

Committee Members Present

Councilman Mike Suarez
Dan Malloy
Jack Rodriguez
Ray Chiaramonte
Catherine Coyle
Ronald Barton
Bob McDonough
Philip Hale

Staff Present

Gisela Rivera-Rios
Sandra Pinto
Jeffrey Seward
Lorena Hardwick

Others Present

Mark Holan, Tampa Bay Business Journal

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Councilman Mike Suarez.

Introduction

Councilman Suarez welcomed all members and briefly spoke about the importance of Transit Oriented Development (TOD). He noted that HART runs a bus system and this committee should focus on how to develop the land and areas around current and future BRT lines. As HART purchases parcels of land what can be done to leverage partnerships and create stations/destinations opposed to just having a bus stop. North/South BRT will be operational on June 10, 2013; Councilman Suarez suggested four action items:

1. Identify areas along current corridors that can be developed based on demographics.
2. Find ways to change the plan, what land use rules need to change to make it easier to develop.
3. Could the City/County work together to create a TOD office.
4. If TOD is not going to work, then specify why, and what needs to change to plan for transit.

A handout delineating the BRT corridors was given to all members.

Discussion

Mr. Hale explained the BRT routes to the committee and answered questions about traffic signal priority; installation of fiber optics (entire route); reduction of stops (59); reduction travel time between USF to Downtown (30 min); transferability between BRT to regular bus service; areas that have space for growth: Hillsborough/Nebraska – Fletcher line – Marion Street. Additionally he reported that the East West line is at 30% of the design process and currently looking for additional funding, also shelters along the routes will be designed based on density.

Mr. Barton mentioned ridership, and understanding the analytics of route selection/locations.

Mr. Malloy and Mr. Barton pointed out the importance of BRT lines matching future economic development areas (EDA).

Mr. Barton requested that Mr. Chiamonte loosely map out EDA's on map.

Mr. Chiamonte noted that the comp plan follows the same policies for overlay of BRT.

Ms. Coyle added that there is a new table in comp plan which correlates with density and intensity allowances. Develop TOD master zoning.

Mr. Suarez pointed out that HART Board approves land acquisition contracts, the real question is how to develop this land and in the future look at creating dedicated lanes for BRT.

Mr. Barton and Mr. Malloy both suggested that the committee look at this on a micro level and find the development opportunities already available by current/proposed stations as there may be two to three areas that may already be prime for development. They suggest truly looking at those areas and speaking to the neighborhoods /surrounding businesses and get their support and acceptance of new developments in the area. Mr. Malloy further stated that market trends should be followed opposed to created in these spots and reiterated the importance of matching up the north/south line with current EDA's.

Mr. Chiamonte clarified that the EDA's are on the map since the areas where development should be intensified are West Tampa, Downtown, Ybor, USF, Westshore/Tampa Airport.

Ms. Coyle will work with HART and MPO to create map that shows the stations/stops and how they correlate with zoning codes.

Mr. Rodriguez asked whether station locations are chosen based on distance or per land use opportunities. HART clarified that both are looked at but at this time parcels of land are only purchased to complete the stop.

Mr. McDonough spoke about the development already occurring near Marion Transit and potential for similar and future developments at other stations. He noted the importance of knowing the numbers of people traveling through a station as that number will drive development.

Mr. Malloy suggested the committee focus on looking at intersections that already have viable development and look for the potential that some may offer regardless of ridership numbers.

Mr. Suarez thanked everyone for their participation and commitment to TOD.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.



*Transit Oriented Development Committee
Minutes
Friday, March 22, 2013
9:00 a.m.*
