CUTR Advisory Board Strategic Retreat

Friday February 6, 2015
8:00A.M. – 1:30 P.M.
USF Alumni Center

BUSINESS MEETING

Call to Order – Chair DeBosier

Welcome

Introductions

Approval of Minutes

CUTR Board Bylaw Amendments

Election of Officers

BOARD RETREAT

Overview of Day’s Activities – Facilitator Audino

Role of Facilitator

Participant Rules of Engagement

CUTR Business Model and Operating Environment – Steve Reich

Telephonic Interview Findings—Facilitated Discussion

Board Mission—Facilitated Discussion and Affirmation

Board SWOT—Facilitated Discussion

CUTR Strategic Issues – Director Hinebaugh

Concluding Thoughts/Next Steps – Facilitator Audino

Lunch.—Fit in as necessary, but to allow a more leisurely conversation at the end of the retreat
CUTR Advisory Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

October 22, 2014

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

Attendees:

Advisory Board Members and Designees:
Kim DeBosier, Chair, Bayside Engineering
Ed Coven, FDOT
Katherine Frazier, Florida Transportation Commission
Senator James Hargrett, Jr.
Ram Kancharla, Port Tampa Bay
Ysela Llort, Miami-Dade Transit (called in)
Jon Martz, vRide
Bob O’Malley, CSX Transportation (called in)
Chris Stahl, FDOT (called in)
Chris Wiglesworth, Florida DEO
Brenda Winningham, Florida DEO
Thornton Williams, Williams Law Group, P.A.

Guests/Presentors:
Michael Bato
Noureddine Elmehraz
Jodi Godfrey
Amy Lester
Seckin Ozkul
Bob Romig, Executive Director, FTC

Center for Urban Transportation Research, USF:
Dennis Hinebaugh
Martin Catala
Pei-Sung Lin
Steve Polzin
Stephen Reich
Lisa Staes
Joel Volinski
Kristine Williams
Phil Winters
Kim DeBosier called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. Attendees introduced themselves.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

Following a motion by Kim DeBosier to approve May 14, 2014 and July 30, 2014 meeting minutes, Ram Kancharla made a motion to approve the minutes and it was seconded by Katherine Frazier; they were unanimously approved.

**Chair Comments:**

Kim DeBosier thanked the CUTR staff and all involved in the planning of the CUTR Transportation Achievement Awards event; Jim Sebesta is very excited and appreciative to have been honored as this year’s award recipient. She looks forward to an enjoyable evening.

**Interim Director’s Report:**

The report was electronically given out prior to the meeting. There were no questions from the Director’s report.

**CUTR Base Budget:**

There were more conversations with Dean Bishop and the college in regards to CUTR’S base budget. CUTR was given reassurance that the college will cover any overage so the reserve funds would not be touched, which has been done in the past in the amount of $300,000 to $400,000. It does not take care of the problem in the long term. A retreat will be planned for January or February to address these and other concerns.

**CUTR Executive Director Search:**

Dean Bishop would like to move forward with the CUTR Executive Director Search; initially the plan was to wait until the budget was finalized. Hinebaugh, Reich, and Polzin will meet with the college to determine the search committee. The College is in the process of hiring 15 faculty with at least 2 of these transportation specific.

**Local Transportation Initiatives and the Media:**

It is challenging for CUTR as a policy center to know how to weigh in on local issues without labeling CUTR as taking a stand for or against a particular matter. CUTR’s opinion is accepted nationally but not as well locally. CUTR wants to be engaged in the community but the political ramifications can put the center in a negative spotlight. Discussion ensued on the positive and negative outcomes.

**CUTR Advisory Board Retreat:**

It was decided that a retreat is necessary to discuss CUTR’S role in the State, the State Statute, and the Advisory Board’s role. It is important to have a business model in place and CUTR will look to the advisory board for their input. How to deal with the university and financial sustainability needs to be addressed. Grace Hunt will contact everyone to set a date sometime in late January or February to meet
for at least a half a day. This retreat will be in lieu of the regularly scheduled advisory board meeting.

**Board Member Updates:**

Ed Coven reported that the FPTA will be held in Naples this month. He reported three other Sunrail segments are in the works. The Transportation Data Conference will be held in Orlando next week. The department will be hosting the Automated Vehicle Conference at Disney World, which will be held 12/15-16/14 with an AV demonstration on the Disney World Speedway on the 16th. FDOT is involved in discussions with the Greenlight Pinellas initiative with the project starting November 4th. FDOT is working with Ysela Llort and her staff at Miami-Dade Transit on the causeway project. The Mayors in Miami-Dade, Miami, and Miami Beach want a connection from Government in downtown Miami to the Convention Center in Miami Beach via local causeway. FDOT recently completed the Freight Mobility and Trade Plan and the investment element as well.

Chris Wiglesworth reported on the meetings with the City of Tampa in regards to the Hillsborough Comprehensive Plan, which is being updated. He also reported on the East Central Florida Task Force. An Action Report will be delivered to Governor Scott on December 1st and will be available on the task force’s website.

Katherine Frazier reported that the Florida Transportation Commission recently met in Tampa at the Port Authority where they toured the facility. The next meeting will be held in Tallahassee.

Ram Kancharla reported that Tampa Port is taking steps to develop vacant land along Channelside Drive, setting up meetings with stakeholders including the City of Tampa, nearby landowners and businessman Jeff Vinik, among others. They are planning to coordinate the Channelside Master Plan with Vinik. He will meet over the next few months to fine tune logistics – parking, transportation issues, and roadway improvements needed to accommodate the plan.

Thornton Williams reported on an article in the news that red light camera statutes as they exist are unconstitutional/unenforceable based on a ruling in Broward County. The concern was that the camera company was issuing the ticket and only law and traffic enforcement officers have the legal authority to issue citations for traffic infractions. American Traffic Solutions (ATS) could appeal this decision. This ruling has implications statewide. It would be a significant blow to red light cameras. Municipalities will need to go in reserve funds to balance budget.

Senator Hargrett suggested to invite high level DOT to the retreat. If DOT were a part of it, we might be able to appeal to state policymakers to help remedy our fiscal situation so we have a viable business model. We need to engage DOT in helping us to restore funding to CUTR.

Ysela Llort thanked Ed Coven for mentioning their collaboration on an upcoming project.

Bob O’Malley reported that the grand opening event of the Winter Haven intermodal facility was well received with 500 in attendance with good media coverage. It has been open since April 2nd and has been going well. Construction will start on adjacent property. Next Thursday in Tampa, the Port Tampa Bay and the Tampa Business Journal are hosting a Trade and Transportation Symposium, which should be a good event. Ram Kancharla will send Grace the invitation to send to everyone.
No other updates from board members.

*Old Business:*

None

*New Business:*

None

*Presentations:*

Seckin Ozkul, Ph.D., E.I., CUTR Research Associate, presented *Potential Growth for Freight Research in Florida and United States*

Amy Lester, PhD, MPH, Postdoctoral Scholar, presented *Fletcher Avenue: Applying a Community-Based Social Marketing Framework to Improve Pedestrian Safety*

Steve Reich, CUTR Program Director, TPJEA, presented *Tampa Bay Clean Cities Coalition – A Collaborative CUTR Success*

*Student Poster Presentations (Showcased at tonight’s event):*

Michael Bato presented *Comparison LED and HPS Street Lightings on Visibility Performance to Drivers and Pedestrians in Selected Corridors*

Jodi Godfrey presented *The Impact of Millennials’ Travel Behavior on Future Personal Vehicle Travel*

Noureddine Elmehraz presented *Naturalistic Bicycling Study*

*Next Steps:*

Next Board meeting will be a half day retreat either sometime in late January or early February.

*Adjournment:* The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 pm.