



**Round Table of Volusia County Elected Officials  
Transportation Subcommittee Meeting  
March 3, 2015  
MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER 8:50 a.m.**

River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization, Indigo Professional Center, 2570 W. International Speedway Boulevard, Suite 100, Daytona Beach, Florida.

Members attending included Doug Daniels, Chairman of the Round Table of Volusia County Elected Officials transportation subcommittee and a Volusia County Council Member, and Mayor John Masiarczyk, City of Deltona.

Others attending were Pat Patterson, Volusia County Council Member; Jon Cheney, Volusia County Public Works Traffic Engineer; Lois Bollenback, Executive Director, River 2 Sea Transportation Planning Organization (TPO); Joyce Shanahan, City Manager, City of Ormond Beach; Gary Conroy, Councilman, City of Edgewater; Joe Forte, City Manager, City of Holly Hill; Pat Northey, Project Manager, Ghyabi and Associates; Alison Stettner, Development Services Director, City of Orange City; Doug Gibson, Mayor, City of Oak Hill; Pam Brangaccio, City Manager, City of New Smyrna Beach; and Jason McQuirk, Commissioner, City of New Smyrna Beach. Taking minutes was Debbie Kelley with the County Manager's Office of Volusia County Government.

**WELCOME**

Mr. Daniels welcomed those attending. Everyone present introduced themselves.

**DISCUSSION**

Mr. Daniels provided highlights from the previous subcommittee meeting that had included a discussion of the County's road plan and current unfunded projects, as well as the costs of Votran and SunRail. He reviewed the possible funding problems for the SunRail extension to DeLand and asked the cities to provide lists of their priority road projects. Mr. Daniels said he wanted to meet with the TPO to get information about these road projects and how they were ranked. Bike trails were an important feature for communities; he would like to see them connect all of the cities and the unincorporated areas of the County. Volusia County needed some form of a commuter rail for both sides of the County, if not SunRail in East Volusia, then an alternative. The 2016 presidential election would be a good time to bring to the voters the proposed one-cent sales tax to raise funds for transportation projects. A professional, successful campaign that emphasized economic development and an improved quality of life was needed for citizens to approve the additional tax.

TPO Executive Director Lois Bollenback provided an update on the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) that included public transit expenditures. The current

forecasts were very different from the previous one due to population and employment, but revenues were close to the same. It included the County road program, which was very comprehensive. When the last LRTP was created, residents had expressed a desire for expanded transit to be included. When considering a sales tax option at that time, it was decided to go with a half-cent tax. Federal highway rules said state sales taxes can be used as an option. The TPO planned on spending \$642,253,958. There were several different funding mechanisms and each one had its own requirements, and Ms. Bollenback briefly explained some of the differences. Currently there were projects on the LRTP, but it needed to be updated to include additional projects. There were several different funding mechanisms available and each one had different requirements.

There was discussion among Volusia County Council Member Pat Patterson, City of Deltona Mayor John Masiarczyk, Ormond Beach City Manager Joyce Shanahan, Volusia County Public Works Engineer Jon Cheney, New Smyrna Beach City Manager Pam Brangaccio, New Smyrna Beach City Commissioner Jason McQuirk, Holly Hill City Manager Joe Forte, Orange City Development Services Director Alison Stettner, Mr. Daniels and Ms. Bollenback about matching money, funding options, how other communities had obtained funding and what the gasoline sales tax breakdown would be for each city and the County.

Mr. Masiarczyk said he thought a one-cent sales tax would be more beneficial in the long run. He reviewed improvements made in Deltona, including the Powerline Bike Path and near Lake Monroe. In other communities, private agencies contributed money to trail development. He suggested Volusia County research this possibility.

Ms. Brangaccio suggested speaking with someone who had experience creating campaigns for such issues as additional sales taxes. Hillsborough and Pinellas counties had dealt with similar issues, and they might be able to provide helpful information on putting the issue on the ballot.

Further discussion ensued among most attendees on what an additional proposed sales tax would be used for, how it would be divided among the County and Volusia municipalities, and how to develop a successful campaign to win over the voters.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.