



**Truck Route Plan Technical Committee - Meeting #7
July 9, 2004**

Meeting Minutes

I. Introductions

Members in attendance:

Voting Members

John Marsicano, Captain, HCSO, D-3
Bill McCall, PGM
Scott Cottrell, PW
Bruce Register, Economic Development
Rick Cvarak, Real Estate
Reggie Sanford, EPC

Advisory Members

Stacy Williams, Communications
Ned Baier, PGM

II. Minutes of the Last Meeting

Minutes were approved.

III. “Goods Movement Study”

Frank Kalpakis and Sam O’Connell, URS Corporation, gave a presentation on the regional “Goods Movement Study” URS has conducted for FDOT. Mr. Kalpakis stated the Study is a multi-modal study and was conducted throughout District 7.

Mr. Kalpakis stated the purpose of the Study is to examine the current issues related to freight mobility and identify a vision for how to accommodate mobility in the future. The Study is in response to the Federal Transportation Act (TEA-21) that calls for consideration of freight mobility needs in the Tampa Bay region. The Study will help to develop a framework for integrating goods movement considerations into the Long Range Planning process.

The educational component of the Study is to inform decision makers about the importance of freight mobility. The study includes trucks, rail, air and ship movements and is one component of a much larger economic development plan because goods movement and industry are such a critical component to the economy.

Mr. Kalpakis stated the Study is complete, but the report is in the “draft stage.” He will forward the final report as soon as it is complete. The Study’s final report and maps will be placed on the *Truck Route Plan Update* website as soon as it is complete.

Bill McCall, PGM, asked Mr. Kalpakis to discuss the current relocation of SR 39 in Plant City. Mr. Kalpakis explained the transfer of maintenance and ownership rights of SR 39 and Alexander Street. FDOT is considering whether Alexander Street would become a state road which means it will also become a truck route. He further explained that in URS’ opinion, Alexander east of SR 39 would be a better truck route than Park Road and truckers prefer it.

Mr. McCall asked Mr. Kalpakis to return at the completion of the Study and give an update on the results.

IV. Route Rating Process – Bike Lane and Sidewalk Rating Factors

Mr. McCall presented issues he has discovered as he performs the *Route Rating Process* as approved by the Committee. Of these are bike lanes and pedestrian walkways. Rather rate on whether or not they exist, rate on whether they are attached or detached, and whether or not the bikeways are immediately adjacent to a travel lane or if they are separated. He stated a detached sidewalk is a more favorable condition.

Bruce Register, Economic Development, asked if any data was available regarding pedestrian or bike deaths due to a roadway designated as a truck route. Mr. McCall stated the percentage of trucks vs. the percentage of cars is being taken into consideration.

Scott Cottrell, Public Works, suggested getting input from the MPOs Bike Pedestrian Advisory Council (BPAC) on how they would weight bike lanes. Rick Cvarak, Real Estate, if a road is designated as bike routes, but there are no lanes that are designated as bike routes so the road is not necessarily designed for bikes by striping and paving. Bill McCall stated he is only looking at actual marked, striped bike lanes. Ned Baier suggested contacting the BPAC and having the issue placed on their agenda for their next meeting to propose a policy regarding bike lanes. Mr. McCall will contact Gina Torres, the MPO liaison, to request she appear at the next meeting and address on this issue. The issue will be placed on the agenda for the next Committee meeting.

V. Language Changes to Resolution R01-266:

- *From origin to closest route*
- *Exit route at closest exit point to destination*

Bill McCall presented his proposed language changes to Resolution R01-266 as outlined above. Stacy Williams, Communications, questioned whether or not a condition could be made that trucks must exit on a particular type of road such as prohibit exiting on a

undefined, two-lane road. Mr. McCall explained that the only definition of a “residential area” in the Land Development Code references “residential lots smaller than 1 acre in size”. John Marsicano, Chairman, expressed concerns of the price of the deliveries due to the truckers’ economic impacts for staying on the truck routes. Bruce Register, Economic Development, confirmed that the purpose of this recommendation would be to revise the Resolution to limit the travel of trucks on non-truck route roads. Mr. McCall stated it is an attempt to keep the trucks on truck routes for longer periods of time and less travel on restricted roads.

A motion was made to approve staff’s recommendations. The motion was seconded and the recommendation was approved by the Committee.

VI. Public Input

Greg Sorensen, Plant City, expressed concerns over the closest truck route issue and is concerned about the economic impacts. He stated in Plant City the road of choice for trucks in that area has become the Park Road extension since Alexander Street has been extended to Jim Johnson has been improved to Park Road. That road is almost exclusively industrial in nature the way it was constructed.

Jace Iversen expressed her concerns about an east-west truck route and corridor because there is so much development in the north of Tampa that an east-west route is of great need. She stated the area needs an east-west corridor for residents and trucks.

Gene Barron expressed his concerns about the routes trucks have to take due to the truck route restrictions. He states there should be some kind of variance for trucks due to construction deliveries. Truckers need consideration.

Kimball Wetherington, utility contractor from Plant City, wanted to reaffirm truckers try to adhere to rules and regulations for the Truck Route Plan. He also stated there are very few truck routes east of I-75 and explained the economic impact for truckers due to lack of truck routes in that area.

Anthony Moore, Plant City, explained his son received a ticket for making a local delivery off Forbes Road in Plant City. He explained he does not want special treatment, but would like the Committee to look at the economic needs of the trucking industry when designating the truck routes.

In response to Mr. Moore’s comments, Ned Baier questioned if Forbes Road and Parsons are one of the 66 roads that are under evaluation for suitability for trucks. Mr. McCall replied Forbes Road is, but Parsons is not. Stacy Williams asked if Alexander Street is under evaluation. Mr. McCall replied it may become a state road. The Chairman asked if Jim Johnson Road was included. Mr. McCall stated he would add Forbes, Parsons and Jim Johnson to his list for consideration.

Deputy Ken Mullen, District 3, stated citizens complain about truck sizes, speeding, and noise. Upon investigation, most truckers adhere to the regulations for the trucks, but there are a few trucks that do not. If trucks show proof of their deliveries such as a bill of lading, a citation is not given.

Lynne Crezee, Lutz Lake Fern, stated with the amount of development occurring just over the county line in Pasco County, is there coordination between Pasco and Hillsborough counties in the evaluation process. She said Trucks are increasing on Sunlake and the Geraci development with 36,000 trips a day is going to add additional traffic on Sunlake which is through the middle of a residential development. She asked if a state road could be built as a parkway to go east/west and handle projected traffic from Pasco. In response, Ned Baier stated FDOT would have jurisdiction over the interstate and state road connections. He also stated the county roads in that area are truck routes.

VII. Members Matters of Interest

Stacy Williams, Communications, gave an update on the status of the *Truck Route Plan Update* website. She stated the website should be operational by next Tuesday, July 13. Bill McCall, PGM, requested Betsy Howard, PGM, give a presentation at the next meeting on the *Truck Route Plan Update* website focusing on its maneuverability. The website would also allow citizens to provide comments/suggestions.

Ms. Williams also stated that an announcement through the trucking associations should be sent when publishing the Public Meetings. She also wanted to confirm when the public meetings should begin. Mr. Baier stated the public meetings should start no later than September 1st to meet the November deadline for a presentation to the BOCC. Ms. Williams stated the Public meetings will be held in seven areas: Keystone/ Lutz/Carrollwood, Plant City, Town 'N Country/Westchase, South Brandon to include Lithia Pinecrest area, Progress Village/Causeway/Falkenburg, Wimauma/Ruskin/Apollo Beach, Sun City Center. Sun City Center must be held during the day so the meeting in Wimauma/Ruskin will be held at night to give citizens the opportunity to comment at a convenient time/place.

VIII. Old Business

None.

IX. New Business

Bruce Register, Economic Development, made a motion to request staff bring some language which would allow them to provide the input that we are seeking to be manageable so that staff will not be overwhelmed in considering adding new roads mentioned during Public Input and Public Meetings be added to our list for consideration and evaluation. Motion seconded and approved.

X. Adjournment