TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD

TDLCB MINUTES
Thursday, May 28, 2009
Building B, conference Room B1-501
1800 27th Street
Vero Beach, FL 32960-3365

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Joel Herman                  Veteran’s Service Office
William Lundy Parden        Rep. for the Handicapped, Vice Chair
Cindy Barnes                FL Agency for Health Care Administration
Ellen Higinbotham           Department of Children and Families
Toni Purvis Teresi          Representative for Seniors
George Millar               Public Education Representative
Tracy Dean                  FL Dept. of Transportation
Jephete Lindor              Early Childhood Services
Bob Solari                  IRC Commissioner District 5
Ann Viens                   FL Dept. of elder Affairs

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:
Barbara Patten              FL Association of Community Action
Dr. Harry Hurst             Citizen Advocate Representative

OTHERS PRESENT:
Phil Matson                 IRC Metropolitan Planning Organization
Brian Freeman               Senior Planner
Karen Deigl                 Senior Resource Association
Karen Wood                  Senior Resource Association
Beth Casano                 Recording Secretary

(NOTE: The following is a summary with emphasis on motions and decisions requiring action. An audio recording of the meeting can be heard at www.irc.gov/Boards/TDLCB/2009.htm.)
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING

1. Call to Order
   Chairman Solari called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

   ON MOTION BY Ms. Barnes and SECONDED BY Mr. Millar the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of February 26, 2009.

3. Unfinished Business
   None

4. TDLCB Chairman’s Report

   Chairman Solari reported that the Florida Tax Watch organization recognized the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged with the “State Agency of the Year” Award. According to the Press Release, this award recognizes state agencies whose work significantly and measurably increased productivity, promoted innovation to improve the delivery of state services, and saved money for Florida taxpayers and businesses.

5. Planning Status Report

   Legislative update given by Mr. Matson reported a conforming bill had been filed that provides for an annual transfer of 5 million to the TD trust fund beginning July 1, 2011 with the bottom line being that for the moment, on the public transportation side of things, they were doing okay and not all agencies could say that.

6. CTC Status Report

   In comparing this quarter with the same reporting quarter as last year, Ms. Wood, provided the following information: Community Coach down 13% in one way trips; GoLine up 62% in one way trips; GoLine Route #10 (Fellsmere to Sebastian) has increased ridership by 363%; GoLine Route #11 (Barefoot Bay to Pocahontas) has increased ridership by 142%; GoLine Routes #12 (North County hub) and #13 (I.R. Mall, Outlet Mall and I.R. State College Main Campus in Ft. Pierce) will begin operation sometime this summer.
Ms. Teresi asked if SRA had the demographics of particular routes and if GoLine was target marketing toward specific demographics. Ms. Deigl replied that they hadn’t carried out documented demographic surveys of the specific route riders although they were aware that Route 10 definitely carried more women and children than the others. Ms. Deigl also noted that GoLine is designed to be made available to the general public as a whole and thus they did not do target marketing.

Mr. Herman asked if Ms. Deigl believed ridership would continue to increase and she replied that if routes weren’t being added it would level off and that restructuring is what tends to make the numbers jump.

7. Review of Progress Report and Reimbursement Invoice #3 for 2008/09 Planning Grant

ON MOTION BY Ms. Teresi and SECONDED by Ms. Barnes the Board voted unanimously to approve the Reimbursement Invoice #3 for the 2008/09 Planning Grant.

8. Consideration of Indian River County’s Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP) for FY 2009/10

Mr. Freeman gave a PowerPoint presentation (on file/BCC Office Sharedrive) that offered the Board a comprehensive overview of the Plan’s 4 major parts: development, service, quality assurance and the financial element. Ms. Wood gave additional detail about the quality assurance aspect of the report with specifics on driver background checks, driving/ability testing, and training that includes: defensive driving, sensitivity, CPR, blood pathogen, drug/alcohol, and “homeland” type security.

Ms. Teresi asked what their turnover rate is for drivers and Ms. Wood said that it was very low noting that they presently have over 200 applications on file for driver positions.

ON MOTION BY Ms. Barnes and SECONDED by Ms. Higinbotham the Board voted unanimously to approve Indian River County’ TDSP for Fiscal Year 2009/10.

9. Consideration of the Indian River County Metropolitan Planning Organization’s Draft Fiscal Year 2009/10-2013/14 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)

Mr. Matson reviewed the plan noting that it is a 5 year program of which the lions share for TD funding comes from the Department of Transportation.

Chairman Solari asked for clarification concerning the funding source for the Florida Turnpike and Mr. Matson explained that DOT is made up of 7 districts in the State plus the Turnpike Enterprise which is self funding and that includes the “guardrail funding” for Indian River County which has a very short stretch of turnpike that enters and exits the County twice. Mr. Matson also noted that approx. 10 years ago it was decided that 90% of the Turnpike Enterprise funds be spent where they are raised.

APPROVED
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ON MOTION BY Ms. Viggiano and SECONDED BY Mr. Millar the Board unanimously voted to recommend that the Metropolitan Planning Organization approve the Transportation Improvement Program.

10. Other New Business – Bus Stop Shelters

Ms. Deigl presented the new shelter program that the Senior Resource Association (SRA) is working on. She stated that during last year’s review of the Transit Development Plan, one observation was the nonexistence of bus stop shelters. Two volunteers, Judy Orcutt and Amy Thoma have been assisting the SRA in looking at shelter options, system logos and surrounding architecture in the County and municipalities in order to determine viability. Based on their combined research, Ms. Deigl presented the board with the following three options:

Option 1: Perforated aluminum structure; powder coated in a versatile green; backless bench with center rail in seat to deter horizontal resting; waste disposal containers; optional bike rack and solar powered lighting on a roof. Ms. Deigl stated that, she felt this type shelter would give the protection, safety and comfort necessary for the county residents while being able to blend well with surrounding environments.

Option 2: A single bench with no back to avoid damage from skateboarders.

Option 3: A solar lighted sign that indicates the bus stop area.

Discussion ensued resulting in the following information: SRA has touched base with all municipality planning departments and are committed to bus stop meeting all compliance rules; cost per each stop (per option 1) is estimated at about 10 thousand dollars; agreement by all that the color and architectural elements( of option 1) have a low profile that would work well for IRC; agreement by all that structure should not have any commercial advertising; determination that locations would have to be prioritized by highest usage along with the space to accommodate handicapped riders; clean by municipalities with SRA maintaining structure which shouldn’t be too much of a burden.

Ms. Deigl than discussed with board members the various methods they were researching for funding such as: private sponsorships w/plaques, match dollars and grant opportunities.

11. The meeting was adjourned at 10:51 a.m