

Courtney Campbell Scenic Highway
Corridor Advisory Committee (CAC)

Minutes

Regular Meeting at
URS Corporation, 7th Floor Board Room
7650 West Courtney Campbell Causeway
Tampa, Florida

October 19, 2012
10:00 am

Attending:

Councilman Bill Jonson, City of Clearwater Council
Chris Weber, Westshore Alliance
Ron Gregory, Vice President, URS Corporation
Susan J. Miller, Bicycle/Pedestrian Planner, Pinellas County MPO
Holly East, Comm. Kevin Beckner's Office, Hillsborough County
Karla Price, Tampa Parks Department
C. J. Miller, Pinellas County
Linda Saul-Sena, Citizen from Tampa
Ken Hoyt, Citizen from Hillsborough
Lori Marable, Pedestrian and Bicycle Coordinator, Florida Department of Transportation
Mike Palozzi, Shaw Engineering and Infrastructure
Bob Clifford, President Clearwater Regional Chamber of Commerce

Introductions:

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am with introductions of all in attendance. Bill Jonson volunteered to take notes and publish draft minutes of the meeting.

Minutes Review and Approval:

The following corrections to the minutes of September 21, 2012 were noted: 1.) Attendees Linda Saul-Sena, Mike Palozzi, and Ken Hoyt were present, but not listed as attending. 2.) Susan Miller was listed twice in the attendees, and 3.) In item 2, the Motion by Linda Saul-Sena was to just call the trail "Courtney Campbell Trail" not the "Scenic" trail. The minutes were then approved as amended unanimously on a motion by Ken Hoyt, with second by Holly East.

Report of the Discussion with Debbie Hunt, FDOT Director of Transportation Development at District 7:

Bill Jonson reported that he discussed the proposed amenities process for the Trail with Ms. Hunt. The CAC proposes to use a private-public partnership. Ms. Hunt responded that the Department would support such an effort provided that the ongoing maintenance is assumed by the local governments. She stated that FDOT's representative to the private-public partnership committee would be Lori Marable.

Review of the Draft Trail Naming Resolution:

Ms. East noted that the resolution was drafted based on the receipt of the DRAFT minutes which incorrectly indicated the name being the "scenic" trail. The group agreed to delete all references to the name including "scenic". The group decided to retain the proposed language referring to the trail being on the "south side".

The third WHEREAS was revised to read: "WHEREAS, the Courtney Campbell Causeway was designated as a Scenic Highway through the efforts of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, the Westshore Alliance, the Clearwater Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Counties of Hillsborough and Pinellas and the Cities of Clearwater and Tampa; and"

The fifth WHEREAS was revised to read: "WHEREAS, through the funding from the Florida Department of Transportation, a new multiuse trail facility is being constructed along the south side of the causeway; and"

The sixth WHEREAS was revised to read: "WHEREAS, this Trail will be about 9.? [exact millage to be supplied by Ms. Marable] miles in length and provide a regional non-motorized corridor and many recreational opportunities; and"

The seventh WHEREAS was revised to read: "WHEREAS [name of governing body of city or County} requests the facility to be formally named the "Courtney Campbell Trail" consistent with the common name of the Scenic Highway; and"

On a motion by Ken Hoyt and second by Linda Saul-Sena the group unanimously approved the above modifications to the proposed resolution, subject to approval of the language by the attorney.

Next Actions for passage of the resolution:

1. Linda Saul-Sena will work with Tampa Councilman Harry Cohen
2. Holly East will work with Hillsborough County
3. Bill Jonson will take to Clearwater
4. Holly East will send the resolution to Pinellas Commissioner Karen Seal
5. The Hillsborough MPO meeting is 11/13
6. The December Hillsborough BOCC meeting is 12/6
7. Will need to have a similar meeting scheduled with the Pinellas MPO.

Ron Rotella will be notified so that he can attend the Hillsborough meetings.

Report by the Presentation Committee:

Ms. Saul-Sena reported that the presentation is in process and will be simple, short and clear.

Report of the Private Public Partnership Committee:

Ms Reynolds reported that the outline is in process. They are defining the categories that can and we would like to see around the trail. We will also inventory the current resources today: hotels, restaurants, apartment complexes and supporting businesses. The group will be having a brainstorming meeting following this meeting.

The committee will meet on 10/22 with the Westshore Alliance.

The question was raised about what private sector activities could be permitted along the trail as it is FDOT property. Lori Marable volunteered to research this subject which will probably require right of way permits of some kind. The group discussed the need for equal facilities on both sides of the causeway. The group wondered about how this was handled along similar trail projects in Florida. Additionally there may be a need to create a foundation to encourage charitable contributions even in kind. Mr. Hoyt pointed out that there is a difference between amenities and activities. We are in a position to provide amenities, but activities will come from a partnership that has a whole other group of permitting issues.

Report from the CSH Trail Student Engagement Initiative Committee:

Ms. Reynolds worked with Felicia Leonard and Carla Price to develop a document listing the following four categories: Station Design and Outreach, Trail Safety Project, Economic Opportunity Assessment, and Marketing Communications Plans and Projects. This will be copied to letterhead that can be shared with potential sources of students. Carla and Felicia have offered to manage these student projects. CJ will be the point person with the Office of Community Engagement on this project moving forward.

New Business:

Ms. Saul-Sena stated that bathrooms are a really important amenity and asked about the feasibility for pay toilets. Conversation will be continued.

Lori Marable reported that the Scenic Highway Annual Report has been submitted to Tallahassee. She also reported that Don Skelton will be leaving FDOT and going to work for H.W. Lockner. Mr. Hoyt asked about the continuing support for the Scenic Highway program at the Federal and State levels. The FDOT Secretary continues to support the Scenic Highways and enhancements.

Ms. Saul-Sena asked about the appropriate time to generate additional media outreach. Likely there may be some coverage as a result of the Hillsborough BOCC presentation.

Next meeting will be November 16, 2012 and will be chaired by Linda Saul-Sena as Mr. Jonson will be out of town. That meeting will focus primarily on the Private Public Partnership Committee and will also include a report on the Ben T. Davis restroom project and an update on the construction of the trail (project tracking report).