

Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority
Minutes of September 21, 2020 Virtual Board Meeting
1104 E. Twiggs Street
Tampa, FL 33602

The Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority held a virtual public meeting at 1:31 p.m. on September 21, 2020 based in the Authority's Transportation Management Center, 1104 E. Twiggs Street, Tampa, Florida. The following were virtually present:

BOARD:

Vincent Cassidy, Chairman
Bennett Barrow, Vice Chairman
Danny Alvarez, Secretary
Mayor Jane Castor, Member
FDOT D-7 Secretary David Gwynn, Member
Commissioner Lesley "Les" Miller, Member
Shaun Oxtal, Member

STAFF:

Joe Waggoner, Amy Lettelleir, Robert Frey, Sue Chrzan, Rafael Hernandez, Brian Pickard, Jeff Seward, Judith Villegas, Man Le, Anna Quinones, Brian Ramirez, Carl Shack, Chaketa Mister, Debbie Northington, Donna Obuchowski, Elizabeth Gray, Julie Aure, Lilly Salas, Lisa Pessina, Max Artman, Shari Callahan

The following registered to attend the virtual meeting:

CALVIN, GIORDANO & ASSOCIATES, INC.	Tammy Cook- Weedon
CGA SOLUTIONS	Gianno Feoli
CDM SMITH	John Melendez
FTC	Ralph Toder
HNTB CORP.	James Drapp, Al Stewart
J.P. MORGAN	Jim Cook
KCI TECHNOLOGIES	Bryan Lawson
MACDILL AFB	Tony Rodriguez
MARLIN ENGINEERING INC.	Jose Garcia
PFM	Hope Scarpinato, Brent Wilder
PLAYBOOK PUBLIC RELATIONS	Sally Dee
RAYMOND JAMES	Rick Patterson
RBC CAPITAL MARKETS	Tom Carlson
SARDINAS BUILDING SOLUTIONS LLC	Jani Sardinias
STANTEC	Pamela Bailey
TRANSPORTATION POLICY CONSULT	Stephen Reich
WALSH GROUP	Brian Sparks
WELLS FARGO	John Generalli
WGI	Kimberlee DeBosier
WSP	Jeffrey Diemer, Christina Kopp

Registered to attend but have no company affiliation: Alberto Marrero, Angie Flores, Chang Suh, Eduardo Diaz, Godlene Denis, Harold Williams, Jaimie Scranton, Jean Stepp, Jerijah Locke

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Vincent Cassidy called the meeting to order at 1:31P.M.

Chairman Cassidy read into record a letter from Commissioner Les Miller noting he is unable to attend today's meeting due to a medical appointment.

II. PUBLIC INPUT PRESENTATIONS

There were no public input presentations.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

The Chairman then continued with the Consent Agenda approvals.

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the September 21, 2020 Board Meeting
- B. Approval for travel request form for Board Members to attend TEAMFL November 5th and 6th
- C. SWE Tolling Equipment- CDW-G- \$160,000 (CPMP HI-0001-C-58)

Chairman Cassidy asked for a motion to approve. Mr. Bennett Barrow moved, and Mayor Jane Castor seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A roll call vote was taken, and all Board Members present approved the Consent Agenda items.

IV. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Series 2020A Revenue Bonds and Series 2020B Refunding Revenue Bonds

a. Results of Bond Efforts- Amy Lettelleir

Chairman Cassidy asked Ms. Amy Lettelleir to provide an update on the recent bond issue by THEA. Ms. Lettelleir introduced Mr. Brent Wilder with Public Financial Management Financial Advisors. Ms. Lettelleir thanked Wilder and his team for their amazing work and a great transaction. Ms. Lettelleir also thanked the Board for their support of the bond issue. Mr. Wilder presented a brief slideshow on the series 2020 Bonds.

Mr. Wilder provided a summary of the pricing results for the 2020A and 2020B bonds. Mr. Wilder explained that the financing was driven by the desire to refinance THEA'S 2012A bonds to achieve savings. Mr. Wilder expressed that there were over \$900M in orders for the series 2020B bonds, which was almost five times over what was available to sell. Mr. Wilder shared that based on the tremendous demand for the 2020B Bonds, the team was able to lower credit

spreads by an additional 5 -15 basis points. He explained that the refunding of the 2012A Bonds produced net present value savings of \$32M or 17 percent of par amount of bonds refunded. He commented for perspective, that this is nearly double the 10 percent saving threshold that Mr. Waggoner and Ms. Lettelleir had established leading up to the sale.

Chairman Cassidy commented that he did not see any investors in both tranches for 2020A and (taxable bonds) and 2020B bonds (tax exempt bonds) He asked Mr. Wilder if they are different investors.

Mr. Wilder explained that taxable bond investors are different than tax exempt buyers.

Chairman Cassidy requested Mr. Wilder to look at all THEA's bond holders and to report back with information regarding where the debt is being held and if there is a single entity with a significant portion of it. Mr. Wilder replied that PFM will report back with this.

b. Discussion of Bond Initiatives- Joe Waggoner

Mr. Joe Waggoner presented a summary of Work Program comparisons explaining how THEA evolved its current Work Program to provide the best financial picture for the Agency and service for our customers.

Mr. Waggoner explained that two actions were taken through the Work Program that resulted in moving \$120M out of the six- year period. He mentioned that The Selmon East Phase 1 PD&E study identified two improvements to add slip ramps that would feed traffic into and out of the Reversible Express Lanes. He added that this would provide significant capacity enhancements for THEA customers at much lower cost. Mr. Waggoner mentioned moving those enhancements forward would allow deferring the major improvements that are more expensive, which pushes \$67M out of the Six-Year Work Program.

Mr. Waggoner explained that two changes to the Work Program moved \$120M out of the six- year period. He mentioned that the Selmon East Phase 1 PD&E study identified two improvements to slip ramps that would feed traffic into and out of the Reversible Express Lanes. He added that this would provide significant capacity enhancements for THEA customers sooner at much lower cost. Mr. Waggoner mentioned moving those enhancements forward would allow differing the major improvements that are more expensive, which pushes \$67M out of the six- year Work Program.

Mr. Waggoner explained that instead of reserving a percentage of cash flow for every major construction phase for possible change orders, THEA established a Major Project Capital Reserve Fund at a minimum \$20M balance to address potential capital cost changes. He mentioned eliminating the prior method allowed THEA to remove another \$53M from the 6-yr Work Program. He expressed this puts the agency in a much more resilient position regarding the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19 and allows to do more of the program on a Pay- Go basis.

Chairman Cassidy asked if removing the Major Project Capital Reserve Fund meant THEA is reducing the need for \$53M in bonding. Mr. Waggoner replied that it does, and it allows the money to go towards the projects instead of issuing bonds. Chairman Cassidy inquired if those are protected, reserve funds. Mr. Waggoner explained that the funds are reserved as a part of THEA's financial plan.

Mr. Waggoner explained that the intention was to put THEA in a strong financial position when the findings are shared to the rating agencies. He feels that adding the slip-ramp improvements will meet customer expectations. Chairman Cassidy questioned what would have to happen with the bond market and interest rates in the next 90 to 120 days that would cause thoughts about whether another refinance is possible. Mr. Wilder explained the 2012A bonds represented the only debt that matched the way today's economics worked but will report back with more information.

Mr. Barrow questioned if the agency has spoken to the auditors regarding the changes in the reserve fund. Mr. Waggoner replied that we will speak to the auditors regarding the Work Program but should not be a cause of concern.

B. Planning Committee – Shaun Oxtal, Chairman

1. Gandy Park Improvements-Design– Bob Frey

Mr. Bob Frey addressed the Board explaining that the purpose of this project is to show THEA's commitment on restoring the City of Tampa's Gandy Park, which is currently being used as a staging area for the Selmon West Extension construction project, to an improved state that will exceed its former condition. This commitment includes a pedestrian underpass that will connect the north and south sides of the trail located at the park. The selected area is at the terminus of the existing pathway on the northside of Gandy Boulevard to the southern terminus of the existing trail. Mr. Frey mentioned the proposed designated trail will be seen by the solid green line on the slide. The new trail will include a pedestrian underpass to connect the north and south pathways that crosses the Gandy Bridge. He added the pedestrian trail that will be underneath requires work due to issues with water coverage. Mr. Frey added that THEA brought in a short list of our existing firms. He explained that the agency went with Calvin, Giordano & Associates from Fort Lauderdale because they had a high level of saltwater experience. He asked the Board to approve THEA's selection, Calvin, Giordano & Associates and to allow the Executive Director to execute a task work order not to exceed \$200,000 for the design of the Gandy Park Improvements. The final contract is subject to review and approval of THEA General Counsel.

Chairman Cassidy asked for a motion to approve. Mr. Shaun Oxtal moved, and Mr. Barrow seconded the motion.

Chairman questioned if THEA is obligated to renew and restore the park because of the project. Mr. Frey replied that the City of the Tampa allowed THEA to use it for staging which would make the construction direct and simple. He mentioned in return, THEA will be constructing the underpass for them. Chairman asked if this will be \$200,000 to design and then THEA will have to figure in the cost to implement. Mr. Frey replied the cost will be implemented into the work

program and Selmon West Project. Chairman questioned if considering the success of the dog park, if THEA should consider notifying the City of Tampa to see if they desire to have any portion of the underpass to be a dog park. Mr. Frey noted the city will be involved and a dog park can be put in place. Mr. Frey added this is something that can be explored within the contract.

A roll call vote was taken, all Board Members approved, and the motion carried.

2. Selmon East Slip Ramps – Fiscal Year Funding Shift- Bob Frey

Mr. Frey referenced the Selmon East Slip ramps that Mr. Waggoner mentioned earlier as part of the bond initiatives. He said based on the analysis of the Selmon East Phase 1 PD&E study, they have identified a new reversible lane ingress slip ramp as well as a new reversible lane egress slip ramp. Mr. Frey explained these ramps will allow THEA to use the existing capacity to provide significant service improvements to the westbound travel area of I-75. He added that the funds from the recent bond issue will be used to fund the project but the preliminary work done for the PD&E study will be funded through the Work Program since it cannot be paid with bond issuance due to it not being a capital project.

Mr. Frey mentioned that THEA has been working with FDOT to find out what is necessary to move the project forward. He explained that the slip ramps would cost approximately \$18M with the Design - Build starting in FY 2021. He anticipates that construction for the project would start in FY 2022 and that according to the schedule, completion is projected for FY 2023. Mr. Frey added that this improves system operations from a D to a C and postpones a major, costly widening until FY2032. He explained it provides enhanced movement of traffic for the remaining Selmon East Phase 1 PD&E study improvements when they occur.

Mr. Frey provided an update on the Selmon East Phase 1 PD&E study mentioning that the Design Build phase timeline moved from FY 2022-2024 to FY 2029-2030 and the construction phase has moved from FY 2024-2027 to FY 2030-2032. Mr. Frey expressed that this allows for THEA to take advantage of the existing investment of the reversible lanes.

Mr. Frey mentioned that on the proposed ramp additions on I-75, the egress will be at the I-4 connector which will allow people to come on and off the reversible lanes and complete longer trips. He explained that this allow people to take advantage of the capacity on the lower lanes that take them to Gandy Boulevard. He mentioned the new ramp will require a Type 1 Categorical Exclusion documents and an Interchange Operational Analysis Report that will be submitted to FDOT.

Mr. Frey presented a proposed action to the Board for Approval of a change order to the Kimley Horn & Associates contract for the Selmon East PD&E to provide additional services for the new Selmon East Slip Ramps, which is part of the Selmon East PD&E study area, for an amount not to exceed \$145,000. The final contract is subject to review and approval of THEA General Counsel.

Chairman Cassidy asked for a motion to approve. Mr. Barrow moved, and Mr. Oxtal seconded the motion. There was no discussion; a roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried.

C. Operations & Maintenance Committee – Bennett Barrow, Chairman

1. Selmon East Slip Ramp Design Build RFP and CEI Procurement Support- Brian Pickard, Staff

Mr. Brian Pickard addressed the Board explaining the purpose of the project is to utilize GEC (HNTB) to undertake soils investigation, develop the Design/Build RFP, assist in contractor selection, and provide CEI Procurement Support to allow execution of the Selmon East Slip Ramps Design/Build project and CEI before the end of the fiscal year. He requested the Board to authorize the Executive Director to sign a Task Order with HNTB for soils investigation, development of the Design Build RFP, contractor selection assistance, and CEI procurement for the East Selmon Slip Ramps in the amount of \$430,000. The final contract is subject to review and approval of THEA General Counsel.

Chairman Cassidy asked for a motion to approve. Mr. Oxtal moved, and Mayor Castor seconded the motion. There was no discussion; a roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried.

2. Selmon East Slip Ramp Drainage Structure Investigation Analysis- Brian Pickard

Mr. Pickard explained this involves signature authorization of a contract with Envirowaste Services Group, Inc. to provide storm sewer structures and pipe video inspection and recommendations for the East Selmon Slip Ramp Project in preparation of the RFP development. Envirowaste Services Group, Inc was selected, utilizing a contract procured by FDOT. He requested the Board to authorize the Executive Director to sign a contract with Envirowaste Services Group, Inc. utilizing established rates for storm sewer structures and pipe video inspection and recommendations in preparation of Design Build RFP for the Selmon East Slip Ramps not to exceed \$250,000. The final contract is subject to review and approval of THEA General Counsel.

Chairman Cassidy asked for a motion to approve. Mr. Barrow moved, and Mayor Castor seconded the motion. There was no discussion; a roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried.

3. THEA Headquarters Renovations and TMC A/C Upgrades- Brian Pickard

Mr. Pickard reminded the board of the THEA renovations that have been planned but not yet executed over the past several years. He said the purpose of the renovations are to provide selective demolition and interior reconfiguration of non-loadbearing partition walls, door changes, upgraded audio visual, lighting, security, and data network, mechanical, electrical, plumbing and fire protection modifications, HVAC rooftop equipment replacement and new casework as well as a comprehensive update to floor, wall, ceiling and elevator finishes throughout the building. He asked for the Board approval to authorize THEA staff to negotiate

and execute needed task orders and contracts with vendors. The final contract is subject to review and approval of THEA General Counsel.

Chairman Cassidy asked for a motion to approve. Mr. Oxtal moved, and Mr. Barrow seconded the motion. There was some discussion.

The Chairman asked Mr. Waggoner how much original cost of renovations were two years ago. Mr. Waggoner replied they started at \$5M. The Chairman expressed his appreciation and thanked Mr. Waggoner and his team for their work on getting the amount down to exactly what was needed.

There was no further discussion; a roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried.

4. Meridian Improvements at Twiggs CEI Contract- Brian Pickard

Mr. Pickard mentioned that the contract for Meridian Improvements with the Twiggs CEI Contract will be presented as low bid in October. He added that the Board approved the selection of the contract in the July Board Meeting. He explained the purpose of this action item is to authorize signature of the CEI contract with EXP to provide construction, engineering and inspection services for the Meridian Improvement at Twiggs project. EXP was selected in accordance with THEA Procurement services. The selection of EXP was approved by the Board on July 22, 2020. The contract negotiations were finalized for an amount of \$386,000. Mr. Pickard requests the Board to authorize the Executive Director to sign the Meridian Improvements at Twiggs CEI contract with EXP in the amount of \$386,000. The final contract is subject to review and approval of THEA General Counsel.

Chairman Cassidy asked for a motion to approve. Mr. Oxtal moved, and Mayor Castor seconded the motion. There was no discussion; a roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried.

V. STAFF REPORTS

A. Operations & Maintenance – Brian Pickard

Mr. Pickard presented slides regarding the progress on the Selmon West extension over Gandy Boulevard. He asked the Board to note the change from last month and that they are proceeding with the grinding of the concrete to get a smooth surface.

Chairman Cassidy asked if the expectation is that the retention ponds hold water most of the time. Mr. Pickard replied that it is correct and explained that they are wet ponds not dry ponds. He mentioned that the supports go beyond Lois Avenue. Mr. Pickard added that the segments ended mid-June going towards Westshore. Mr. Pickard added that this shows the dramatic work increase Kiewit has completed over the past couple of months. Mr. Pickard referenced the casting yard and added that there are 150 segments left in the yard which are getting removed daily. He added they are at a 9-day turnaround per span right now, which is the fastest Kiewit has been in the history of the project.

Chairman Cassidy mentioned that he thought they were done fabricating spans. Mr. Pickard replied that they are done, being stored there due to lack of space on the structure to place them together without them getting in the way of each other. He added they are keeping one casting unit in place in case of emergency. Chairman Cassidy questioned the 9-day turnaround; Mr. Pickard replied that it refers to the 9 days it takes Kiewit to complete each span, pier to pier.

Chairman Cassidy asked when the anticipated date for the last segment; Mr. Pickard replied hopefully by the end of the year. Mr. Waggoner added that he and Mr. Pickard are very interested in watching the last segment being dropped in. He mentioned they had a safe spot to view it on the already constructed ramps and offered an invitation to the Board to watch.

Mr. Pickard provided the Board an update on the Selmon Safety Project. He explained that all the median work has been done and that the focus now is on paving and drainage work. He added that the drainage work was held a little later than intended and there were some flooding issues but that will be solved shortly. Mr. Pickard mentioned that this project will be done by early November. He concluded his report with two slides showing the pier up lighting and explained right now they are focused placing the conduits in the segments of the REL. Chairman Cassidy questioned when the Agency will see a fully lit aerial. Mr. Pickard replied around next summer.

B. Toll Operations – Rafael Hernandez

Mr. Rafael Hernandez briefed the Board on toll operations for July 2020. Mr. Hernandez explained THEA continues monitoring transaction counts and how they are servicing customers by account type. He referenced a slide to the Board showing a minus 17.9% on total accounts processed and a minus 26.7% for transactions processed, compared to July 2019. He added the split continues to be the same between Sun Pass and Toll-By-Plate transactions. Mr. Hernandez mentioned that they continue to help customers make their payments through these difficult times. He explained they are trying to breakdown the negative 26.7% transaction counts by doing an analysis on average daily traffic on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday to stay consistent with the criteria used by FDOT. Mr. Hernandez stated a minus 30% for the west group and minus 24.7% on the east group for July 2020. He concluded his report mentioning that while they keep monitoring day to day operations, there has been a slight increase in traffic

C. Finance Update – Jeff Seward

Mr. Jeff Seward introduced himself to the board. Mr. Seward reported a straightforward representation of THEA's finances for the first month of the Fiscal Year. He referenced that the new bond revenue that Mr. Waggoner spoke about earlier is not reflected in these numbers but once it is represented it will be pointed out. Mr. Seward also indicated he will be working on a format that may be a little different than this. He thanked the Board members for giving him the opportunity to speak to them and provide some great insights into the organization. Mr. Seward expressed that he looks forward to the upcoming meetings and getting to know the Board and is excited to be part of the team.

D. Public Affairs & Communications – Sue Chrzan

M. Sue Chrzan congratulated Mr. Hernandez for being honored as a Tampa Bay 40 under 40 Honoree. She mentioned speaking to Board members before the Selmon Studies PD&E Alternatives Meeting and that the turn-out went very well with over 150 people in attendance. Ms. Chrzan added that they have two other meetings this week on Tuesday and Thursday to talk to the community in more detailed, less structured conversation. She concluded her report by announcing that Communications Department had won the Business to Business Marketer of the Year award from the Marketing Association Tampa Bay Chapter.

VI. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

A. Executive Director (Joe Waggoner)

Mr. Waggoner reported on continuing contracts. He provided an update on the Neology Inc. contract related to the Agency's Toll-by-Plate functions. Mr. Waggoner mentioned this is a three-year contract with two 1-year options and is up for renewal this year. He stated unless otherwise noted by the Board, THEA intends to move forward with next month.

Mr. Waggoner provided an update on the Selmon South Safety Project Design – Build Contract. He mentioned that upon doing the excavation, Granite Construction had encountered some contaminated soils that they had to deal with. He mentioned he approved a change order of \$104,187 to take care of that concern.

Mr. Waggoner expressed his appreciation to Secretary David Gwynn and his staff at FDOT District 7 for their help on the ramp discussions they have been having with THEA and the very quick, positive turnaround times. He congratulated Mayor Castor and the City of Tampa for receiving the Riverwalk grant, valued at \$24M. Mr. Waggoner feels this grant is a great opportunity to add to the Riverwalk. Mayor Castor mentioned that she has a press conference regarding the grant along with Congresswoman Kathy Castor and Senators Marco Rubio and Rick Scott helped a great deal with that. She credited her predecessor, Mayor Bob Buckhorn who started the process and expressed that it is transformational for the community. She added that City of Tampa is one of two sites in Florida that will receive the grant funding. The other being in Hillsborough County. Mr. Waggoner shared that THEA was proud to participate in former Mayor Buckhorn's effort. He mentioned that the Agency jointly procured a Tiger Grant to add to the Riverwalk earlier and that he would love to see it grow.

Chairman Cassidy asked if Mayor Castor will be able to walk along the Riverwalk to her office. Mayor Castor replied not exactly but that it will be 12.2 miles of connections and they are going to have segregated bike and walking lanes along Columbus Drive, through Platt Street and down through the Riverwalk up to Jackson Street which will take people through Ybor City and East Tampa. Mayor Castor expressed her excitement for being able to connect through many neighborhoods in multiple ways.

B. General Counsel (Amy Lettelleir, Esq.)

Ms. Lettelleir did not have anything to report but asked the Board to make a point of clarification regarding the THEA Headquarters renovations and TMC upgrade. She explained it was said that LEMA was the top bidder for the building rehab but the notice of intent, decision and ranking showed Trias Construction so the award approved by the Board was for Trias.

C. Chairman (Vincent Cassidy)

Upcoming Meetings

The Chairman requested to hold the Committee Meeting scheduled for Monday October 12, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. He explained that there will still be some discussion that day regarding the South Selmon Study that will be presented by Mr. Waggoner. The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting is Monday, October 26, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Cassidy asked THEA staff to keep him informed on the policy and procedure updates. He explained they are not out-dated but do need to be revised and that he will look for that more towards the end of the year.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Castor wanted to congratulate Mr. Hernandez on being a Tampa Bay 40 under 40 nominee. She expressed that is an incredible honor and thanked Ms. Chrzan for receiving the Business to Business Marketing of the Year award from the Marketing Association Tampa Bay Chapter.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Cassidy adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

APPROVED: 
Chairman: Vincent J. Cassidy

ATTEST: 
Vice-Chair: Bennett Barrow

DATED THIS 26th DAY of October 2020