Call to Order/Introductions

Approval of Minutes

Chair’s Comments

Director’s Report
  • USF and College of Engineering Updates
  • FY2014 CUTR Budget
  • Strategic Plan Implementation
  • University Transportation Center Program Updates
  • Automated Vehicles Project Activities
  • Emerging Opportunities
    o Transportation Finance Forums
    o FTA-related research and training programs
  • Upcoming Events
    o GIS in Transit
    o Automated Vehicles Forum

Board Member Updates

Old Business
  • Transportation Achievement Awards Event

New Business

Adjournment

Meetings for 2013:
November 6, CUTR Transportation Achievement Awards Event

Meetings for 2014:
February 5, 2014
Other dates TBD
Advisory Board Meeting

August 7 • CUTR Board Room and via Live Meeting
Agenda

• Call to Order/Introductions
• Approval of Minutes (05/01/13 minutes are below)
• Chair’s Comments
• Director’s Report
• Board Member Updates
• Old Business
  – CUTR Achievement Awards
• New Business
• Adjournment
DIRECTOR’S REPORT
Overview

• USF and College of Engineering Updates
• FY2014 CUTR Budget
• Strategic Plan Implementation
• University Transportation Center Program Updates
• Automated Vehicles Project Activities
• Emerging Opportunities
  – Transportation Finance Forums
  – FTA-related research and training programs
• Upcoming Events
  – GIS in Transit
  – Automated Vehicles Forum
USF/College of Engineering Update

• Update on Dean Search
• Research Services Unit Changes
• Budget Issues (President’s parameters)
  – Increase the mandatory cash reserves by an additional 5%
  – Manage the use of carry-forward funds at the enterprise level
  – Establish policies to hold all vacant faculty and staff positions
• Engineering’s “reduction” ≈ $1.8million
Other USF Updates

• Dean of Graduate Studies
  – Dwayne Smith
• USF World Leadership
  – Roger Brindley
• USF Federal Relations
  – Monica Richter
• USF Medical School
SUS Board of Governors Meeting

• Display booth
• 1 of 3 statewide programs featured
• New Marketing Materials
Review and Update: 
CUTR FY2013 Midyear Correction

• Final E&G allocation for CUTR in FY2013
  – $642K

• Expected FY13 administrative costs
  – $965k ($322k from RO)
  – Actual: estimate $898

• FY2012 administrative costs
  – $905K (CUTR RO $147K)
CUTR FY2014 Budget

• Still no new information
• College Cuts will be substantial
• Limits what we can do
  – Accounting and resource management
• More to follow in future meetings
Research Project Highlights

• 193 Active Projects
• $15.9 m in expenditures
• $23.8 m in budget authority
High Profile Projects & Proposals

• USF Bulls Bike and Walk Week
• FPTA/FDOT/CUTR Professional Development Workshop
• Clean Cities Coalition Strategic Planning
• USDOT Policy Office Program Support
• FDOT NHTSA Safety Projects
• NNTA Bike Share
• NCTR Integrating Transit in Road Pricing Projects
• NCHRP 20-65 Electronic Grant Management
Twitter-Based Customized Newsletter

CUTRLines Daily

Transportation-related news compiled by the Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR) at the University of South Florida

CUTR Webcast ↔ CUTR – Center for Urban Transportation Research

Maryland Seeks Private Investor for Transformative Transit Project

Cutr.usf.edu - CUTR Webcasts are held every other Thursday from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm (Eastern time). Check your system NOW to ensure you are ready to use Microsoft Office Live Meeting. *Click Accept, Install and...*

Maryland will seek a private company to build and operate a planned $2.2 billion light-rail Purple Line, marking the first time the state has used such financing on a public transit project,” repo...

7 Ways Portland Is Better Than Your City | Planetizen: The Urban Planning, Design, and Development Network

Eerie, Pixelated Girl Lurks in a British Train Station - John Metcalfe - The Atlantic Cities

planizen.com - “Maryland will seek a private company to build and operate a planned $2.2 billion light-rail Purple Line, marking the first time the state has used such financing on a public transit project,” repo...

83a: theatlanticcities.com

In Vancouver, Traffic Decreases as

theatlanticcities.com - While not as horrifying as that demon-lastie who crawls out of a TV in The Ring, this little girl in a British train station packs an uncanny mind-punch. Seen from afar, she looks almost normal -...

FROM THE EDITOR

CUTR at USF

Editor’s note

The Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR) at the University of South Florida, established in 1988, is an internationally recognized resource for policymakers, transportation professionals, and the public. CUTR provides high-quality, objective expertise in the form of insightful research. In-depth policy analysis, comprehensive training and education, and effective technical assistance that translates directly into benefits for CUTR's project sponsors.

Our mission is to solve community challenges through transportation research, workforce development, and outreach. Our vision is to be the preeminent and internationally recognized catalyst for transportation innovation.

CUTR also is the home for the National Center for...
Staffing

• New Faculty Hire
  – Holly Carapella

• Departures
  – Martha Crouch
  – Aldo Fabregas

• Career Path Advancements
  – Pei-Sung Lin
From last meeting

• Compressed Natural Gas
  – Florida Natural Gas Vehicle Act, HB 579, provides a five-year period of no taxes on compressed natural gas (CNG) and liquefied natural gas (LNG) used as a transportation fuel. After the five-year period, natural gas will be taxed at $0.21 per gallon (FL $0.31 for diesel; $0.278 for gasoline)
  – Signed by Governor Scott May 17
CUTR STRATEGIC PLAN 2012 - 2015

MISSION
We solve community challenges through transportation research, workforce development, and outreach.

VISION
We will be the preeminent and internationally recognized catalyst for transportation innovation.

VALUES
- Integrity
- Creativity
- Work/Life Balance
- Community Service
- Objectivity
- Excellence
- Dignity, Respect, Open & Honest Communication
- Collaboration
- Diversity
- Entrepreneurship

GOALS
- Financial Sustainability
- Strengthen USF Relationships
- Add Modes of Transportation to Customer Base
- Deliver “Cutting Edge” Products, Services and Processes
- Deliver Compelling CUTR Stories
- Maximise HR Resource Capacity
- Display Values Commitment
- Create & Facilitate Strategic Initiatives between Universities
Working Group Updates

• Fiscal Sustainability (Short)
• Cutting Edge Products/Services (Winters)
• Compelling CUTR Stories (Staes, Lin)
• Strengthen USF Relationships (Williams, Green, Lin)
• HR Capacity (Reich)
• Values (Gregg)
• Add Modes (Bittner)
• Strategic Initiatives between Universities (Volinski, Catala)
Strategic Goal 1 – Promote CUTR’s Fiscal Sustainability

- Educational Business Activities (EBA)
  - Professional Services
  - Administrative Service Center
- Florida Legislative Options
- CUTR move to other USF division

Goal 1 Team
A. Bagui
D. Hinebaugh
C. Lee
K. Short
Educational Business Activities

- Final approvals in process
- Draft contract language
- Applies to non-research focused initiatives
  - Training
  - Technical Assistance
  - Services
Goal 2: Deliver “cutting edge” products, services, processes

CUTR Edge Team
Phil Winters
Cheryl Thole
Yoli Moore
Mark Mistretta
Martin Catala
Sean Barbeau
Wow! Factor presentations

- First presentations yesterday

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Strategic Goal 3 – Telling CUTR’s Story more Powerfully

• Focus on marketing materials/presentation kit components of “family of products”
• A general CUTR banner with very little narrative, pictures to draw an observer to the banner, and our website displayed prominently
• A corresponding series of banners within the following topic areas (functional areas):
  – Applied research
  – Technology transfer/training
  – Policy development
  – Education/workforce development
• Banners corresponding to the functional areas
  – CUTR brochure will list the programs housed at CUTR and our national centers
  – Brochures that correspond to the four bullets above
    • brief statements of our capabilities, strengths/capabilities
    • case examples, high profile projects/programs, and/or program highlights
Marketing Materials

National Center for Transit Research

Area of Expertise

Area of Expertise

ITS, Traffic Safety & Operations

This program actively pursues in-house projects to develop and apply new concepts and technologies to solve real-world transportation problems. Researchers specialize in Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS), traffic operations, safety, microsimulation, driving study, congestion management, incident management, traffic simulation, traffic impact studies, trip optimization in multi-modal development, public opinion surveys and analysis, and development of effective public media campaigns.

Qualifications & Research

Qualifications & Research

Traffic operations research focuses on advanced traffic signal strategies, traffic control and operations, traffic management and operations, traffic simulation, congestion management, traffic system modeling, and data collection techniques. Safety research areas include traffic safety, motorist behavior, pedestrian and bicyclist safety, transit safety, truck safety, incident management, microscopic route simulation, crash avoidance system, safety program evaluation, driving behavior study, pedestrian and bicyclist behavior study, and safe routes to school.

National Bus Rapid Transit Institute

USF

Strategic Goal 4 – Strengthen and Leverage USF Relationships

• Faculty Liaison Associate Director, Trent Green
• Collaborative working groups
  – Brownfields, sustainability, etc.
• Cooperative efforts on campus mobility issues
  – Bullrunner, bike/ped safety, mobility study
• Educational opportunities and fellowships
  – NCTR and urban planning fellowships
• Proposals, joint appointments, and UTC opportunities involving USF faculty
• Regional symposia on community transportation issues
Strategic Goal 5 – Maximize CUTR’s Human Resource Capacity

• **Short-term** – highlight affiliated faculty, federal work-study students, integrate COE support staff more, comprehensive non-faculty classification review

• **Medium-Term** – Realign organization to:
  – Recognize tech asst. & public policy support
  – Create academic-friendly environment
  – Measure & incentivize faculty appropriately

**Goal 5 Team**

B. Annette
K. Short
N. Georggi
S. Concas
D. Hinebaugh
S. Reich
Strategic Goal 6 – Display Commitment to Our Values

- Values Committee Established
- Assessing Organizational Issues & Opportunities
  - Relationship to Evaluation Process
  - Skills, Training and Educational Support Needs
- Review of Employee Survey
- Developing Communication Program
  - Students Orientation
  - Faculty / Staff Recognition and Incentive Program
  - Awareness Activities
  - Relate to overall CUTR Image
- Develop Performance Measures and Feed-back Procedures

- Integrity
- Dignity & Respect
- Creativity
- Work/Life Balance
- Community Service
- Excellence
- Objectivity
- Collaboration
- Diversity
- Entrepreneurship

Goal 6 Team
Others
K. Seggerman
R. Gregg

We encourage creativity in thought, process and action. Creativity is our greatest resource that fuels our intelligence and spirit to higher levels of understanding, promotes the conception of new ideas and stimulates innovative change. Through creativity we develop versatility in how we conduct business, in our methods of research and in formulating solutions.
Strategic Goal 7 – Add other Modes to Our Research Portfolio

- Advisory Board Appointments
- Consider strategic hires
- Expand Air, Rail, Freight, and Maritime Opportunities

Goal 2 Team
J. Bittner
A. Pinjari
K. Seggerman
New Business Lines

• Feasibility Studies
  – Freight and Supply Chain Management
    • In partnership with College of Business
    • FDOT Freight Academy
  – Automated Vehicles
  – Transportation Structures

• Hope to launch during FY2014
Strategic Goal 8 – Strategic Collaborations between Universities

- CUTR currently leads a 4-member UTC (USF, NDSU, UIC, & FIU)
- CUTR currently applying for next UTC with UIC, FIU, & TTI as Tier I; with Portland State, U. of Minnesota, and Rutgers in 3 different National UTC applications; and with U. of Tennessee and U. of Florida for Regional UTC applications
- CUTR researchers work with faculty from 19 other universities for research, technical assistance, proposals, lectures, conferences, etc.
Next Steps

• Continue to work on Action Plans
• Develop resource needs and integrate as warranted into FY2014 budget processes
UTC Program Update

• No new information
  – Rumor: awards announced in September
• Proposals went in March 19-20
  – 6 proposals; $2.5million
• Lead Tier I in Livable Communities
  – Continue NCTR
• Partner in Regional Proposals, both in Safety
• Partner on 3 National Proposals
  – Livable Communities: Portland State University
  – State of Good Repair: Rutgers University
  – Safety: University of Minnesota
Automated Vehicles

- Consultant Feasibility Study
- Approved THEA Project
- Primary Mission
  - Transportation
  - Policy Development
  - Business Opportunity
Facilitating role of government

Graphic source: SMART: Definition of necessary Vehicle and Infrastructure Systems for Automated Driving)
Automated Vehicles Summit

- CUTR preparing white papers in advance of a Summit
- Synchronicity with FDOT effort
- Expected dates: November 14-15
Tampa Bay Plan

• Workgroups in topical areas coming out of summit
• Spring 2014 “Tampa Bay Plan for Automated Vehicles”
Emerging Opportunities

• Transportation Finance Forums
  – Floridians for Better Transportation

• FTA Research and Training Programs
  – THUD Appropriations
Upcoming Events

GIS in Transit Conference
October 16-17, 2013 | Washington, DC

10th National Conference on Transportation Asset Management
April 28-30, 2014
Miami, Florida
November Board Meeting

• Project Presentations
  – Short 6 minute overviews
  – 10 projects

• Guest Attendees
  – NCTR Board Members
OLD BUSINESS
CUTR Achievement Awards

November 6, 2013

Embassy Suites Tampa - USF/Near Busch Gardens, 3705 Spectrum Blvd.

2013 Honoree

A. Wayne Rich

- Former Chairman of the Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority
- Co-Founder of the Transportation and Expressway Authority Membership of Florida (TEAMFL)
- Of Counsel in the Orlando, Florida office of the statewide law firm Broad and Cassel

Featuring Guest Speakers: FDOT Secretary Ananth Prasad, FDOT District 5 Secretary Noranne Downs
NEW BUSINESS
CUTR Advisory Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

May 1, 2013

Center for Urban Transportation Research, Boardroom
3808 Alumni Drive, Tampa, FL 33620

Attendees:

Advisory Board Members and Designees:
Kim DeBosier, Chair, Bayside Engineering
John Forney, United Insurance Holdings Company (call in)
Ed Coven, Florida Department of Transportation for Secretary Prasad
Katherine Frazier, Florida Transportation Commission
Senator James Hargrett, Jr, Bay Area Concessions, Inc
Sonny Holtzman, The Holtzman Group
Ram Kancharla, Port of Tampa
Ysela Llort, Miami-Dade Transit
Bob O’Malley, CSX Transportation (call in)
Chris Wiglesworth, Florida Department of Community Affairs (call in)

Center for Urban Transportation Research, USF:
Jason Bittner
Martin Catala
Dennis Hinebaugh
Pei-Sung Lin
Steve Polzin
Stephen Reich
Ken Short
Lisa Staes
Joel Volinski (call in)
Kristine Williams
Phil Winters
Kim DeBosier called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m. The attendees introduced themselves.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Following a motion by Kim DeBosier to approve the February 6, 2013 meeting minutes, Ed Coven made a motion to approve the motion and it was seconded by Senator Hargrett; they were unanimously approved.

Chair Comments:

Legislative session is over and Ed Coven will share information on the transportation bill and Jason will share the impacts to the university.

Jason Bittner provided his Director’s Report:

Staff

There are 152 people on the CUTR payroll with 49 students and 42 faculty positions. The Proposal Services Unit position was filled by Amber Moore. The performance evaluations are in process for 2012 and Jason will report back at the next meeting on where CUTR stands.

CUTR Associate Director, Trent Green was hired with sufficient recurring funds from the Provost. He is a tenured faculty member from the School of Architecture and Community Design. He is charged with engaging the broader USF faculty.

Research Project Highlights:

Bittner reported there are 180 active projects which have a total of approximately $12.6m in expenditures with a $21m in budget authority. We have a very healthy rich portfolio starting this year.

Performance Indicators:

Bittner reported 19 proposals were submitted worth $6 million; there is $1.1m in new contracts; and during the first three months we had over 3,000 professional development contact hours (including a new program in Airport Leadership). Benchmarks are being met.

High Profile Projects & Proposals:

- **Washington State DOT**: Developing Guidelines for Incorporating Managing Demand into WDOT Planning and Programming – Phil Winters’ team was successful in competing nationally. The funds will be matched by Washington State DOT with NCTR funding. Transportation Demand Management will be incorporated throughout Washington State DOT with all their design construction, etc. Project to start in July.

- **FTA**: Bus Safety Study report to Congress – Lisa Staes – Through Map 21 USDOT, CUTR was asked to do a report for FTA on findings in regards to bus safety defined as vehicle systems to comparing
motorcoach buses over transit buses. The final report has not been sent to the congressional committee.

- **FTA: Women’s Safety Issues in Public Transportation** – Dennis Hinebaugh reported that the scope is being finalized and it is looking at issues with women travelling with children, etc.

- **USF Speed Limit Study** – Dr. Lin’s group submitted the final report which studied the speed throughout the campus to implement a more uniform speed.

- **FDOT/St. Petersburg/Hillsborough: Look Pavement Marking Evaluations** – Dr. Lin’s group in partnership with FDOT District office 7 is working on this project which involves paying attention on crossing the street.

- **USDOT RITA: University Transportation Center projects** – Joel Volinski reported that CUTR is closely engaged with the selection of projects using the UTC funds. The projects were identified by the FTA staff with the UTC consortium. The projects were then divided among those 4 universities in the consortium. The scopes will be shared with the FTA staff and once input is received by them, the projects will start in approximately a month to six weeks.

- **FDOT: Safe Routes to School Statewide Coordination** – This proposal is competing with other institutions of higher learning and we anticipate being successful. There is a statewide potential of $2m for this proposal; anticipate to be finalized in the next couple of months.

*Bittner touched on other highlights:*

The May USDOT UTC newsletter featured the NCTR project, The Potential of Side Camera Systems to Reduce Bus Side Collisions.

The Clean Cities Coalition was successful; electric vehicles were showcased.

FDOT Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Coalition Strategic Plan – CUTR hosted two meetings at CUTR; in 2013 there were zero fatalities in Hillsborough; the report will be finalized very soon.

COE Envision magazine: CUTR’s bull bike and walk week is featured in the College of Engineering newsletter. We will host another one in September.

Uninorte Collaboration – the Dean will be here to formally sign our collaboration agreement.

Hillsborough County BPAC – Julie Bond was appointed to the BPAC by President Judy Genshaft.

The Commuter Choice Summit that Phil Winters’ group organized in partnership with FDOT was held on campus and was very successful.

The Southeast Regional Transportation Research Conference was held in Orlando that many of Lisa Staes’ group presented along with others from CUTR.

The College of Engineering Expo was held in February and drew 14,000 students.
CUTR was engaged with the Saris Cycling Group for their statewide poster contest.

Phil Winters came upon on a twitter-based customized newsletter that pulls off of twitter feeds. Jason Bittner will be working on one for CUTR in place of the paper newsletter, CUTRLines.

Working Group Updates

Strategic Goal 1 – Promote CUTR’s Fiscal Sustainability:

Ken Short’s group (Arunima Bagui, Dennis Hinebaugh, Chanyoung Lee) are working on 3 ideas, which are as follows: 1.) Educational Business Activities (EBA) in regards to offering professional services and an administrative service center (the Provost would need to approve these endeavors). 2.) Florida legislative options, which would be to approach legislative representatives but as USF employees, we would not be able to, it would need to go through the Provost’s office 3.) CUTR move to other USF divisions, possibly the College of Arts and Science and the Division of Sponsored Research.

Strategic Goal 2 – Cutting Edge Products/Services:

Phil Winters’ group (Cheryl Thole, Domenick Pontoriero, Yoli Moore, Mark Mistretta, Melissa McCarville, Martin Catala, Sean Barbeau). A call was made to identify CUTR’s cutting edge products/services and thirty-five ideas were submitted. The group weeded through them and identified what might be considered cutting edge (“CUTR edge”). The range is anywhere from the 7 patents, T-Best, which is being used nationally, innovative transit training programs, which is a virtual hands-on training, and a variety of models or modes of practice. A screening will be done through a reality testing to find the “Wow” factor. The idea is to have an internal screening and bring in people to view a 10 minute presentation similar to a reality show to have them let us know why their product would be considered a “Wow” factor. Ultimately, it would turn into 2, ninety minute “Wow” sessions of CUTR; to identify primary and secondary products. Possibly implement it by a video shot out of state or bring to the attention in the state.

Strategic Goal 3 – Telling CUTR’s Story More Powerfully:

Lisa Staes and Pei-Sung Lin (Jennifer Illey, Ryan Wakefield, David Fink, Jennifer Flynn, Debbie Schultz) are focusing on developing a “family of products” to better market CUTR. A general CUTR banner has been designed with pictures and very little narrative. Also, 4 corresponding banners and brochures were developed to include the following functional areas: applied research, technology transfer/training, policy development, and education/workforce development. Ryan Wakefield has been working on them and they will be shared at the next Advisory Board meeting.

Strategic Goal 4 – Strengthen and Leverage USF Relationships:

Kristine Williams’ group (Trent Green, Pei-Sung Lin, Sarah Hendricks, Liz Strom, Abdul Pinjari) is working on strengthening and identifying ways to leverage USF relationships through project development and educational ideas (Brownfields is on campus). Advance cooperative efforts on campus mobility issues: Bullrunner, bike/pedestrian safety, Clean City Coalition. There are educational opportunities and fellowships available: NCTR and urban planning fellowships. To work on joint proposals, have joint appointments, and UTC opportunities with USF faculty. Reach out to community on transportation issues.
Strategic Goal 5 – Maximize CUTR’s Human Resource Capacity

Steve Reich’s group (Brett Annette, Ken Short, Nevine Georggi, Sisinnio Concas, Dennis Hinebaugh) are looking at ways to increase the strength of the Human Resources capacity and maximize the workforce. The short-term goal was developed to highlight affiliated faculty, the federal work-study students, integrate the COE support staff more, and to perform a comprehensive classification review for non-faculty members. The medium-term goal is to realign the organization to recognize technical assistance and public policy support, create an academic-friendly environment and measure and incentivize faculty appropriately.

Strategic Goal 6 – Display Commitment to Our Values

Rob Gregg’s group (Karen Seggerman) is on the Values Committee. The values have been identified (integrity, dignity and respect, creativity, work/life balance, community service, excellence, objectivity, collaboration, diversity, entrepreneurship) and CUTR needs to display commitment in their activities. The committee is assessing organizational issues pertaining to the evaluation process; skills, training, and educational support needs; review of the employee survey; to develop a communication program with an orientation for students; and faculty/staff recognition and incentive program. Performance measures and procedures to receive feedback from the advisory board and the community are part of the plan.

Goal 7 – Add other Modes to Our Research Portfolio

CUTR has the nation’s largest collection of public transit researchers and recognizes that other modes will enhance the portfolio. – Ram Kancharla has joined the advisory board to represent the Port of Tampa and Bob O’Malley, CXS was appointed to bring another modal of interest. Another plan is to consider strategic hires to develop prospects. The activity areas to expand are air, rail, freight, and maritime opportunities.

Goal 8 – Strategic Collaborations between Universities

The Provost and Dean would like CUTR to collaborate with more universities around the country. An inventory was taken to see how much collaboration is done with other universities and CUTR was found to currently work with twenty-eight universities in a variety of capacities to include conducting joint research, technical assistance, developing proposals, providing lectures, jointly planning and putting on conferences. CUTR currently leads a 4-member UTC, which includes USF, NDSU, UIC, and FIU. CUTR currently applied for the next UTC with UIC, FIU, and TTI as Tier 1; with Portland State, University of Minnesota, and Rutgers in 3 different National UTC applications; and with University of Tennessee and University of Florida for Regional UTC applications. In addition to the twenty-eight universities, we have a Best Work Place for Commuters program where there are another twenty-seven places that have received that recognition and we collaborate with them to bring the total to fifty-five.

Next Steps

Continue to work on Action Plans; develop resource needs and integrate as warranted into FY2014 budget process.
Results of 2012-2013 CUTR Employee Satisfaction Survey

An employee satisfaction survey is completed every year to engage CUTR’s concerns and suggestions. There were 65 responses out of 148 employees, which is better than normal. There were twenty-five faculty, twenty-three staff, and seventeen students who participated. There is a lot of longevity and not a high turn-over rate. There were a total of sixty questions and Bittner went over a few of the questions. On the whole it was a very positive survey. The student experience is highlighted because it is very valuable for them to receive an enriching experience since they are being trained for the future. He is more than happy to provide the full survey.

UTC Program Update

Six proposals were submitted in March worth a little over $2.5 million. The Lead Tier 1 in livable communities would continue the NCTR grant; partnered in 2 regional proposals, both in safety; also partnered on 3 national proposals as follows: livable communities: Portland State University; state of good repair: Rutgers University; safety: University of Minnesota

USF/COE FY2013 Midyear Corrections

USF and COE received word a mid-term correction was necessary, which resulted in a 5% decrease in general funding; CUTR received $642,000 from the E & G allocation, which supports administrative functions and includes administrative staff and teaching. The expected FY13 administrative costs are little under a million ($965k) so we need to rely on our rollover account ($322k); it would be a little bigger than last year but the proposal services specialist position and the 25% graphic designer position was added to our payroll; all said and done we are up to $60,000 and we will end up spending $180,000 more from our reserve account this fiscal year.

USF/COE Updates and Budgets

Patel College of Global Sustainability is officially launched at USF; Steve Reich is involved with them on the Clean Cities Coalition as well as some of the international agreements. There will be a large official hosting on May 10th with some of the national UN Habitat consignes involving 23 countries with great fanfare.

The CEE senior faculty candidate position has resulted in an unsuccessful search; the primary candidate withdrew before an offer was made and the second candidate did not work out. The money from that search will go back to the Provost’s office.

Challenges: The Dean of the COE received $1.1m less than last year from the Provost. CUTR has always been a cash supplement ($642,000). Over the next few months, Bittner may ask support from board members in addressing the financial challenge by meeting with the Provost and Dean. The Dean has said that CUTR is the biggest priority but he doesn’t have the flexibility to move the pots around. CUTR is almost right back in the same situation as last year. The news from Tallahassee is positive but it is a separate issue. Bittner to meet with the Dean, Provost, and Chairs next Wednesday in regards to specifics on staffing and positions.
Other Issues for CUTR RO

A faculty member was not renewed and this could have a potential impact on our RO.

University changes to fixed price rollovers could be an issue.

Midyear correction – CUTR has received an exemption from changes to our fixed price rollover accumulation. We will be able to meet our budget obligations by tapping some of our reserves.

The Provost Office formed a campus workgroup to look at how budgets are developed and managed on campus but they have not met yet to formulate recommendations.

What it means

We will have a decrease this year; less will flow in than out. We could wipe out much as $360,000 if some of the university makes changes. Over 2 years, we could wipe out our reserves.

CUTR 25TH Anniversary

CUTR will have a booth at the Board of Governors Meeting (June 18-20). Topical forums are planned for August and October. Bittner will be in touch with the Dean regarding space remodeling and potential expansion. A video is being produced and to be launched at the CUTR Transportation Awards. Grace is managing CUTR’s FaceBook page to gather information for a CUTR alumni book and there will be some promotional items as well to celebrate.

New Business Lines

Jason Bittner is working with a consultant to develop a feasibility study in regards to a freight and supply chain management of excellence; there has been research interest by THEA regarding automated vehicles for the Tampa Bay region and our country as well as transportation structures.

Board Member Updates:

Senator James Hargrett mentioned the bus toll concept lanes for Hillsborough County that could make transit more competitive through a partnership between transit and toll agencies and he wanted to know if CUTR would be able to make an investment in this concept. A discussion ensued.

Ed Coven stated that there is a primary transportation bill both in the House and Senate and he went over the key provisions. One of provisions that differs in both the House and the Senate bill relates to the passenger rail commission that was set up several years ago primarily to deal with high speed rail; the Senate actually eliminates that rail commission and the House opposes moving the staffing from the department to the transportation commission; there is a provision in both bills to allocate $15m space ports; there is quite a bit of new language related to environmental litigation and wetlands; there are a couple of bills specific to the bay area: the first one, the inclusion of public transit agencies in Chapter 163 interlocal agreements and the other one involves another study of consolidation for transit agencies; another issue that comes up every year is the bus bench shelter, which is primarily being
driven by cities and counties and bus bench providers. He attended the Sunrail quarterly meeting in Orlando and the one year anniversary of the opening of Sunrail on May 1, 2014 is on track; the Freight Plan is due out on July 1st. The Ft. Lauderdale “The Wave Project” is moving forward.

Sonny Holtzman stated that there are two new representatives in Washington, DC: Congressman Bill Schuster from Pennsylvania and Anthony Fox, Mayor of Charlotte, who was just appointed this week and will go through the nominations process and he is very interested in transit and is an attorney. There is a lot of promise for good potential leadership from these two additions.

Ysela Llort reported that The Transportation Summit sponsored by Citizens Independent Transportation Trust will be in Miami on June 6th. A couple of proposals will be sent out, the first one to convert fleet to CNG and the other one is in regards to a vendor manager bus inventory system; rail ridership is up about 12% from this same time last year and overall ridership is up about 3 ½%. It is interesting that even though the price of gas has gone down, the riders have not been lost but have actually been picked up. In bad times, riders have tried the system and possibly may have liked it and continue to use it.

Ram Kancharla reported that Senator Barbara Boxer is taking up the water bill, which is very important to the Port. Florida is not looking for money but looking for procedural changes to move projects along. Economy is picking up and ports are seeing a rebound. Two studies are coming out of the Florida Chamber with their trade and transport II coming out this fall and DOT is required to release their trade study by June to the legislature and each are 80 - 90% done.

Bob O’Malley reported the construction of the intermodal terminal of the Winter Haven project is moving along and will be ready before May of 2014 coinciding with the start of revenue service of Sunrail.

New Business:

Many candidates were considered for the CUTR Transportation Achievement Award. The committe has presented a recommendation of A. Wayne Rich, who is an attorney for Broad & Cassel, former Chairman of the Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority and Co-Founder of the Transportation and Expressway Authority Membership of Florida (TEAMFL). The Advisory Board unanimously approved the selection and Jason Bittner will contact him.

Legislature Strategy -- None

Senator Hargrett asked a question if there was a transportation tax on CNG; He spoke with Frank Morsani who is doing a lot with first natural gas investment. CUTR could be involved in the study and provide guidance on the infrastructure development and the revenue force. If it is not tax dispensed it will further diminish the gasoline tax bill; Katherine said that most likely not but she needs to confirm it. Jason stated that we can have an answer to that question.

New Business -- None

Project Presentations:

- Commuting in America 2013 Preview was presented by Dr. Steve Polzin, Program Director, Transportation Mobility Policy Research Program.
One Bus Away was presented by Dr. Sean Barbeau, Research Associate, Transportation Demand Management program.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.