

Approval of Minutes of the MPOBAC Meeting of July 7, 2004

Chairman Harrow asked if there were any additions or corrections to the MPOBAC minutes of July 7, 2004. There were none.

ON MOTION by Lt. Melanson, SECONDED by Ms. Tilney, the members voted unanimously (6-0) to approve the minutes of the MPOBAC of July 7, 2004 as presented.

Review of Scope of Services for Central Indian River County/Vero Beach Greenways Plan

Mr. Matson came forward with a PowerPoint presentation on the MPO's Central County Greenways Plan (Plan), a copy of which is on file in the County Commission Office. He explained greenways consisted of a corridor of linear open space protected and regulated for public interest, and the Scope of Services (Scope) concentrated on the Central Indian River County/Vero Beach area.

Mr. Matson indicated the MPO had received a \$2,000,000 grant from FDOT to widen Aviation Boulevard, with the caveat that it needed to be widened as an intermodal project; therefore attention needed to be given to the non-motorized travel in that corridor.

Chairman Young asked about the timeline for the project. Mr. Matson informed her the Aviation Boulevard design would be going to the City of Vero Beach and the Board of County Commissioners within the next month for approval.

Ms. Tilney inquired if Aviation Boulevard would be a part of the Plan. Mr. Matson responded Aviation Boulevard was probably one of the best roadway opportunities for mingling with some of the other uses because it was near the airport, and there were bus routes in the area. He emphasized Aviation Boulevard could very well be the backbone of the Central Indian River County bicycle network.

Mr. Korke mentioned Sebastian had a greenway-type sidewalk on County Road (C.R.) 512 which could connect up to the old Fellsmere Railroad bed which ran along the north side of C.R. 512 and then tie in with the Sebastian River Middle School, the North County Pool and the recreation area. Mr. Keating explained the County had recently purchased the Ansin property and a piece of it would be used as a right-of-way for C.R. 512, part would be for conservation, and the old railroad right-of-way would be retained for greenways. He stated the overall Greenways

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Plan for North County would probably be the next phase.

Chairman Young believed there should be two studies, and would like to see the bigger picture addressed so that it included the likely areas where the greenways could go. She commented at some point in time, it would be necessary to see how it would tie together to avoid ending up with one mile strips throughout Indian River County, which would not achieve what had been intended. Mr. Goff agreed, and added it needed to be started expeditiously and suggested funds should be provided in the next budget year to complete the project.

ON MOTION by Mr. Goff, SECONDED by Mr. Woodard to recommend the MPO approve the Scope of Services for Central Indian River County/Vero Beach Greenways Plan and authorize staff to initiate the consultant selection process for the project.

UNDER DISCUSSION, Ms. Tilney wondered about the possibility of staff handling the task. Mr. Matson indicated it was cheaper to let the designs out with a special consultant, who had a track record of success with other greenways and a local knowledge base.

THE CHAIRMAN CALLED FOR THE QUESTION and the motion passed 16-0.

Chairman Young asked if there would be another motion as to whether to consider a broader Scope as part of a larger plan. There was no response.

Status Report of Other MPO Advisory Committees

Included in the backup, a copy of which is on file in the County Commission Office. He added the BAC would probably be meeting monthly throughout the duration of this Plan and once there was a consultant on board, there would be reports on a regular basis.

Mr. Johnson asked when was the MPO scheduled to meet in March. Mr. Matson informed him they were scheduled to meet on March 8th.

A discussion ensued and it was determined the next MPOCAC meeting will be held on February 28th instead of March 7th so that it would take place one week prior to the MPO meeting.

Other Business

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None

Comments from the Public

None

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.