



Minutes were approved on 5-11-05

**University of Florida Transportation Study Committee
April 25, 2005 @ 1:00 PM
Facilities Planning & Construction Conference Room
226 Stadium
MINUTES**

Members Present:

Ms. Linda Dixon, Manager, Planning Office, Facilities Planning & Construction
Harold Barrand, Physical Plant Division
Sheri Bryan, IFAS, Facilities Planning & Operations
Linda Crider, Urban & Regional Planning
Lily Elefteriadou, Civil & Coastal Engineering
Scott Fox, Transportation and Parking Services
Justin Kristan, Student
Renee Musson, O'Connell Center
Don Powell, University Police Department
Julia Reiskind, Botany
Ata Sarajedini, Astronomy
Gail Sasnett-Stauffer, Student Affairs Office, College of Law
Ruth Steiner, Urban & Regional Planning

Members Absent:

Diego Arguea, Student
Clinton Collins, Bureau of Economic & Business Research
Arlene Ellis, Physical Plant
Robert Hockman, Veterinary Medicine
Bob Miller, Finance and Administration
Willine Momprevil, Student
Rose Nealis, College of Nursing
Scott Nygren, English
Alan Rukin, Student

Visitors:

Eric Lewis, Facilities Planning & Construction
Bruce DeLaney, UF Foundation

The University Transportation Study Committee (TSC) met on Monday, April 25, 2005 at Facilities Planning and Construction Division, 232 Stadium West Conference Room. Linda Dixon, Chair, presided and called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Linda Dixon welcomed committee members to the April 25, 2005 TSC meeting and members agreed introductions were not necessary.

II. Adoption of Agenda

Ms. Linda Dixon recommended deferring adoption of the April 18, 2005 minutes.

Motion: Ruth Steiner made a motion to adopt the Agenda as amended.

Second: Lily Elefteriadou

Motion carried unanimously

III. Adoption of Minutes

Adoption of April 18, 2005 minutes deferred until next TSC meeting

IV. Draft Map Review

-Open Space Connections, Urban Design Connections, and Road Hierarchy

Linda Dixon indicated that at the last Conservation Study Committee (CSC) meeting the members recommended two additional shared used paths:

- A connection behind Hume Field through the Basketball Courts, across the bottom of Lake Alice Field, across the bottom of university garden and connecting to the left turn lane. The CSC seems to think that there are already some existing foot paths in the woods. Their motion on the recommendation was if feasible. Erick Smith, Erik Lewis and representative from Rec Sports are going to go look at the area.
- The area behind the Vet School and IFAS Research Building by the Bee Unit be included as part of the bicycle network recommendations. They suggested paving the existing road and installing bollards and a gate to keep vehicles out.

Linda asked the TSC to give feedback regarding the CSC recommendations:

Linda Crider said that she recognizes the concerns regarding the security issues behind the Vet School/IFAS Research area. However, if the committee does nothing, the security problems would still exist. She felt that the existing path serves as a good connection in a very prevalent

housing area and she thinks that it would be well used. She suggested perhaps fencing off the areas of concern.

Motion: Gale Sasnett-Stauffer made a motion to endorse a shared use path connection between 23rd Terrace and Ritchey Road.

Second: Linda Crider

Motion carried unanimously

Motion: Julia Reiskind made a motion for a connection between Hume Hall and University Garden.

Second: Gale Sasnett-Stauffer

Linda Crider stated that at one point there was a discussion about having a path that basically circumvented Lake Alice. There is an existing path on a portion of Mowry Road that goes around to the sidewalk and bike lane. She didn't know if there has been any discussion regarding a bike lane in the area where pedestrians generally cut through on No Name Road and come out near the IFAS greenhouses.

Linda Dixon stated that a recommended bike lane on No Name Road shows on the recommended bicycle facility map and is also reflected in the roadway reconstruction table. However, Staff is not recommending the off street path around Lake Alice due to the fact that the greenhouses and buildings are very close to the conservation boundary in that area.

Scott Fox said that he thinks that the proposed path behind University Gardens would not be very safe at night due to the surrounding wooded area. He suggested that it not be used after dark.

Linda Dixon stated that the CSC committee talked about policies on lighting paths in the Conservation Areas and they recommended that all new paths in the Conservation Area be unlighted and not used after dark.

Gale Sasnett-Stauffer withdrew her second to the recommendation.

Renee Musson stated that pedestrians are already using the area as an official path that states not to use after dark.

Julia Reiskind thought the path provides nice alternatives to Hume Road.

The first motion died due to the lack of a Second.

Motion: Linda Crider made a motion that a shared used path connect behind Hume Hall to Lake Alice then to Museum Road excluding University Garden.

Second: Renee Musson

Motion carried unanimously

V. ROAD HIERARCHY

Linda Dixon presented the Road Hierarchy Map which distinguishes different roadway types on campus that provide different level of access. Linda stated that some of the roads are major streets that carry pedestrians through campus, i.e., Hull Road and Gale Lemerand. She shared with the TSC that the Conservation Study Committee members, in addition to discussing conservation, also talked about connectivity between green spaces for animals and pedestrians. They are interested in looking at the off street connections and the on street connections. They are also interested in streetscape design standards and talked a lot about green spaces at Lake Alice, green spaces at the NATL and Surge Area and the desire to have a tree line street as a connection between those kinds of places. The CSC also felt that the road hierarchy definitions should say more about street tree standards and about appropriate separation of the sidewalk from the road edge.

Linda Dixon asked the TSC committee members to think about what facilities they would recommend for these roads, what kind of traffic they would anticipate on these roads and whether the traffic being carried is appropriate. She also shared that several years ago Vice President Fred Cantrell presented an idea to establish a memorial tree walk. This concept is compatible with the CSC ideas of streetscape design.

Committee members discussed the information presented by Linda Dixon regarding Road Hierarchy and made the following suggestions, comments and recommendations:

- Change the road by Microbiology from secondary to local to keep it as a more local access for people going to destinations in that area.
- Is there an existing road on SW 23rd Terrace and goes across Archer Road?
Linda stated that there is a dirt road that has recently been paved but does not connect to Archer Road. If a new road were constructed to connect to Archer Road, its design standard would be as a secondary connector. Linda Crider stated that the road would then become a primary road rather than secondary.

Linda Dixon asked the members to look back over the descriptions to see if there need to be changes. One thing the hierarchy could be used for is to identify the appropriate cross section to be built. Center Drive is also identified as a secondary road although it carries a lot of traffic. This road designation would indicate that design techniques should strive to direct some of that traffic away from high volume pedestrian traffic.

Linda Crider referenced the three roundabouts on page 5 of the report. Two of which are on Hull and Mowry. If SW 23rd Terrace is extended and intersects with Hull Road between these

roundabouts, the traffic will still be difficult here. The benefit of the roundabouts may be minimized by the added traffic and intersection.

Renee said that some roads function as local on normal days and primary on football game day. Can this be noted?

Linda Dixon asked committee members to look at the definitions and identify if there is something they would do different in the design of the new road to handle the traffic other than what is in the draft definitions.

Renee stated that she had concern regarding safety issues if a roundabout is used. She also suggested noting that no counts were taken on an event date.

Other comments made regarding the Road Hierarchy maps were:

- Gail asked about a blue line surge. There is another little connector road that is not connected going to the Performing Arts Center. Is it worth putting another connection there? It looks like a very small area.
- Scott Fox indicated that the problem is that there are too many T intersections that won't allow thru traffic. You would have to zigzag to make a north/south connection.
- Linda Crider asked what is envisioned for the intersection near 23rd Terrace and Hull Road. She suggested a roundabout on either side of it.

Linda Dixon thought a roundabout would be too close, but is awaiting feedback from the transportation consultants. Another option is a median treatment that would give some road for protective crossing or a right-in, right-out.

Linda Crider suggested connecting Surge Road east to the grey road on the map to the link to the roundabout and elevate a third intersection. She suggested giving that more conservation before it goes on the map.

Linda Dixon stated that this is an area where IFAS has a lot of facilities and research plots. When she visited the site she saw how it dead ended at the facilities. Based on that observation, she decided that making that a formal connection was not appropriate.

Linda Dixon talked about adding some description of adjacent landuse in the road hierarchy definition.

Linda Dixon also presented traffic counts. Harold Barrand asked why there were no traffic counts at SW 23rd Drive and Archer Road. Linda Dixon said she would try to get that information from the City of Gainesville.

Motion: Gail Sasnett-Stauffer moved to change No Name Road to a local road and to approve the Road Hierarchy Map as amended.

Second: Sheri Bryan

Motion carried 9 to 1

VI. BICYCLE, PEDESTRIAN ROADWAY AND TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM MANAGEMENT PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

- University of Florida Roadway Resurfacing Priorities, 2005

Motion: Ruth Steiner made a motion to approve as presented.

Second: Julia Reiskind

Motion carried unanimously

- University of Florida Roadway Reconstruction Priorities, 2005

Motion: Ruth Steiner made a motion to except the Reconstruction Priorities Table as amended extending the endpoint of the Mowry Road reconstruction to Center Drive and moving the Med Plaza Service Drive to the New Construction Table.

Second: Scott Fox

Motion carried unanimously

VI. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 11, 2005 @ 10:00 am – 12:00 pm in the UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE ROOM 260 STADIUM WEST.

VII. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.