

BJP Finance and Project Administration Committees Meeting Minutes - October 28, 2011

FAC:

Karen Bowling (for K. Hyde)
Jim Dickenson (also on PAC)
AJ Dunn

Absent:

Vacancy

CITY:

Ronnie Belton
Kirk Sherman
Janice Billy
Marcy Cook
Chuck McNeil
Derrick Willoughby

JTA:

Sonja Banks
Hamid Tabassian

PAC:

Blair Fishburn (for M. Blaylock)
Dave Schneider (for J. Beck)
John Osborn
Manny Papalas

Public:

Tony Bates
Connie Benham

JEA:

Nadine Carswell
Helen Kehrt

I. Welcome and Opening Remarks **Karen Bowling**

II. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
Minutes of July 29 approved unanimously.

II. FINANCE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE **KAREN BOWLING**

A. COJ Financial Report **Ronnie Belton**

Last meeting minutes said we would have precise numbers by this meeting; now estimating those figures will be available by the January meeting. The All Years report shows we will have more money coming in; we'll be receiving approx. \$3.4 million over the next 2 years. We won't receive as much in 3rd year, expecting total to \$10.1 million. Otherwise, we are right about where we were before. On track for what we have, close out what we have.

On the All Years revenue page – in range, showing revenue of \$366 million for total BJP program plus investment earnings totals \$403 million. Fund balance at bottom of page, not expecting changes there.

The transportation sales tax shows an increase this time. Infrastructure sales tax is positive 2.40%, Will remove some lines to clean up graphs and focus information next time.

Mr. Dickenson commented that he believes the most important thing over time, once Courthouse is mostly done, we'll pay debt service off and take us to about 2027 [payoff BJP] – most critical to watch that over time. Looking at 1.5-2% increase in sales tax revenue over time, according to last meeting's report; also need to take a look at that. Mr. Belton said if the fair share legislation [currently in Council] doesn't pass, it will take us closer to 2030.

B. JTA Financial Report **Sonja Banks**

Total amount committed (expended /accrued) as of 9/30 stands at \$462.8 million, down 1.77% from June [July] 2011 report. The difference is that the unencumbered dollars have been reduced. The amount committed represents work in progress of 72.96%. Up \$2.3 million in expenditures, but that number will decrease. Total committed down almost \$1 million from year ago. During this quarter, JTA spent \$1.88 million on BJP1 projects, specifically Heckscher Phase 2, Countywide Intersections, Southside PD&E study and program management. The remainder was spent on BJP2 projects, namely Kernan/Atlantic, JTB/US1, E/W Corridor, Southside/Baymeadows and project management. Life-to-date committed for Q4 slightly down, 73.24% vs. 72.96%. Economic challenges reflected in the reduced numbers.

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Good news is that the state Department of Revenue predicts 4.9% above what they initially estimated. Surtax collections increased \$1.84 million from last year. Fuel tax slightly down, less than a quarter from last year. Provided no challenges, we should break even again this year so we can continue in transportation infrastructure projects at JTA.

Ms. Bowling asked what the process would be to use any extra money JTA found itself with; Mr. Fishburn explained that JTA would work in accordance with the prioritization list established with the BJP restructuring from 2005.

Mr. Dickenson asked if all of JTA's BJP1 projects were complete; Ms. Banks replied that not all were budgeted. Heckscher is the one remaining active project and should be done by end of year. Others from both BJP1 and BJP2 were reassigned to the State Partnership Program in the 2005 reorganization, and if a project isn't listed on the JTA project list, it won't be done.

C. General Discussion

None

D. FAC ADJOURNED

IV. PROJECT ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

DAVE SCHNEIDER (FOR J. BECK)

A. COJ – Key Active Projects

1. Courthouse

Dave Schneider

Project remains on time and on budget. Currently 75% complete and on schedule to be complete next May. People will be moved during the month and open May 29. Most of the building is done, doing finish work inside. Next steps include installing A/V cabling, and ordering furniture for public areas. At last meeting there was discussion about Monroe Street; legislation passed Tuesday [10/25] to keep Monroe closed for now. In its place will be an open public space.

Question raised about the issue of having to wait a year to repeal a bill that was defeated in Council. Mr. Schneider and Ms. Billy [Council Auditor's Office] explained in that the legislation technically only put the opening off for a few years, though they moved money from the Courthouse budget elsewhere. So if the decision is made later to open Monroe, new funds will have to be identified.

Schneider continued with his update: crews have mobilized on the Old Federal Courthouse, doing demo and remediation to gut it in order to start major renovations within the next couple months. Elkins will be flooding the market with bids on that project over the next couple of months, and will then pull numbers together and get a GMP. That work should finish in May as well. The Public Defender recently moved from Market Street to its permanent location in the Jake Godbold Building, which saves rent through the end of the lease.

2. COJ Road Program

Attendees advised to refer to the COJ Project Status Report.

B. JTA Road Program

Hamid Tabassian

Reporting from new summary status report, created based on feedback from previous meeting.

Construction on Heckscher is done; it is a four lane section from 95 to 9A/Blount Island. Project will be closed out by end of year.

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Next projects, #19/20 – two intersections/interchanges, I-95/JTB and JTB/US1. Just concluded environmental study, moving into design phase with funding from FHWA. Cost estimate is \$2.8 million to design package for design/build; anticipate we'll have some funds remaining to do ROW acquisition. Heavy participation from FDOT, funding from state/fed sources. In response to a question, Mr. Tabassian said the scope of the second 95/JTB project listed is bigger than the one already completed; it will consist of two flyovers to avoid signals north 95 to east, south 95 to west, and include some improvements on JTB (enhance what is already done).

Phase 1 estimated at \$75 million, entire project is \$120 million including ROW, construction and CEI. The project should solve the congestion problems in that area. Ultimately, it would restore north/west access, whereas the current configuration requires u-turn. Phase 1 also includes improvements at JTB at US1, widening to six lanes from US1 to Bowden. Issued RFP for design, proposals due Dec 30. Anticipate taking about a year to package design at 60%, so once we get construction funding we can do design/build.

Mr. Dickenson asked if they could get funding prior to design. Mr. Tabassian replied that getting the PD&E approved by FHWA was hard, but made it eligible to get funded. Interstate projects take about a year to get through the federal process.

Southside Blvd. from US1 to Atlantic involves two BJP projects listed: Atlantic/Southside intersection and Tinseltown. Yesterday [10/27] JTA board awarded first phase, environmental study to set up for federal funding. First doing visioning study w/public, council, FDOT, since its multi-functional involving residential and non-residential. After that we'll do environmental study.

Finally, reporting on three intersection projects - Beach/University, Southside/Baymeadows and Regency. We completed design but funding for ROW and construction has been lacking. However, FDOT has adopted these three projects and added them to their long range program. They will be funded by the state and done by 2015.

C. EBO/JSEB

Chuck McNeil

For City of Jacksonville between third and fourth quarters, JSEB expenditures increased in capital improvement & equipment and professional services; total \$1.4 million for Q4, or 13.84% of total expended. No JEA numbers due to inactivity. For JTA, capital expenditures decreased, as did professional services. FY 11 BJP JSEB expenditures total \$57.9 million, of which \$9.6 million (16.6%) went to JSEB/DBEs.

Concern was raised regarding the COJ and JTA numbers and the possibility that some data was not being appropriately captured, which would raise the JSEB/DBE expenditure figures. Mr. McNeil agreed to consult with project managers to ensure future reports are accurate.

D. General Discussion

Ms. Connie Benham came before the committee to explain her displeasure with the elimination of the Caron Drive Extension project from the BJP program in lieu of a slip lane project at Old St. Augustine Road and Greenland Road. She explained the traffic congestion is a hazard particularly for people trying to get to the many schools in the area, and acknowledged that due to development the original Caron extension wasn't feasible, but suggested an alternative plan to build an elevated road over some area wetlands to relieve congestion, particularly on Greenland Road. Ms. Benham was informed that such a new project would have to be considered as part of the city's Capital Improvement Plan. Ms. Bowling committed to putting her in contact with the appropriate city staff to vet the idea.

V. PAC ADJOURNED