

**MANATEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
Bradenton Area Convention Center
One Haben Boulevard
Palmetto, Florida
April 5, 2016**

Present were:

Vanessa Baugh, Chairman
John R. Chappie, First Vice-Chairman
Robin DiSabatino, Second Vice-Chairman
Charles B. Smith, Third Vice Chairman
Betsy Benac
Lawrence E. Bustle, Jr.
Carol Whitmore

Also present were:

Ed Hunzeker, County Administrator
Vicki Tessmer, Board Records Supervisor, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Chairman Baugh called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME**

BC20160405DOC001



Chairman Baugh welcomed everyone and participants introduced themselves.

4. **MANATEE SCHOOLS LONG RANG FACILITIES MASTER PLAN**



Dr. Diana Green, Superintendent of Schools, utilized a slide presentation to review the Long Range Master Planning regarding over and under capacity facilities and the need to renovate and build schools. A committee was comprised of school district employees and parents to evaluate the schools. The study findings include constructing a new high school in Northeast County with an initial capacity of 1800 students including a common area that can accommodate 2200-2500 students. Bradenton River High School would be the prototype. The addition of a new high school would bring capacity to 95 percent for all county high schools. A possible site would be on Martha Road.



Wakeland, Oneco, Orange Ridge/Bullock and Tillman Elementary Schools are in need of the most repairs. Wakeland Elementary is a magnet school for the International Baccalaureate (IB) program, and is less than a mile from Johnson Middle School, which is at less than 50 percent capacity. The IB programs for both schools would be combined onto the Johnson campus. The Access program would be moved to Harlee Middle. The K-8 program at Johnson would be a natural feeder for the IB Program at Southeast High School.



Several recommendations were made regarding central elementary schools including closing OrangeRidge-Bullock and declaring the site unfit for students. Students from that school would be moved to G.D. Rogers which is under capacity and newer. The School would be renamed G.D. Rogers Garden-Bullock Campus, and would include the programs for special needs students currently at Orange Ridge-Bullock. The entire zone for G.D. Rogers would be less than two miles.

Several recommendations were made for north county and middle schools. It was recommended to rebuilt Tillman Elementary School and close Blackburn Elementary which would be repurposed into an Early Learning Center with redistricting students to Tillman. A

relief school for Mills would be built in north county. Other options include rebuilding Oneco Elementary on another site. Middle schools could be redistricted using an academic realignment. Harllee Middle has had an F grade the past three years and if Harllee has an F this year, the School District would be required to make changes. Recommendations include reopening Harllee as the Sara Scott Harllee School for the Gifted.

 Dr. Greene reviewed the proposed timeline for the changes if the School Board approves the recommendations.

 Discussion ensued regarding the half cent sales tax and having it bundled with the impact fees and the number of students not taking the bus. BC20160405DOC002

3. **CENTRAL MANATEE NETWORK ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS (CMNAA)**

 Lawrence Massey, Systems Planning Administrator, Florida Department Of Transportation (FDOT), and Patty Hurd, FDOT used a comprehensive slide presentation to discuss the Central Manatee Network Alternative Analysis. The analysis covers both the City of Bradenton and the City of Palmetto. Phase 1 addresses goals and objectives including identifying existing and project deficiencies and engaging the public in developing goals; Phase 2 includes concept development and eliminating non-viable alternatives; and Phase 3 includes programming to further refine and evaluate selected short term and long term projects into an integrated system on improvements. The MPO can add the projects into their work plan and local governments can include them in their capital improvement plans. Approximately 17 percent of all jobs in Manatee county are located in the study area, and 10 percent of households in the area do not have access to an automobile. New transportation projects are planned for the area as well, including improvements to the Green Bridge and widening of roads in both the City of Palmetto and the City of Bradenton.

 The Green Bridge and DeSoto Bridge were both evaluated. The DeSoto Bridge is at the end of its service life and it would more economical to replace the bridge rather than repair it. Origin and destination data was evaluated and traffic counts were conducted as well as vehicle crash analysis.

 Patty Hurd, FDOT, reviewed the findings of the survey. Approximately 47 percent of the responders to the survey live in the study area and 74 percent of students are driven to school. Other topics addressed in the survey include transit, walking and biking. The absence of sidewalks plays a large role in why people do not walk and bike to work and school. Areas of safety concerns are U.S. 41, U.S. 301, Manatee Avenue and Cortez Road. Survey respondents do not feel safe riding bicycles on roads in the survey area. Land uses are separated therefore there is a difficulty to walk to work.

Ms. Hurd reviewed the purpose and needs of the CMNAA which is to enhance the safety and comfort of multi-model travel and access within and through the study area. The Study goals encompass mobility, safety, accessibility, and economic development.

 Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of narrowing 14th Street West, elevated lanes, congestion on the bridges, everyone needs to work together to alleviate traffic and congestion on the bridges, public safety issue, lack of sidewalks, work with the schools regarding traffic issue, and opportunity to use van pools for charter schools. BC20160405DOC003

2. **TAMPA BAY FERRY SERVICE**

 Ed Turanchik, Akerman Sunterfitt Law Firm, used a slide presentation to discuss public private partnerships and the Tampa Bay Ferry Service. Ferry Service is proposed for trips to McDill Air Force Base from Apollo Beach. HMS would take on the operational costs, and the county has to take on the infrastructure improvements. Mr. Turanchick presented a cost analysis and the benefits of water travel as well as economic benefits. The Tampa Bay Ferry Pilot Project will start on October 16 and will last six months; providing service between downtown St. Petersburg and Downtown Tampa. Service may be provided between Apollo Beach and St. Petersburg. The destinations are walkable and the boats hold approximately 150 people. Mr. Turanchik reviewed the revenue sharing between the ferry company and local governments.

 Discussion ensued regarding service to Anna Maria Island, ferry service in the past, , are there smaller scale ferries, and seasonal service BC20160405DOC004

4. **2015 ANNUAL REVIEW – INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITY PLANNING**

 Amy Anderson, Facilities, Sites and Planning Manager, Manatee School District, used a detailed slide presentation to review the implementation of the plan. The School Board is required to submit the plan annually. Assessments are done for growth management, planning and development review and school concurrency, codification and educational facility sites. She reviewed the school concurrency analysis. The capacity of the schools is based on the service areas.

Discussion ensued regarding school choice, building new schools, and concurrency.

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5. **SCHOOL PARKING ISSUE**

Amy Anderson, Manatee School District, used slides to discuss school parking and reviewed the numbers of students and employees at the schools. Of 41,000 students, 16,000 ride the bus. Statute requires bus transportation outside of a two mile radius. Work is being done on parent loops. The School Board tries to discourage off-site parking. BC20160405DOC006

6. **THE ACCORD**

Brian Williams, City of Palmetto Commissioner, noted the accord is 13 years old and all entities need to review the Accord and address any changes they would like to make, or if the Accord should still be implemented. BC20160405DOC007

7. **LIBRARY SPECIAL ACT FOR ISLAND APPOINTMENT TO LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Commissioner Benac explained a Special Act of the State legislature set up the Library Boards, and suggested the Island Mayors concur on recommendations.

 Discussion continued regarding representation for the Island cities, and understanding of who would be eligible to sit on the Board,

8. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

 Philip Brown commented on School facility planning, infrastructure and traffic

There being no additional public comment, Chairman Baugh closed public comment.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chairman Baugh adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.
Minutes Approved: April 26, 2016