

Meeting Summary

Task Force Meeting #1

December 7, 2015, 9:00 AM Hilton Ocala 3600 SW 36th Avenue Ocala, Florida 34474

Task Force Members or designees present (in alphabetical order by last name)

Task Force Member, Organization	Designee (if applicable)
☑ Richard Biter, Assistant Secretary for Intermodal Systems Development, Florida Department of Transportation (Chair)	⊠ Carmen Monroy, FDOT (Alternate Chair)
oxtimes Jane Adams, Vice President for University Relations, University of Florida	
In the Honorable Scott Adams, Citrus County Commissioner	
⊠ Rebecca Bay, Owner, Insurance Resources and Risk Management	
☑ Janet Bowman, Director of Legislative Policy & Strategies, The Nature Conservancy – Florida Chapter	
🗵 The Honorable Charles Chestnut, Alachua County Commissioner	
⊠ Gary Clark, Deputy Secretary for Land and Recreation, Florida Department of Environmental Protection	
The Honorable Don Hahnfeldt, Sumter County Commissioner	Bradley Arnold, County Administrator
⊠ Hugh Harling, Executive Director, East Central Florida Regional Planning Council	
Scott Koons, Executive Director, North Central Florida Regional Planning Council	
🗵 Charles Lee, Director of Advocacy, Audubon Florida	
🗵 The Honorable Stan McClain, Marion County Commissioner	
The Honorable John Meeks, Levy County Commissioner	☑ Wilbur Dean, Assistant to the County Coordinator
The Honorable Nick Nicholson, Hernando County Commissioner	
Charles Pattison, Policy Director, 1000 Friends of Florida	
□ Todd Powell Jr., General Manager, Real Estate, Plum Creek Timber Company, Inc.	⊠ Tim Jackson, Dir., Real Estate, Plum Creek
⊠ Ana Richmond, Chief, Bureau of Community Planning, Florida Department of Economic Development	
⊠ Kevin T. Sheilley, President & CEO, Ocala/Marion County Chamber and Economic Partnership	
🖾 Mike Sizemore - Citizen	
IThe Honorable Matt Surrency, Mayor, City of Hawthorne	
🖾 Brian Teeple, Executive Director, Northeast Florida Regional Council	
🛛 Avera Wynne, Planning Director, Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council	





Staff:

	🛛 Henry Pinzon, FTE
☑ Jim Wood, FDOT	
🖾 Huiwei Shen, FDOT	🖾 Mike Shannon, FTE
⊠ Regina Colson, FDOT	Alison Stettner, FTE
☑ Jennifer Fortunas, FDOT	☑ Chris Stahl, FDEP
Bill Henderson, FDOT District 2	⊠ Sunserea Dalton, CH2M
I Ed McKinney, FDOT District 7	⊠ Sol Garcia, CH2M
Brian Stanger, FDOT District 5	🛛 Matt Lamb, CH2M
☑ Jason Watts, FDOT	⊠ Melanie Koffler, CH2M
🗵 Noemi Arroyo, Atkins, FTE Team	⊠ Marc Ispass, CH2M
☑ Josiah Banet, AECOM, FTE Team	⊠ Alicia Smith, CH2M
🗵 Becky Bolan, MCG, FTE Team	⊠ Mike Snyder, CH2M
🗵 Randy Fox, FTE	☑ John Kaliski, Cambridge Systematics
Mindy Heath, AECOM, FTE Team	Matt Wilson, Cambridge Systematics
Martin Horwitz, FTE	

Others FDOT Representatives in Attendance:

Noranne Downs, FDOT District 5 Greg Evans, FDOT District 2 John Hendrix, FDOT Lori Marable, FDOT District 7 Ryan Marks, FDOT District 5 Kellie Smith, FDOT District 5 Vicky Wyche, FDOT District 5 Jan Everett, AECOM Marty Peate, AECOM Chris Rizzolo, AECOM

Number of Other Agency Representatives in Attendance: 19 (Refer to Attached Sign-In Sheets) Number of Other Interested Individuals in Attendance: 15 (Refer to Attached Sign-In Sheets)





Meeting Highlights

Note: All Task Force Binder contents and meeting materials referenced (including presentations) are available for downloading at the I-75 Relief project website at <u>www.i75relief.org.</u>

Welcome and Introductions, Richard Biter (Chair) – 9:00 AM

Rich Biter, Chair of the I-75 Relief Task Force, called the meeting to order and welcomed the Task Force members on behalf of Florida Secretary of Transportation Jim Boxold.

Rich also noted that the Florida Channel is in attendance and will be filming parts/all of today's meeting for both live streaming online and later broadcasting. The video is available online on the Florida Channel website at http://thefloridachannel.org in the Video Library. Staff will let the Task Force members know in advance of future broadcast dates once they are set.

Rich recognized that today, December 7, is Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day and asked for a moment of silence in honor of our veterans and those currently serving in the military.

Rich reminded members that the Task Force's purpose and charge is to provide consensus recommendations on maximizing existing and developing new high-capacity transportation corridors to serve the broader study area from Tampa to Jacksonville, with initial emphasis on the area west of I-75. He asked Shelley Lauten, facilitator, to review the meeting objectives, agenda and a few housekeeping items.

Shelley reviewed the meeting objectives (Slide 3, Presentation 1) and general flow of the agenda (in Task Force Binder, Tab 1).

Text from Slide 3

- Review Task Force charge and responsibilities
- Provide briefing on Florida's Government in the Sunshine and Public Records Laws
- Provide overview of the Future Corridors planning process and relevant prior studies
- Share background information on the study area
- Identify major opportunities and constraints related to corridor planning that should be addressed by the Task Force
- Approve Task Force work plan and schedule
- Obtain public input
- Identify action items and next steps

Rich asked Task Force members to provide a quick and concise introduction and to list one to two expectations of the Task Force. Matt Wilson, Staff captured the Task Force input/comments on the screen. During the meeting, the comments were reviewed with the Task Force by Shelley to ensure the context of input was recorded correctly.

Initial Expectations of Task Force Member were noted as follows:

• Brian Teeple requested that all modes are considered, make sure that both legs (north-south relief and connectivity to Jacksonville) are considered.





- Do a thorough evaluation of needs and improve the existing system for future development.
- Tim Jackson suggested looking at improving the current facilities before developing new facilities and any Task Force member input received from FDOT outside the Task Force meetings should be relayed to the entire Task Force at the next meeting for consideration.
- Rebecca Bays indicated looking at opportunities for funding, connect the areas together, and keep an eye on environmental stewardship.
- Nick Nicholson requested to look at the most economical route while looking at the environment.
- Gary Clark is wanting to look at avoiding impacts on state lands.
- Matt Surrency asked to make sure we do not have any adverse impacts to existing communities.
- Kevin Sheilley wanted to know how this impacts future growth and to ensure improvements are sustainable.
- Stan McClain is interested in reaching a consensus for a corridor that can be advanced to project development.
- Mike Sizemore expressed the desire for a positive outcome on the safe, expeditious, and economical corridor for movement of freight and people.
- Jane Adams is interested in a long-term plan of transportation infrastructure to provide future opportunities for students/university (University of Florida (UF)) to move research into the marketplace as part of economic development.
- Avril Wynne asked that the Task force consider economic development, multimodal, environmental considerations, and emergency evacuation.
- Anna Richmond wants consideration of the land use around any proposed corridor and how those will interact in the future.
- Charles Chestnut is interested in impacts to the Alachua County community and environment.
- Janet Bowman wants to include all modes and consider all land use impacts, promote environmental stewardship, and create future opportunities.
- Scott Adams is concerned with protecting quality of life, path of least resistance, and best economic benefits for all parties, provide traffic relief to west central coast to north Alachua County.
- Bradley Arnold asked that the Task Force focus on existing corridors, look at private property concerns.
- Charles Lee mentioned that existing federal and state land ecological linkages need to be preserved, protection of Florida's wildlife and aquifers, protection of Big Bend Coastline, linkages between Ocala National Forest, and the Osceola National Forest as well as ecological connectivity to Okefenokee Swamp in Georgia.
- Hugh Harling suggested that the Task Force look at how a corridor can be phased to accommodate the traffic and keep the economy moving in a positive direction.



Key staff then introduced themselves.

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Rich reminded the Task Force members and audience that there will be a public comment period at 3:00 PM, and that anyone wanting to speak before the Task Force should fill out an appearance record (speaker card), which any of the staff can provide. Also, stakeholders and members of the public will be able to provide comment at any time via the Task Force website, www.i75relief.com, or by directly contacting the FDOT I-75 Relief Study Project Manager, Huiwei Shen.

Task Force Purpose and Charge

Rich briefly summarized the Task Force Purpose and Charge (Slide 6, Presentation 1) and referenced the full Purpose and Charge text provided in the Task Force Binder, Tab 2.

The Task Force will deliver its final recommendations in a report to the FDOT Secretary at the conclusion of this process.

Text from Purpose and Charge

- Adapt previously developed guiding principles for planning the future of Florida's transportation corridors as needed to ensure that they are relevant to the study area
- Identify opportunities and constraints related to environmental resources including natural lands and surface and groundwater resources, agriculture, land use and development, property rights, economic development, quality of life, and other statewide and regional issues that should be considered in planning for future transportation corridors in the study area
- Solicit and consider input from government agencies, property owners, agricultural interests, business and economic development interests, environmental organizations, other stakeholders, and residents of the study area
- Recommend the purpose and need for high-capacity, high-speed transportation corridors in the study area with emphasis on providing relief to I-75, increasing safety, improving statewide and regional connectivity, and enhancing economic development opportunities
- Recommend a range of alternatives for accomplishing the purpose and need, including maximizing the use of existing transportation facilities and developing new transportation facilities, with consideration of multiple modes (such as highways, passenger and freight rail, and trails) and multiple uses (such as utilities, pipelines, and other linear infrastructure)
- Recommend the approach that should be used to evaluate and narrow these alternatives
- Recommend corridors to be incorporated into regional and local long-range plans and to be advanced to future phases of project development
- Recommend a proposed implementation plan for moving forward with the recommended corridors, including potential actions by FDOT, other state agencies, local governments, and other partners





Government in the Sunshine

Rich stressed the importance of this Task Force's understanding of Government in the Sunshine and Public Records laws. He then introduced Jason Watts, FDOT Legal Office, who presented an overview of the Government in the Sunshine and Public Records Laws for the Task Force members (Task Force Binder, Tab 2). Jason noted Task Force members can talk to other committee members outside the meeting but it can't be about the business of this Task Force. Jason also reiterated that when two or more committee members are together it is considered a public meeting. Rich followed the presentation with remarks to the Task Force that the FDOT staff will ensure that correspondence with Huiwei and other Task Force members is shared with all members as applicable.

Shelley asked the Task Force members for questions/comments for Jason. No questions/comments were offered. Huiwei asked to be emailed directly if there are any questions or comments subsequent to the meeting.

Consensus Decision Making Process

Shelley briefly reviewed the Consensus Decision Making Process and Tips for Effective Meetings with the Task Force members (Task Force Binder, Tab 2) including the roles of the chair, members, alternates, and staff. Shelley asked for questions about the proposed guidelines. No questions/comments were offered.

Rich asked if the Task Force is comfortable using these decision-making guidelines moving forward. Rich noted that Carmen Monroy will be his designee/alternate chair at the meetings in his absence. If there were no concerns, Rich indicated we will use these guidelines moving forward. No questions/concerns were offered.

Break from 10:00 – 10:15 AM

Transportation Planning and Future Corridors – 10:18 AM

Rich opened the session following the break and staff played the Florida Transportation Plan (FTP) video.

Rich mentioned that FDOT is nearing completion of the update of the FTP, as described in the video. He mentioned that the FTP provides guidance for future transportation plans, including major corridor investments. Rich asked Jim Wood, FDOT State Transportation Development Administrator, to provide an overview of the transportation planning process and the future corridor planning process, and to discuss some of the key objectives for this study. Jim provided a presentation on I-75 Relief and the Future Corridor Planning Process (Task Force Binder, Tab 3). During the presentation, Jim highlighted the following points in addition to the slide content:

- Emphasis on west central Florida for this Task Force and one recommendation of Task Force may be a separate Task Force for I-75 to Jacksonville.
- Slide 8 The I-75 segment through Ocala is highest freight route in the state.
- Slide 29 Jim noted that corridors may be developed in similar detail to East Central Florida as shown on map.





Shelley asked for questions/comments regarding Jim's presentation.

Questions/Comments:

- Rich asked Jim to explain the public involvement effort that was conducted in support of the FTP update. Jim noted that the FTP Steering Committee has 35 members representing all modes of transportation and a range of issues. FDOT supported the Steering Committee through conducting three statewide events, 13 regional workshops, and more than 300 briefings at partner events. These events engaged more than 15,000 participants during a 12-month period. The FTP Steering Committee is being maintained to support FTP implementation during the next four years and will be able to provide policy guidance on issues such as the Future Corridor guiding principles. Jim also acknowledged that Mayor Matthew Surrency (Task Force member) will act as a liaison to the FTP Steering Committee.
- Janet Bowman added that she was on the FTP rewrite in 2010. The 2015 version has a greater amount of participation and it has been valuable to be a part of this committee.
- Matt Surrency added that the FTP Steering Committee includes different people from different backgrounds and provides great opportunities for participation.
- Tim Jackson asked about a summary of growth trends and how technology will impact the necessary traffic/transportation systems to handle these growth projections. *Jim responded that the changing demographics (millennials and elderly) are going to have a unique impact on traffic capacity and travel patterns.*
- Mike Sizemore indicated the projections of freight in the presentation look at 2011 to 2040 projections, but has FDOT looked at any projects that are more current? For example, how will the Panama Canal improvements impact the needs that we have along the corridor? The Task Force needs projections from now to five (5) years out. Jim responded there are more projections of different time frames and periods that will be addressed in future meetings as data is available.

Overview of the I-75 Relief Study and Task Force – 10:58 AM

Huiwei provided an overview of the I-75 Relief Study and Task Force (Task Force Binder, Tab 4) including relevant background studies. Shelley then asked for any questions/comments relative to Huiwei's presentation.

During the presentation, Huiwei highlighted the following points in addition to the slide content:

- More detailed information on existing roadways including US 301 will be presented at a future meeting.
- The Task Force will have an opportunity to review and adapt the Draft Guiding Principles as needed for this study area. The Guiding Principles will be discussed in detail at Task Force Meeting 2.
- The Purpose and Need discussion at future meetings will be a high-level policy discussion to guide transportation options as part of the Task Force recommendations and in supporting studies.

- Matt Surrency asked about the US 301 Study and what the limits were. *Huiwei indicated it extends from Ocala to the state line.*
- Wilbur Dean asked if agriculture is being considered (example: industries such as cattle and crops). *Huiwei indicated that within the 4 C's, the Countryside theme includes agriculture.*





• Charles Lee asked questions about Huiwei's population growth slide and how the red dots showing future population levels and growth rates were projected. He is interested in seeing the study that led to the red dots and population centers because this region may not have the same underlying growth dynamics that the East Central Florida Task Force (ECFTF) study area did. The I-75 Relief Task Force needs to be thinking about the dynamic of how the population centers and growth will be impacted by development of transportation systems. Transportation leads to population growth. Is this area really where the Task Force wants population growth to take place? The Task Force can't just look at existing adopted comprehensive plans. The Task Force needs to engage local governments in a way that says, if this corridor materializes, the regional plans and local comprehensive plans may need to change to reflect different outcomes. *Huiwei responded that the red circles reflect a continuation of existing growth trends using the Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR) medium-range forecast. FDOT staff will work with local and regional entities regarding their comprehensive plans and future projections.*

Review of Pre-Meeting Survey – 11:25 AM

Shelley reviewed the results of the pre-meeting survey (Task Force Binder, Tab 5) taken by the Task Force members and asked for questions or comments regarding the survey.

- Rebecca Bays (regarding question 8) are we able to learn from past mistakes/projects? What are some of the things that the Task Force can do to prevent issues from the past? Some examples are I-75 in Sarasota County and I-4 in Orlando. *Randy Fox, FTE responded that taking into account the location and proximity of the interchanges, planning facilities and designing them for proper access management could help us with lessons learned.*
- Tim Jackson asked if the solution could be to add managed lanes to I-75 similar to I-95/I-4 and noted these are key areas to investigate.
- Charles Lee asked if FDOT has given any thought to how much I-75 congestion is caused by heavy trucks. Has FDOT given any consideration to a truck only lane/facility? *Jim responded yes, a truck only lane or corridor is an option that will be considered.*
- Ana Richmond stated that she wants to get a consensus early on that allows the Task Force/FDOT to discuss the process and timeline of potential corridor improvements. This could allow for more opportunities for regional mitigation and regional advance acquisition so the recommended corridor can move forward (concept to concrete).
- Matt Surrency said that he wants the Task Force to look at a complete streets model for freeway type projects and put emphasis on using existing railroad/freight more efficiently. He indicated the freight evaluation should be promoted and include evaluation of areas where passengers and freight have less interaction.
- Charles Lee indicated that he would like to hear from a trucking representative to get more insight on investing in infrastructure that supports truck traffic. He wants to emphasize the importance that freight will be playing a key role in this project. *Jim responded that FDOT is going to meet with the Florida Trucking Association to get their input. The intent is that modal representatives for trucking and rail will present information to Task Force at a future meeting.*





- Janet Bowman added that she wants the Task Force to discuss the location of major inland ports and distribution centers and understand the logistical impacts of these facilities. *Jim indicated that distribution hubs will be considered.*
- Brian Teeple asked what multimodal and multiuse options would realistically look like, particularly for this study area. These are key considerations for future meetings.
- Kevin Sheilley added that he wants to look at the moving of goods within the state and not just into and out of the state (interstate freight movement) as well as Florida's population trends.

Rich encouraged the Task Force members to utilize the staff as resources and to let them know of any needs throughout the study by contacting Huiwei for any information needs.

Opportunities and Constraints in the Study Area – 11:45 AM

John Kaliski, Cambridge Systematics (Staff), presented the 4C's framework that was used by the ECFTF, along with maps of this study area that correlate to the 4 C's: Conservation, Countryside, Centers and Corridors. Shelley asked if there were any initial questions or comments and asked the Task Force to be thinking about their key input related to these themes during the lunch break. No questions or comments were brought up prior to lunch.

Lunch Break 12-1:00 PM

4C's Framework Discussion – 1:05 PM

Shelley asked the Task Force for thoughts/key items related to opportunities and constraints associated with the 4C's as the Task Force's organizing framework.

Overall comments included:

- Tim Jackson added that Centers should include more than large cities.
- Matt Surrency added that Corridors need to be looked at from a Conservation perspective.
- Ana Richmond indicated that she has the same concern as Tim Jackson about Centers needing to also include communities and not just large cities. Similarly, Countryside should consider rural communities and not just agricultural areas. She noted that agricultural areas and rural communities are different. Also, she wants to take a look at Plum Creek's Sector Plan which could impact the study area.
- Janet Bowman indicated that she would like to add a category related to people, safety, quality of life and public involvement, potentially labeled (Citizens/Communities).
- Hugh Harling stated that he wants to add information related to demographic trends and quality of life as a 5th C.
- Brian Teeple added that Developments of Regional Impact (DRIs) need to be considered as part of the future of Centers and communities.
- Charles Lee indicated that given changes in growth management laws, it may be advisable to use a broader term, such as large scale developments to be more comprehensive than DRIs only. John Kaliski indicated that we would include sector plans and other master plans considered by local governments.





Opportunities and Constraints related to Conservation

Shelley and John asked Task Force members about opportunities and constraints related to Conservation.

Questions/Comments:

- Bradley Arnold reminded that conservation corridors are moving wildlife.
- Tim Jackson asked that the staff look at the 1000 Friends of Florida Water 2070 Study, which is looking at locations of recharge areas (to be completed April 2016).
- Charles Lee asked to look at local county conservation plans and identify gaps between conservation lands and focus mitigation on filling in those gaps. Conservation areas specifically mentioned included: Withlacoochee, Rainbow Springs, and the cluster of conservation lands near Orange Lake and Lochloosa.
- Mike Sizemore mentioned that there are multiple studies available on water use in the study area. For instance, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs (FDAC) published a study on minimum flows of springs, lakes, quality and quantity. Also, Marion County did a natural environment study.
- Janet Bowman indicated that multiple data layers are available to help identify gaps between natural areas and water supply including Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) and recharge areas from UF and Critical Lands and Waters Identification Project (CLIP) data layers.
- Matt Surrency cited the Altamonte Springs example of reclaimed and reuse water from roadways instead of having more retention ponds.
- Ana Richmond indicated that many counties have their own acquisition programs. She added that many of the managed areas on the map are not solely for conservation and asked if FDOT can show military bases as well as conservation areas.
- Charles Lee noted that there is tremendous conservation value in the conservation areas within military lands that should be protected but this can be distinguished on maps.

Opportunities and Constraints related to Countryside

Shelley and John asked Task Force members about opportunities and constraints related to Countryside.

- Ana Richmond asked to include small rural settlements on the maps as they could be confused with other agriculture areas.
- Jane Adams suggested to reach out to UF's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) extension offices for input.
- Matt Surrency noted that the Farm Bureau has information about smaller farms including organic farms and blueberry manufacturers in this area.
- Look at the Florida Farm Bureau extension offices for the smaller farms.
- Stan McClain suggested to look at farm land preservation designation in Marion County.





Opportunities and Constraints related to Centers

Shelley and John asked Task Force members about opportunities and constraints related to Centers.

Questions/Comments:

- Charles Chestnut asked to consider Alachua County's future development plans.
- Review the Freight Study for US 301.
- The Centers map could benefit from an overlay of parcel boundaries.
- Tim Jackson requested review of railroad tracks and the intersection of Intermodal Logistics Centers such as the Baldwin ILC.
- Rebecca Bays suggested consideration of impact of tourism on the study area.
- Bradley Arnold reminded to continue looking at the growth of The Villages. If The Villages is not where the projected growth is going to happen, where would the growth occur then? Nearby DRIs should be considered (Same issue regarding visitors and tourism). The Villages MSA will continue to grow (2,500 3,500 homes per year).
- Janet Bowman mentioned the need to understand the impacts of the growth of the UF Campus Master Plan.
- Tim Jackson suggested referring to the 2060 UF Population Growth Projection Study.
- Jane Adams mentioned the need to consider the Florida Chamber Foundation Trade and Logistics Studies and the Six Pillars.
- Mike Sizemore noted the Task Force should understand the difference in the various freight distribution centers (local vs. non-local).
- Look at the flood maps and Probable Maximum Loss (PML) studies regarding hurricane tracks.
- Identify the areas where the most important evacuation routes are located.

Opportunities and Constraints related to Corridors

Shelley and John asked Task Force members about opportunities and constraints related to Corridors.

- Scott Adams reiterated his prior comments on evaluation of path of least resistance (quality of life and environmental issues) and economically feasibility of a corridor. He also suggested the addition of a 5th C (Citizens/Community) related to community input on feasibility of corridor.
- Do not fragment the different agricultural industries, understand the impacts of transportation.
- Matt Surrency suggested that FDOT provide a traffic study on attractions and destinations within the state, noting that many people use I-75 as a local road around Gainesville. *John mentioned that preliminary data will be shared in the next presentation*.





Shelley asked if there are any more opportunities and constraints, or studies that the Task Force would like to mention.

Other Questions/Comments:

- Charles Lee noted the CLIP series layers should be reviewed for resource evaluation.
- Brian Teeple commented that an examination of socio-demographic characteristics is needed.

I-75 North Vision Study – 1:42 PM

Rich introduced Jennifer Fortunas, FDOT, to present the I-75 North Vision Study. He mentioned this is an important parallel study that is examining opportunities to maximize the use of the I-75 corridor. Jennifer noted the presentation in Task Force Binder (Tab 6) was modified slightly (order of slides) and an updated version will be available on the project website.

Shelley asked for questions/comments for Jennifer.

- Charles Lee asked if there is a way to determine the total percentage of the cars/drivers that have their Bluetooth on. Jennifer indicated that about 5 percent of the cars/drivers are using Bluetooth.
- Tim Jackson asked if the data are representative of just a sample population size. *Jennifer indicated that this is a sample.*
- Tim Jackson asked why only 5 percent of the traffic is shown going to Jacksonville. *Jennifer indicated that there was a faulty reader on US 301 and the data is being re-counted.*
- Charles Lee indicated he is skeptical about why IP addresses are being used to capture study area traffic. He suggested that older cars and certain demographics are not being accounted for. *Jim indicated that the Bluetooth on cell phones are being tracked not just the Bluetooth in the car.*
- Stan McClain asked that the term industrial be defined. *Jennifer indicated that it refers to manufactured goods.*
- Kevin Sheilley asked what other special events we need to take into account besides spring break. *Jennifer indicated that different festivals and holidays are considered that add to the congestion of I-75.*
- Regarding the lane closures shown in the presentation, Charles Lee asked if the southern study limit is the I-75/I-275 interchange and is it taking construction into account? *Jennifer responded by saying yes.*
- Matt Surrency asked if there is a way to capture overweight and oversize trucks and find out where they are going to and where they are coming from. *Jennifer indicated that she needed to check with the Motor Carrier Compliance Office (MCCO) about these percentages.*
- Hugh Harling asked how accidents are calculated and do they take into account geological or natural accidents (example sinkholes). Jennifer indicated she would need to verify that information, but sinkholes incidents are rare in this area.
- Bradley Arnold indicated that it would be useful to look at existing traffic volumes versus existing corridor capacity. Also, he suggested that the Task Force ask MPO's and TPO's to see if they have any data on existing traffic versus capacity. *Jennifer indicated that this is being done.*





- Charles Lee suggested that truck traffic on I-75 is extremely high according to the maps and wants to know if there are any other studies that do not use Bluetooth, but actual transponders. Can the Task Force come up with a solution to separate trucks from passenger vehicles? *Randy Fox indicated that transponders have been used in past studies for data collection*.
- Rebecca Bays asked if there is a way to identify loss of economic opportunities due to I-75 congestion and issues and where the incidents are located. *Jim indicated that more information on the topic will be available at future meetings.*
- Bradley Arnold suggested using US 301 as an alternate truck route or adding additional capacity on the CSX S line. In reference to a new corridor, where would the CSX railway crossing be? *Jim indicated that CSX will be asked to give a presentation at one of the future Task Force meetings*
- Rich asked what information would the Task Force like on freight.
- Tim Jackson asked that managed lanes be explained. *Jennifer indicated that there are many types of managed lanes. In Florida, most express lanes do not allow trucks and are dynamically priced. This corridor may need to be looked at differently due to the large truck percentages.*
- Charles Lee indicated that heavy trucks cannot be in the left lane on I-75, but this policy is not enforced. He suggested considering a separate highway for trucks.

Task Force Work Plan and Schedule – 2:32 PM

Huiwei presented the proposed Task Force work plan (Task Force Binder, Tab 7). Rich asked the Task Force members if there were any major concerns with the draft work plan. No questions, comments or concerns were noted.

Rich asked for the approval of the work plan and that it be accepted with the understanding that it will be amended as needed. No objections were noted.

Break – 2:45 PM

Public Comment Period – 3:00 PM

- James Dick (East Alachua County resident) suggested that the Task Force reach out to average citizens. He said he is not in favor of a new alignment. He said that private citizens will bring more knowledge to the table that others haven't thought about. He is concerned that North Central Florida will turn into Jacksonville or Miami. He is concerned with identifying the corridor with the least impact that is also economically feasible.
- Kathy Chetoka (Citrus County resident) suggested that FTE knows where this study is going and is not providing historical information about the Southern Terminus of the I-75 relief corridor. She thinks FTE is going to build close to the alignment from a previous 1980s study. She believes the Task Force is being encouraged to evaluate the former Suncoast Parkway 3 alignment. Kathy noted there is a very narrow area within focus area that is not ecologically sensitive.





- John Wade Jr. would like to know the level of service (LOS) on I-75 through Gainesville. What are the LOS projections for 2020, 2030 and 2040? Is the Task Force going to be looking at increased travel lanes from Wildwood north? What is the cost comparison between widening and building a whole new corridor? John indicated he believes widening I-75 is much more reasonable. He also asked if self-driven and autonomous vehicles will be taken into account during this study. He said these technologies should increase the density of cars able to travel safety and reduce the number of accidents. John indicated that the existing freight analysis slides showed the primary need is through travel to Georgia not necessarily Jacksonville. He requested that he receive a formal response to his questions in the future.
- Joyce King (Santa Fe Audubon Society) stated that she is impressed with the Task Force's framework and how it has been organized. She asked the Task Force to keep in mind wildlife corridors and to remember that small towns really matter. She asked that the Task Force not destroy the quality of life for people who live in small towns by building a large road through the towns. Joyce requested that Ocala to Jacksonville connectivity be considered.
- Judy Etsler (Northwest Marion County resident) suggested that the Task Force take wildfire burns into consideration as they are looking at identifying a new corridor. Also, this corridor falls within a recharge area for the Floridan aquifer. Being sensitive to the karst geology, geologic pressure issues and sink holes in the area, she would like to see a presentation from Dr. Bob Knight, a Floridan aquifer expert, at a future Task Force meeting.
- Dr. Pat Wade (Citrus County resident) suggested that the Task Force go to IFAS for small farm information along with gathering information from Citrus County Agricultural Alliance. Also, she asked the Task Force to remember that some small towns want to stay small towns.

Public Comment Period concluded at 3:21 PM

• Charles Lee indicated that he would like to see the study and route Kathy Chetoka referenced. Randy Fox indicated that he would research the study exhibit Kathy Chetoka is referring to and provide to the Task Force.

Review of Action Items and Next Steps – 3:23 PM

Rich asked Huiwei to review a list of action items identified to be worked on prior to the next meeting.

Actions Items:

- Distribute guiding principles with any revisions from FTP Steering Committee
- Develop background materials on the 4C's in the study area
- Consider adding a 5th C related to communities or citizens.

Meeting #2 Objectives

- Review opportunities and constraints related to environmental stewardship, economic development, and quality of life in the study area
- Review the existing transportation system in the study area including planned improvements and other identified needs
- Review guiding principles for planning the future of Florida's transportation corridors and adjust as needed for use in this study area





Rich asked for questions/comments on the action items proposed and Task Force Meeting 2 objectives.

• Task Force asked for Huiwei to send an email on the meeting locations and meeting times as they are finalized. Huiwei indicated she will email this information as available and indicated meetings are typically 9-4 unless noted otherwise.

Rich reiterated to Task Force members if there is other information they would like to have presented at an upcoming meeting or recommendations for speakers, please notify Huiwei.

Closing Remarks – 3:50 PM

Rich thanked Task Force members for a great first Task Force meeting and provided opportunity for closing remarks from Task Force members. Members noted comments that they were thankful to the staff for the information, process, work and presentations at the meeting. It was requested that future meeting materials be provided in advance of the meeting if feasible so the Task Force members could review. It was noted that the group was appreciative of the public's input and comments. Rich reminded the Task Force that they are under the Sunshine Law moving forward and that any communication regarding the Task Force should be directed to Huiwei Shen.

Meeting Adjourned – 4:00 PM



1-75 RELIEF

Name	Title/Organization	Email Address	Mailing Address
Adams, Jane	Vice President for University Relations, University of Florida	jane-adams@ufl.edu	P.O. Box 113157, 111 Tigert Hall Gainesville, FL 32611
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