

**Tri-Rail Coastal Link**  
**Technical Subcommittee Meeting Notes**  
**June 5, 2013 10:30 AM**  
**FDOT – District 4**

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Participants:

FDOT – Amie Goddeau, Mike Melendez, Larry Merritt, Gus Schmidt  
SFRTA – Joe Quinty  
TCRPC – Kim Delaney  
RS&H – Jaime Lopez  
Hanson – Jeff Bowen  
AECOM – Steve Donald, Dave Schmitt  
CH2M HILL – Sunsera Dalton, Nancy Houston, Ashok Sundararajan

1. Recent Key Activities

- a. TIGER Application Submitted June 3<sup>rd</sup>; available on project website

2. Upcoming Meetings

- a. Financial subcommittee June 18<sup>th</sup> (SFRTA Lead)
- SFRTA working on background information
  - Draft Final Station Market Analysis Report - Comments due 6/7/13; Being reviewed by Nick Serianni and CH2M HILL/AECOM
- b. PI/O subcommittee June 18<sup>th</sup> (TCRPC Lead)
- Agenda - Kim circulating draft agenda today for comment and will send final tomorrow
- c. FECI/FDOT/SFRTA Meeting June 20<sup>th</sup>
- Dispatch/MOW - Mark Hardgrove completed follow-up on dispatch and Maintenance of Way (MOW) questions. David Solow prepared draft MOW/Dispatch cost methodology and Mark prepared final draft – to be submitted to Fred Wise and Gerry O'Reilly for review.
  - Utility Coordination – AAF requested coordination on 22+ non-AAF stations with Craig Olson/Parallel Infrastructure. CH2M HILL to prepare information on station platform locations for submittal to Parallel (see Item 4b). This will need to be updated after infrastructure needs are determined.
  - Hialeah yard capacity – Joe Quinty to set meeting before June 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - Term sheet - Mark Hardgrove is preparing update for review with Fred, Gerry and the attorneys on June 17<sup>th</sup>
- d. Project Steering Committee (PSC) July 9<sup>th</sup>
- i. Agenda: Subcommittee reports, AAF working group update, Schedule, Next steps
- Attendees - FDOT sending an email requesting Project Steering Committee and subcommittee members and alternates. Gus or Gerry to send out today.
  - Calendar - Kim resolved a calendar issue from the last PSC but is going to double check to make sure there is not a problem in August or remaining 2013 meetings.



- AAF is working on schedule and infrastructure. The FEC freight schedule is changing. Information due on June 11<sup>th</sup>. From preliminary review, it is unclear how they are accommodating proposed Amtrak trains. Steve is revising the Amtrak schedules to be more realistic than those in the FEC/Amtrak study. Sunsera noted the schedules in FEC/Amtrak study were preliminary for the planning phase and provided by Amtrak. Additional coordination with Amtrak would be necessary on revised schedules but this could be done as the project moves forward. Steve noted the AAF coordination on Amtrak inclusion is essential as it may impact infrastructure. Central Office has been required that the two potential Amtrak trains be included in the Tri-Rail Coastal Link model evaluation. Amie noted we need to elevate this to Fred and Gerry's attention before the June 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. AAF has stated publically on numerous occasions that they will take Amtrak into account.

d. Stations (FDOT Lead)

- Meeting on May 30<sup>th</sup> to review different station concept plans for the stations in Miami, Ft. Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The Station Working Group summary was reviewed.
- AAF noted the Working Group coordination has been helpful because they have not yet conducted preliminary track/typical section design at these locations.
- Further at-grade analysis near Overtown station is pending receipt of AAF plans. Gene wants a high-level look specifically at a grade separated track to the east outside the building. That may be cost prohibitive for Coastal Link in the FTA process and it is not pedestrian friendly. Per Amie's request, Sunsera and Erin will contact Kristopher Takacs at SOM regarding options that don't impact their aesthetics.
- Gene and John agreed with the concepts for Ft. Lauderdale and there were a couple they all agreed to eliminate. They prefer 3 tracks at the station to avoid right of way impacts. Steve noted this was likely feasible. AAF agrees that the northern station site provides maximum station flexibility. Amie noted we need to develop a station design that does not preclude an additional New River bridge structure (if needed). Amie indicated the Structures group needs to come up with different options to rework the profile at that location because AAF is concerned with the closure of SW 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.
- John mentioned they will begin survey soon so if we have any critical locations we need them to collect; we need to let them know. No change in West Palm Beach. It needs minor refinements to shift the Coastal Link platform closer to Clematis Street. AAF is considering frontage road at station due to closure of grade crossings.

i. Vehicle Dynamic Envelopes (SFRTA)

- Joe will provide to Station Working Group.

4. Technical Areas:

a. Financial/Cost Estimating

- Capital Cost Review - SFRTA's consultants are reviewing the capital cost estimate dated 3/1/13. Joe will provide any comments to study team. Sunsera noted FDOT scoped an order of magnitude capital cost estimate vs. detailed quantities/costs at this time because of the changing infrastructure needs.
- Station/ROW/Capital Cost Workshop - Joe suggested a meeting to review the capital costs in detail. It was agreed that Sunsera would set a 3 hour workshop with SFRTA to review the station parking and right of way needs and then spend an hour reviewing the capital costs so SFRTA can provide feedback on areas that may require additional detail. That way when the infrastructure needs are known in more detail, the capital cost can be adjusted.

- O&M - Ashok noted he had received good feedback from Larry on the O & M costs and was making minor changes to the cost model. FDOT changes will not impact the O&M costs shown in draft memo. Joe said SFRTA reviewed memo and was very comfortable with the numbers and will not be providing further comments on the O&M cost estimate until Project Development.
- Study team suggested a fleet requirements conference call so that the ongoing O&M costs can be finalized by late June. Joe mentioned SFRTA's Finance team is developing a detailed look at their fleet needs over time but it would not be finalized prior to next PSC meeting. Joe indicated SFRTA has 20 locomotives, 50 rail cars and 2 to 3 DMUs. Sunsera noted they would make assumptions on fleet requirements based on SFRTA info provided to date as a placeholder and provide Joe the back-up spreadsheet for review as part of the final technical memorandum. Joe confirmed they had no anticipated comments on the technical memorandum (including Brad Barkman/Operations or Dan Mazza/Engineering).

b. Engineering

- Utility Coordination - Parallel Infrastructure is concerned with potential overhead and underground utility conflicts and cell towers. Sunsera noted the current station site plans are for two tracks only and FDOT did not intend to update those until the Project Development phase. Amie requested study team to provide Craig Olson with location maps on the station platforms and the straight line diagrams with tracks provided (with knowledge they are subject to change).
- Mike said the Structures Working Group wanted information to be found about existing telecommunications fiber that is on one side of the tracks. Sunsera will ask AAF for that information.
- Once safety recommendations are complete based on the FEC diagnostic review, FDOT needs to identify what infrastructure is required to establish quiet zones. Amie mentioned we need to identify when to start that work.
- MPOs are concerned about questions from the press and public about quiet zones especially in Palm Beach and Broward. Broward MPO has a presentation on quiet zones by Joe Yesbeck of TY Lin on 6/13/13. Palm Beach has it on their agenda the following week. Joe noted it came up at the Palm Beach TAC meeting today. Need to consider capital and maintenance cost issues. AAF may be interested in crossing closures to reduce those costs. Kim asked Allie at AAF to develop a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on quiet zones. Kim will suggest that interested MPOs identify a holding project for safety enhancement at grade crossings as part of the priorities they provide to FDOT for the Five Year Work Program by October 1<sup>st</sup> and that the specific priorities can be identified later when more information is available. Gus is meeting with the MPOs in the next few weeks and he can discuss that approach also.

c. Stations

- Kim suggested that cities be informed about MOU being completed. They need to review and provide comments on the Station Refinement report and receive the TOD Report as a reference document for their information. Amie noted the station document cover letter was being coordinated with SFRTA.
- A list of key people (City Managers and Planning staff) should be assembled to send the Station Refinement Report for municipal review. Once it has been reviewed and updates have been made, it will be released to the public. Deadline needs to be set for reviews. FDOT will coordinate with Joe and Lorraine Cargill on timing/distribution list.

d. Environmental

- Draft for COA confirmation was submitted to FDOT for review on May 17<sup>th</sup>. FDOT is reviewing before submitting to the FTA. The FTA will verify the class of action. FDOT will load it in ETDM.
- e. Other Project Development
- Needs to be discussed further to choose better questions and answers for the FAQs because it is a big part of the Public Involvement Outreach. This task is being handled by the Public Involvement Outreach Subcommittee.
  - Next meeting of the Technical Subcommittee is scheduled for July 17th