



## **CUTR ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**July 28, 2005**

**Via Teleconference**

### **MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 pm by Board Chair John Beck. The meeting was held via teleconference. Self-introductions of participants were made, as follows:

#### *Advisory Board Members*

|                        |                         |                          |
|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| John Beck              | Bill McDaniel           | Kimberlee DeBosier       |
| Art Kennedy            | Bill Sheppard           | Robert Skinner           |
| Marion Hart (for FDOT) | Sylvia Cohen (for FDEP) | Diane Quigley (for FDCA) |

#### *CUTR*

|                 |                   |                               |             |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Ed Mierzejewski | Gary Brosch       | Patricia Ball                 | Steve Reich |
| Joel Volinski   | Kristine Williams | Steve Polzin                  | Larry Hagen |
| Phil Winters    | Rob Gregg         | Debbie Sapper (for Hinebaugh) |             |

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes of the April 2005 meeting were approved.

**CHAIR'S REPORT:** Mr. Beck noted that Dr. Mierzejewski has applied for a position on the Century Commission for a Sustainable Florida, a 15-member group with appointments from the Florida House, Florida Senate, and the Governor's Office. Mr. Beck encouraged Board members to send letters of support.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Dr. Mierzejewski presented a brief report on CUTR and related activities since the last meeting in April:

- Increased activity in public/press relations:
  - CUTR-authored articles have appeared in *Florida Transportation Monthly* on bus rapid transit, airport security, and transit training activities.
  - Dr. Mierzejewski did a FOX-TV 13 interview on hurricane evacuation preparedness and a WUSF-FM program on Tampa Bay area transportation.
  - At their request, the Tampa Tribune editorial staff met with CUTR in July.
  - A CUTR transit study in Pensacola has received much press in north Florida.
  - Several CUTR faculty members participated in the FPTA/FDOT annual training workshop, FDOT's Transplex 2005 conference, and the FSITE summer meeting.
- CUTR is playing a significant role in the new growth management law, including working with FDOT on model concurrency management ordinance and working with FTC on a white paper examining the impact of growth management funding provisions
- CUTR faculty presented the Tampa International Airport economic impact study to HCAA.
- CUTR faculty produced a video for the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged.
- CUTR faculty member Kristine Williams conducted a weeklong seminar series in China at the invitation of Beijing Technical University

- NCTR's STEP program hosted a group of high school students for a week to explore opportunities and careers in the transportation field.
- Two new transportation graduate certificates are now available through USF, hopefully a first step toward a master's degree in Transportation.
- Dr. Mierzejewski will travel to the annual ITE meeting in Australia as a member of its International Board of Directors.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS: Mr. Brosch provided an update on CUTR's federal funding activities, noting that we are still awaiting notification about continuation of CUTR's NCTR funding at \$1 million a year for two years and new BRT Institute funding at up to \$7 million over 5 years as part of the transportation reauthorization bill, anticipated to be finalized by the end of July. Senators Martinez of Florida and Shelby of Alabama and Congressmen Davis and Putnam of Florida have taken the lead on supporting the BRT program. Congressman Mica has been helpful with the NCTR funding. Dr. Mierzekewski noted that if funding for either does not come through, CUTR still has a one-year backlog in the NCTR program, allowing time for new contracts to be sought. If both efforts are successful, CUTR will assess the need for increased staffing.

AWARD DINNER UPDATE: Ms. Ball reported that planning for the 2005 CUTR Transportation Achievement Award Dinner is under way. This year's honoree is U.S. Representative John Mica, and FDOT Secretary Denver Stutler will serve as keynote speaker. The dinner will be held on October 26 at the Museum of Science & Industry in Tampa, and table sponsors are currently being solicited. The general invitation will be mailed in late August. The fall meeting of the Florida Transportation Commission and the next CUTR Advisory Board will be held at CUTR also on October 26, and the annual meeting of the NCTR Board will be held on October 27.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 26, 2005.**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.