



**Courtney Campbell Scenic Highway Corridor Advisory
Committee Meeting**
URS Corporation, 7650 W. Courtney Campbell Causeway, Tampa, FL
Friday, July 19, 2013 - 10:00 am

Attending:

Bill Jonson, Chair, City of Clearwater
Suzanne Cooper, Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
Shawn Fogarty, Westshore Alliance Special Events
Ken Hoyt, Hillsborough County Citizen
Katina Kavouklis, Florida Department of Transportation District 7
Felicia Leonard, City of Clearwater
Tony Mantegna, Tampa International Airport
Susan J. Miller, Pinellas County
Mike Palozzi, Shaw Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc.
Ron Rotella, Westshore Alliance
Linda Saul-Sena, Liveable Tampa Roundtable
Chris Weber, The Westshore Alliance
Debbie Young, City of Tampa

Agenda:

● **Greetings and introductions**

Chairman Jonson called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. He said that everyone should have a copy of the agenda, the summary of the last meeting, and the latest draft of the Annual Report for the CCC Scenic Highway, stamped JUL 18 2013. Everyone introduced themselves. Ms. Cooper volunteered to take the notes.

● **Old Business:**

1. Chairman Jonson asked for any corrections to the May 17th meeting summary. The motion was made by Mr. Hoyt, seconded by Mr. Weber, and passed by all to approve the meeting summary.
2. Chairman Jonson report on the presentation given to the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners on June 19th, noting that Mr. Rotella was also there. He said that he was pleased with the presentation, and had not heard anything from the County staff since. The comments from the BOCC were generally positive. Mr. Hoyt asked if the Powerpoint presentation is available, and the answer was "yes". Mr. Rotella said that the budgets for the City of Tampa and Hillsborough County will be released on July 25th and 26th, respectively, and at that time it will be known what, if any, funding has been set aside for amenities along the Trail.

Concerning amenities for the Trail, Ms. Leonard said that she has been working with Ms. Price (City of Tampa Parks) to match the amenities for both sides of the Trail. Clearwater purchases a lot of benches, etc, and gets good prices. The City of Tampa can use Clearwater's price lists. Mr. Weber said that URS will work with Ms. Leonard and Ms. Price to find costs and perhaps get sponsors for the amenities. Ms. Leonard cautioned that, when developing the unit prices that are stated for sponsors, consider that the actual cost of the structure is 20% of the total

price is for maintenance of the item over its 10-year life. Also, she recommended that individual sponsors' names not be placed on the individual items, but placed on a single recognition structure. It was mentioned that at some sites bricks or pavers have been used to recognize sponsors. Various sponsorship levels can be considered. Ms. Leonard responded that there are a number of ways to recognize sponsors. Mr. Hoyt added that this has been a missing piece, and suggested that the sooner the plan for the styles, quantities and costs of the various amenities can be developed the better for finding sponsors. Ms. Leonard said that a good amenities plan has been developed, along with a plan for staging their placement. Ms. Cooper said that she had spoken to Ms. Marable about the Scenic Highway standards and making sure that the fixtures placed along the Trail do not cause the loss of its designation. Ms. Marable will look into this. Ms. Leonard agreed. Ms. Kavouklis added that compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act is required on FDOT-funded facilities, as well as FDOT engineering standards. Ms. Kavouklis said that FDOT expects to have a ceremony for opening the entire Trail once the Pinellas County section is completed.

Ms. Kavouklis noted that the City of Tampa is entering into an agreement with a private company to install a bike sharing program. This would be of great value at the Scenic Trail. She suggested asking to have Westshore as a hub. Ms. Cooper that she had spoken with someone who wanted to promote it for the Trail and possibly get sponsors for that and other amenities, and she had suggested that he speak to this committee about the program and provided him with Chairman Jonson's contact information. Ms. Kavouklis said she could envision a marathon or half-marathon event which would generate a lot of attention for the Trail. She has received questions that FDOT may be building a new bridge for cars. There is certainly a need for more public information. Mr. Weber said that he had also been contacted about this.

Ms. Saul-Sena stated that big events are wanted for the Trail, which are great for publicity. The question arose of what entity will manage events on the Trail. Mr. Rotella said that this will be a nationally significant facility and that the Tampa Sports Commission/Visit Tampa Bay will be marketing it on that level. The Westshore Alliance has sent them a package of material on the Trail. Ms. Leonard said that FDOT has provided a draft Maintenance Agreement in which operations are not addressed, but need to be. Usually when an event crosses or involves a FDOT facility, that department has to be involved. Since the Cities of Tampa and Clearwater will be responsible for maintenance, it is logical that those entities be responsible for scheduling events. Mr. Rotella expressed that use of the Trail for events should be easy to arrange - without multiple permits and contacts needed by the event planners. Ms. Leonard said that there is no problem coordinating between the cities' special events staffs on events. Ms. Kavouklis said that FDOT's legal department will be involved in the agreement to address these things and she will bring it to their attention. The Clearwater may need changes to some ordinances with regard to allowable events.

Mr. Rotella added that the City is replacing the restroom facilities at Ben T. Davis Beach, and adding concessions (RFPs have been requested). Likewise at Cypress Point Park, restrooms are in place and concessions, including food/drink, and perhaps non-motorized boats and bicycles. It is hoped to have the concessions in place by the time the Trail opens. It was questioned if the concessionaire would be responsible for maintaining the restrooms.

Ms. Miller said that the Bayshore connection between the end of the CCC Trail and the Ream Wilson Trail is being given high priority by FDOT. No funding identified for it yet. This one-mile section will ultimately connect the Courtney Campbell Causeway Scenic Trail to the Ream Wilson Trail and others - all the way to Clearwater Beach! Sidewalks are already in place and there is a wide right-of-way.

Ms. Saul-Sena noted that she and others from this committee met with the Shriner's organization ten years ago to discuss placing a sidewalk across the front of their property and was

refused. Now the trail is being constructed there. The safety issues at the Rocky Point intersection precipitated the improvements.

3. Ms. Marable was not present to provide an update on the Trail construction. An October completion is still anticipated. Ms. Kavouklis said that News Channel 8 was at the FDOT District office last week and asked about the Trail. They would like to go out on the construction barge. She directed them to The Westshore Alliance.
4. Ms. Reynolds was not present to discuss the Student Project and Website.
5. Mr. Weber and Mr. Rotella gave an update on the Trail opening celebration. The Westshore Alliance is spearheading the event. Mr. Rotella said that the opening is planned for a Sunday morning in mid to late October, since completion is expected in early October. He has met with the Mayor and Mr. Baird, head of the City's Parks Department. The City has been asked to partner in the event so that permits will not be needed. Mayor Buckhorn will be inviting Governor Scott to attend, recognizing the state's involvement. Mr. Rotella envisions the Mayor, the Governor and the FDOT Secretary bicycling across the bridge - a great media event. Mr. Weber said that a volunteer committee, including Rocky Point and The Westshore Alliance, has been formed for the opening event, which will hopefully be more than a simple ribbon-cutting, but include a run/walk/bike event. Staging of the various groups will be important. Ms. Saul-Sena offered to give him a contact in the bicycling community. August 14th is the date of the next meeting to discuss the event, getting down to details, logistics. This will be a fun, family event, not a race. Mr. Rotella said that this event must also bring attention to the coming Pinellas section, with graphics. There are many people who don't know about the project.

Ms. Saul-Sena suggested that the logo/branding/signage for the event be discussed at the next meeting. A logo needs to be chosen particularly with event planning apace. Ms. Kavouklis noted that FDOT had a branding/design contest early on, though it isn't the required design. She said she will share it with the group. The USF group also provided a logo. Ms. Leonard suggested that this be discussed at the next meeting. Ms. Leonard said that she would ask the City of Clearwater's graphics department for input. Linda made a motion that this topic receive attention at the next meeting to identify a logo to be used for the opening. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Rotella said that the eventually-adopted logo isn't needed for the event.

Ms. Cooper asked about the November 16th date which has been announced by FDOT. Mr. Weber responded that that is not a definite date.

6. It was reported that the digital sign at Hogan's Beach is now in compliance.

New Business:

Comments on the Annual Report draft which was distributed today included:

- Change the name of the trail consistently, throughout the document, to "Courtney Campbell Trail".
- Change the language within the response to Question 15 to indicate that "The committee may seek to engage USF ..."
- Change "stickers" to "decals" in Question 16. Do not provide anticipated spacing of the decals; and that Clearwater is considering placing restrooms at the site of the old Welcome Station at the

- west end of the causeway, where infrastructure already exists.
- In Question 22, list the amenities that are desired/planned; consult the URS Amenities Plan. Ms. Cooper will get the plan from Ms. Miller.
 - In Question 24, clarify that the Trail was a topic on two television news programs.
 - In Question 25, add that there are 744 residential units.
 - In Question 29, the second sentence will be removed.
 - In Question 32, more current and relevant numbers will be included.
 - In Question 38, committee membership will be updated: Hillsborough and Pinellas MPOs will be retained; citizen representatives will be added; and Clearwater Christian College and CARDNO will not be retained.

The final draft will be sent by Ms. Cooper in advance of the August meeting, and any additional comments should be sent to her.

The August meeting date was discussed. Neither Chairman Jonson nor Ms. Saul-Sena will be available on the regularly scheduled date (Aug. 16th). Mr. Hoyt agreed to serve as meeting Chair. Chairman Jonson gave Ms. Cooper the responsibility for sending out the meeting notice.

Any Other Business:

There was no other business identified for discussion.

Public Comments:

There were no members of the public present.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be Friday, August 16th at URS Corporation, 7650 W. Courtney Campbell Causeway, Tampa. On the agenda for the next meeting: finalizing the Annual Report and the logo for the opening event for the Multi-Use Trail.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 am.