

# Minor Betterment Program Review and Selection Committee



Department of  
Land Use & Transportation

## Members:

Brian Irish, County  
Jim McCulloch, RROMAC  
Linda Peters, CCI  
Dyami Valentine, County  
Jason Yurgel, CCI

## Staff:

Victoria Saager  
Stacia Sheelar  
Andrew Singelakis

## Absent:

Mike Chombeau, RROMAC  
Tim Connelly, URMDAC  
Sheila Giambrone, County  
Marty Moyer, URMDAC  
Shelley Oylear, County  
Stephen Roberts, County

**November 8, 2012**

**4 p.m. to 6 p.m.**

**Walnut Street Center**

**Training Room 1**

## MINUTES

Victoria Saager opened the meeting with introductions. The meeting minutes were not approved, because there was not a quorum of the committee.

Andrew Singelakis, Director, Land Use and Transportation, thanked the committee for their time and efforts put toward this committee. He is very happy with the program as it has really set the stage, helped the residents of the Urban Road Maintenance District (URMD), and continues to chip away at the huge need for these improvements in our county.

Thank you gifts and certificates were handed out to the committee.

### **Review Minor Betterment Committee Recommendations to Operations Manager**

Brian Irish has prepared a memo from the committee to Dave Schamp recommending a list of recommended Minor Betterment Candidates for FY 2013-2014. The memo has been shared with the other division managers and they have until November 16 to respond with any concerns or questions. The memo with recommendations will then go to Andrew for his review and with his approval it will then be presented to the Board of County Commissioners for approval.

The committee has also provided recommendations to the URMDAC of possible URMD Safety Improvement Candidates.

Jason Yurgel asked if it would be appropriate to attend the upcoming URMDAC meeting to show support for a CPO 3 project on the list being recommended to the URMDAC Committee as an URMD Safety Improvement. Jason was encouraged by staff to attend the November 28 URMDAC meeting.

### **Debrief This Year's Process, Identify Improvement Opportunities**

Victoria asked for feedback on this year's process and what changes the committee would make for the future.

Linda Peters shared she was extremely pleased with the amount of public response received for this process. She suggested possibly offering a longer response window in the future, maybe start one month sooner. Brian Irish suggested a mid-winter email broadcast to those on the email list to encourage input. Victoria said we could start the public input process in August instead of September. We can also increase advertising to encourage meeting attendance for the CCI and the local CPO meetings. Dyami Valentine suggested presentations be done through the winter months to encourage project submittals. Jim McCulloch said a lot of the projects are big money and shouldn't eat up all the funding. We should catch the low hanging fruit and get more projects done

for less money. He suggests keeping the "minor" projects minor. Jason said the public doesn't understand the cost involved in these projects when they suggest them. They need to be informed about the different pots of money and how the funding works. They like to see the new pavement, it's tangible to them, and they got something for "their" money.

Jim said he was pleased with the outstanding communication on the website and encouraged staff to continue with a high level of communication going forward. He asked if people who suggested projects had all been contacted. Staff does reply to every request and let them know their information has been received and will be reviewed. He asked if it was possible to do an email blast to those who provided email addresses giving them a link to the website. Victoria will look into this option.

Jason said this was his first time on the committee and it was a very rewarding experience for him. He thanked the staff, he never felt his time was wasted, and it was a great process. Linda and Jim agreed staff was helpful, accessible and on point.

Marty Moyer shared her comments via an email (attached).

Victoria asked how the committee felt about the evaluation criteria. Jason and Jim thought the criteria worked well and was very useful. Linda likes it and said it works well and it's helpful. There was also discussion about how the committee uses the ratings data to make the list and then moves to the next decision level. The list doesn't drive the decision; it supports the decision. Linda suggested people who are interested in information should sign up for the e-subscription.

Long Range Planning continues to work on a list of bike/pedestrian projects. Brian Irish is working closely with them to review the list so this element can be added to next year's process. Dyami shared there are approximately 800 gaps in the existing system.

Meeting schedule and timing was discussed and the decision for dates and times is made by the new committee each year based on their availability.

Jason thanked the County for responding to communication, running things up the chain of command and the overall process.

Dave Schamp said there are a lot of agencies who are afraid to engage the public, but for the County, it pays off every time. Dave is scheduled to make a presentation to the Board of County Commissioners on November 27 on the Road Fund. [Presentation has been postponed for a later date.]

Meeting was adjourned.