. It is a way to get more input at a broader perspective. Prior to Public Meetings we will pull them together and we will also continue to meet individually with stakeholders.

The names of the different groups/committees were discussed for clarity. These are the Project Advisory Committee (PAG), the Steering Committee and Executive Group.

Bill Walsh encouraged participation by the attendees in the PAG.

Bill Walsh indicated that project information, including meeting dates, is available on the web page: www.sr40pde.com. The information is also available on FDOT's website public involvement page.

Rick Lint explained that he anticipated facilitated working group meetings with more of a "war room", production vs. presentation, type of approach. He envisions facilitated work meetings in order to get things done.

Alex mentioned that Inwood has begun to develop alternatives and will bring work product to discuss.

Alex then went through a power point presentation which talked about the approach for the SR 40 PD&E Study. The PowerPoint presentation is provided on the web page.

The following are points of discussion that came up during the presentation:

- The purpose and need for the project was discussed. The traffic report is not available at this time but the indications are that capacity improvements related to maintaining an acceptable level of service (LOS) would be needed from the beginning of the project to 189th Street.
- Crashes are being evaluated and a high incidence of crashes occurs at the major intersections.
- Hurricane evacuation should be considered but may not warrant the need to widen past 189th Street.
- Emergency response time may be a cause of deaths and a solution may be to provide additional response facilities.
- Traffic calming as a possible solution.
- FDOT is currently doing a study to determine the appropriateness of the SIS designation for SR 40. Howard Newman gave an overview of the SIS reevaluation for SR 40. The study will be completed in six months. FDOT will review and approve the decision with input from FHWA.
- The feasibility of other corridors was discussed.
- Rick began discussion of safety, capacity and environment interrelationships and offered the idea that it is necessary to back up far enough to see all of the pieces to the pie. It is a complex project and will take time and work to figure it out.
- Alex discussed the implications of the no-build alternative. Fragmentation of habitat has already occurred in the Lynn area due to traffic volumes. Mitigation and wildlife structures are included in roadway widening alternatives.
- Cathy Lowenstein discussed the designation of SR 40 as a State and Federal Scenic Highway.

Break

The following points of discussion occurred after the break:

- The group discussed the potential roadway improvement alternatives: No-build, TSM, Build, and Alternative Corridors.
- The probability of developing an implementation schedule where mitigation is tied to roadway improvements was discussed. Consideration for amenities and aesthetics was discussed.
- Carl mentioned that reference should be made to the environmental document rather than environmental assessment.

- Cathy discussed the segmented analysis and results of the Task Force.
- Carl mentioned that a contra-flow for hurricane evacuation should be under consideration.
- Example typical sections were presented: Rural, Suburban, and Urban.
- Group discussed anticipated segments that would use different typical sections. Discussed relationship between the typical sections and wildlife crossings.
- Dennis Hardin expressed importance of minimizing the roadway footprint and utilizing a raised footprint with walls. Consideration should be given to the stormwater management system early in the process.
- Carl requested the original scoping document which identifies 64 issues be included in the current scoping process.
- Carl asked if a discussion of the environmental significance of the Ocala National Forest could be included in the Public Kickoff/Scoping Meeting. He agreed to provide information to be included in the presentation.
- The final Step is environmental documentation. If the decision is made to elevate to an EIS the schedule might change.
- The project schedule was discussed. Programmed funding consists of Design for western end of the project west of CR 314. No other funding has been programmed for the project at this time.
- The schedule for upcoming meetings outlined. Invitations to the meetings will be sent out.
- Rick Lint discussed the proposed MOU with the USFS, FHWA and FDOT. He would like to see the dates for reviews outlined in the 1998 FHWA/USFS MOU included in the schedule. Alex said he will go back and incorporate the MOU key time frames into the schedule.
- Group discussed mitigation implementation. Rick also asked about a Mitigated EA/FONSI. David Graeber explained that the implementation phasing schedule for roadway improvements would have associated mitigation features.
- Cathy suggested that involving the Water Management District would be good because later in the project they will become instrumental.
- Dennis pointed out that the correct name is Division of Forestry not Department of Forestry.

Alex Hull closed the meeting by thanking everyone for attending.

The meeting ended at 12:00 noon.

*Note: The above reflects the writer understands of the contents of the meeting. If any misinterpretations or inaccuracies are included, please contact **David Graeber (407) 971-8850** as soon as possible for resolution and revisions if necessary.*

SR 40 PD&E Study
Steering Committee Meeting No. 1
June 15, 2006
Agenda
Appleton Museum of Art
4333 NE Silver Springs Boulevard
Ocala, Florida

US 40 PD&E Study
From west of SR 326 to SR 15 (US 17)

1. Welcome and Introduction of Steering Committee Participants – Bill Walsh
2. Steering Committee Overview
 - a. Memorandum of Understanding – USFS/FHWA/FDOT
 - b. Purpose of Steering Committee
 - c. Meeting Schedule and Locations
3. Overview of SR 40 PD&E Study
 - a. Project Limits
 - b. Project Approach
 - i. Scoping Process
 - ii. Alternatives Evaluation
 - iii. Environmental Documentation
 - iv. Data Collection
 - v. Traffic Report
 - vi. Safety Analysis
 - vii. Purpose and Need
 - viii. Engineering Analysis
 - ix. Environmental Analysis
 - x. Documentation
 - xi. Public Involvement
4. Project Schedule
5. Open Discussion of Agency Perspectives/Concerns
6. Closing Comments/Questions
7. Next Steering Committee Meeting



**State Road 40
Project Development & Environment Study**
From Silver Springs to US 17
Financial Project ID: 410674-1-22-01, 410675-1-22-01, 410676-1-22-01

**Steering Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 15, 2006**

Sign-In Sheet

Initial	Name	Business or Group	Mailing Address	E-Mail Address
	Dennis David	FFWCC	1239 SW 10th Street Ocala, FL 34474-2797	dennis.david@fwc.state.fl.us
	Terry Gilbert	URS Corp	1625 Summit Lake Drive Tallahassee, FL 32317	terry_gilbert@urscorp.com
	Derek Fusco	FHWA	545 John Knox Road Suite 200 Tallahassee, FL 32303	derek.a.fusco@fhwa.dot.gov
VG	Vivian Garfein	FDEP Regulatory District	3319 Maguire Boulevard Suite 232 Orlando, FL 32803-3767	vivian.garfein@dep.state.fl.us
	Dave Hankla	USFWS	6620 Southpoint Drive South Suite 310 Jacksonville, FL 32216	dave_hankla@fws.gov
✓	Dennis Hardin	FDOF	3125 Conner Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-1650	HARDIND@DOACS.STATE.FL.US
Govt Network For	Marsha Kearney	USFS	545 John Knox Road Suite F-100 Tallahassee, FL 32303	mkearney@fs.fed.us
(RDP)	Robert Lamont	FDEP/Silver River St Pk	1425 NE 58th Ave. Ocala, FL 34470	robert.lamont@dep.state.fl.us
JK	Rick Lint	USFS	40929 State Road 19 Umatilla, FL 32784	rlint@fs.fed.us
CL	Cathy Lowenstein	FDOF	5458 North Highway 17 Deleon Springs, FL 32130	lowensc@doacs.state.fl.us

Meeting Location: Appleton Museum of Art, 4333 NE Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, Florida 34470-5000



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Thursday, June 15, 2006

Sign-In Sheet

Initial	Name	Business or Group	Mailing Address	E-Mail Address
	Andrew Phillips	USACE	400 High Point Drive Cocoa, FL 32926	andrew.w.phillips@saj02.usace.army.mil
	Mickey Thomason	FDEP-DSL-OGT	8282 Southeast Hwy 314 Ocala, FL 34470	mickey.thomason@dep.state.fl.us
✓	Dave Bowman	FDEP-DSL-OGT	8282 Southeast Hwy 314 Ocala, FL 34470	
BS	Brian Stanger	FDOT	719 South Woodland Boulevard MS-503 Deland, FL 32720	brian.stanger@dot.state.fl.us
✓	Bill Walsh	FDOT	719 South Woodland Boulevard MS - 4 Deland, FL 32720	william.walsh@dot.state.fl.us
✓	Steve Tonjes	FDOT	719 South Woodland Boulevard MS - 501 Deland, FL 32720	stephen.tonjes@dot.state.fl.us
	Rusty Ennemoser	FDOT	605 Suwannee Street MS - 37 Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450	rusty.ennemoser@dot.state.fl.us
✓	Alex Hull	Inwod Consulting Engineers	870 Clark Street Oviedo, FL 32765	ahull@inwoodinc.com
✓	David Graeber	Inwod Consulting Engineers	870 Clark Street Oviedo, FL 32765	dgraeber@inwoodinc.com
MR	Mandy Rankin	Inwod Consulting Engineers	870 Clark Street Oviedo, FL 32765	mrarkin@inwoodinc.com

Meeting Location: Appleton Museum of Art, 4333 NE Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, Florida 34470-5000



Sign-In Sheet

Name <small>(Please Print)</small>	Business or Group <small>(Please Print)</small>	Mailing Address <small>(Please Print)</small>	E-Mail Address <small>(Please Print)</small>
Jeremy Dilmore	FDOT	719 S Woodland Blvd Deland, FL 32720	Jeremy.Dilmore@dot.state.fl.us
James Blackford	FDOT	719 S Woodland Blvd Deland, FL 32720	James.Blackford@dot.state.fl.us
Howard Newman	NSA	3141 McGuire Blvd. Site 20 O-1, FL 32803	hnewman@nsa.gov
Bill Walski	FDOT	719 So. Woodland Deland, FL	bill.walski@dot.state.fl.us
Dennis Hardin	FL Division of Forestry	3125 Corner Blvd Tallah., FL 32399-1650	hardind@doacs.state.fl.us
Carl Petrick	US Forest Service	335 John Knox Rd Suite 110 Tallahassee FL 32303	cpetrick@fs.fed.us
Andrea Boliek	FLUC	575 Cavarella Farms Rd Palatka, FL 32177	Andrea.Boliek@myfluc.com
Dane Bourne	FDEP	8289 SE Hwy 31A Ocala 34470	

