

Have a Safe 2005

The officials and staff of the Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency would like to remind you to be careful in 2005. Whether you are driving on the roads, walking or bicycling please obey all traffic laws and use common sense.



FAQ's (Frequently Asked Questions)

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- Leon County School Board have voting seats. Voting power is determined on a formula based on population.
- Q.** What are the costs to my community?
- A.** Very little. The costs of the professional staff, which manage the program, are almost entirely paid for by state and federal funds. Each participating government will make a contribution that's based on the size of its population.
- Q.** How are decisions made?
- A.** Decisions are made in public meetings, which are always advertised in advance. The CRTPA is advised by three subcommittees. One committee is comprised of members of the public – the Citizen's Advisory Committee. Another is comprised of technical professionals that work for the member governments – the Transportation Technical Coordinating Committee. The third committee is made up of professionals and citizens that advise the CRTPA on issues regarding walking and bicycling. This is the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee.
- Q.** What projects will the CRTPA construct?
- A.** This is a trick question. The answer is: NONE. The CRTPA is a *planning* agency, not an implementation agency. The CRTPA plans transportation projects that are generally built with state dollars.

Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency 2005 Board & Subcommittee Meeting Dates

CRTPA Board	Technical Coordinating Committee	Citizens Advisory Committee	Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee	Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
Meeting Day/Time: Monday, 3:00 PM	Meeting Day/Time: Tuesday, 9-11 AM	Meeting Day/Time: Tuesday, 12-2 PM	Meeting Day/Time: Tuesday, 4-6 PM	Meeting Day/Time: Wednesday, 2 PM
January 24, 2005	January 4, 2005	January 4, 2005	January 4, 2005	January 12, 2005
February 21, 2005	February 8, 2005	February 8, 2005	February 8, 2005	April 13, 2005
March 14, 2005	March 1, 2005	March 1, 2005	March 1, 2005	July 13, 2005
May 23, 2005	May 10, 2005	May 10, 2005	May 10, 2005	October 19, 2005
June 20, 2005	June 7, 2005	June 7, 2005	June 7, 2005	
September 26, 2005	September 13, 2005	September 13, 2005	July 5, 2005	
November 21, 2005	November 8, 2005	November 8, 2005	August 2, 2005	
			September 13, 2005	
			November 8, 2005	

- TOWN OF HAVANA GADSDEN COUNTY
CITY OF MIDWAY LEON COUNTY
CITY OF QUINCY WAKULLA COUNTY
CITY OF TALLAHASSEE
LEON COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

A Message from the Chair

No one can deny the importance of transportation in our everyday lives. As Florida's Capital Area grows, it becomes apparent to all of us that transportation needs are not contained by county lines and city limits. The creation of the Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency heralds an important new beginning in regional transportation planning. Officials from Tallahassee, Midway, Havana, Quincy, and Leon, Wakulla, and Gadsden Counties now have a forum to discuss and make decisions on important regional transportation issues.



A generation ago no one could have anticipated the traffic congestion and transportation demands of today. Effective transportation planning is part of the legacy we leave the next generation. Working together as partners, our goal is to enhance intermodal mobility that supports transportation needs and sound economic development.

Commissioner Andrew Gillium, Chair

The Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA)

The CRTPA is a metropolitan planning organization. In fact, until recently it was the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). It is a transportation policy-making board comprised of representatives from local government and transportation authorities. The CRTPA is responsible for establishing a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process for Leon County, parts of Wakulla and Gadsden Counties and the cities of Havana, Midway Quincy and Tallahassee. The CRTPA operates according to federal and state laws.

FAQ's (Frequently Asked Questions)

- Q.** Why was the CRTPA formed?
- A.** As a result of the 2000 decennial Census it was determined that the urbanized population growth of the Tallahassee area now reached beyond the boundaries of Leon County. Federal laws require that all urbanized areas plan for transportation needs cooperatively. The CRTPA is the expansion of the Tallahassee-Leon County MPO into parts of Wakulla and Gadsden Counties.
- Q.** Why is the CRTPA important to the community?
- A.** Transportation planning is important to everyone. How well a citizen can travel to work, school, the shopping mall or the hospital affects their safety and quality of life. The CRTPA provides an independent yet cooperative forum for regional planning and the allocation of millions of dollars in federal transportation funding annually. The CRTPA also helps citizens speak with one voice to their state and federal legislators on transportation-related issues. Most importantly, effective public involvement insures scarce tax dollars are used in accordance with the greatest needs and desires of the people.
- Q.** Who is the CRTPA?
- A.** The CRTPA is made up of elected officials from Gadsden, Leon, and Wakulla Counties. Officials from the municipalities of Havana, Midway, Quincy, and Tallahassee, along with a representative from the

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Year 2025 Long Range Transportation Plan

The Year 2025 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is the foundation for transportation improvements in the Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA) area. The plan is a collaborative effort between the community, elected officials, and professionals from the local, state and federal government, to address the transportation needs and funding for the next twenty years. This plan is updated every five years to reflect the changes in community needs, population, economics, employment, and land use.

Currently, the project is in the initial phases of development with staff working on the existing conditions of our transportation system. During calendar year 2005 the project will come to life as we begin developing financial resources materials, the transportation Needs Plan, the Cost Feasible Plan and a public involvement process. The project is schedule to be completed by the end of 2005 with the final document completed by March of 2006. Included in this effort is an analysis of the roadway system, transit system and bicycle and pedestrian systems as well as addressing the needs of transportation disadvantaged citizens.

Get Involved!

You may wonder how you can get involved in the transportation planning process. Look for notices of our meetings, in this newsletter and in local newspapers. Look for our booth at community events. Our webpage, www.crtpa.org will be up and running in the near future. Call us with questions at (850) 891-8540.

Thanks for reading this newsletter!!



Bicycle and Pedestrian Program

Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan

The CRTPA adopted its first-ever comprehensive Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan at its May 17, 2004 meeting. The Master Plan is a strategic 20-year plan for facilities and programs to improve safety, connectivity and comfort for pedestrians and bicyclists as a functional part of the countywide transportation system. Projects included in the Master Plan would add approximately 70 miles of sidewalks, 30 miles of bike lanes or routes, and 23 miles of shared use paths throughout the County. The Master Plan also identifies specific pedestrian treatments to improve accessibility along TalTran bus routes and includes 56 projects that specifically create safer walking conditions within ¼ mile of the county's 47 public schools.

CRTPA staff is beginning implementation of the Master Plan, including development of a specific list of projects that will implement the number-one-priority Access to Schools program included in the Master Plan.

2004 Bicycling & Walking Awards

The CRTPA and the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee presented the 2004 Bicycling & Walking Awards at the January CRTPA meeting. These second annual Awards recognize individuals, businesses, media and other organizations for creating pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly places in the CRTPA's planning area. This year's award recipients are:

Advocacy Award for the outstanding citizen advocate and citizen organization that promote bicycling and walking issues

Individual: Chris Sands

Organization: Krank It Up! Community Bike Project located in Railroad Square.

Business Award for the establishment that promotes and facilitates bicycling and walking.

SouthWood, a St. Joe Hometown

Leadership Award for a professional and elected official active in the furthering of bicycling and walking issues.

Professional: Rick Stoutamire, Florida Department of Transportation, District Three, Midway

Elected Official: Commissioner Bob Rackleff, Leon County Commissioner and Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency Member

Media Award for a media organization that promotes bicycling and walking issues.

Tallahassee Democrat

Promotional Event for the best event that promotes bicycling and walking.

Patricia Maurer Commuter Choices Week

The CRTPA congratulates each of the 2004 Award Winners!

For more information about the Master Plan or other activities of the CRTPA's Bicycle & Pedestrian Program, please contact Jennifer Carver at carverj@talgov.com or 891-8090.



LAKE JACKSON ECOPASSAGE

The purpose of the Lake Jackson Ecopassage Feasibility Study is to look for opportunities to provide for the safe passage of wildlife and the traveling public along the North Monroe Street corridor between Clara Kee Boulevard and Capital Circle, Northwest. The project has made substantial progress including the following:

1. Existing Conditions Report: This report was completed and approved in November 2004 and includes a collection of historical data as well as data assembled from the field.
2. Public Involvement: There were two public information meetings held for the project. In August the first public information meeting presented some initial data collected for the project as well as concepts to consider as alternatives. However, the big event for the project was the second public meeting held at Lake Jackson. Over 80 people were in attendance and in support of the ecopassage project. Project team members presented the alternatives for the project and received a lot of positive feedback regarding their work on the project.
3. Alternatives Considered and Preferred Alternative Report: This report focused on several alternatives and included cost estimates of each. These alternatives ranged from a "do nothing" scenario to the construction of a bridge. The alternatives also varied in cost from a no cost option up to \$25,000,000+ for the re-routing of the road. However, the option that proved to be the best fit for this project and was voted on by the CRTPA as the "Preferred Alternative" includes the construction of four passages under the roadway in conjunction with a wildlife wall. This option is estimated to cost approximately \$3,400,000.

The Final Report for the project will be submitted to the CRTPA in March of 2005 for approval with staff beginning to seek funds for the design and construction of the project.

Draft FY 2006 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to be Available for Review

The CRTPA's draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) will be available for review beginning in March 2005. This document is developed annually to detail the transportation planning activities and products to be developed by the CRTPA and other transportation planning agencies. In addition, the UPWP provides the basis for the allocation of federal, state and local funds for the long range transportation planning activities within the CRTPA. The draft UPWP will be posted on the CRTPA's web site or you may request a copy by calling our office at 891-8540. In addition, the draft will be presented to the CRTPA and its subcommittees in March. For more information, please contact Greg Burke at 891-8540.



Draft FY 2006 – FY 2010 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to be Available for Review

The CRTPA's draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2006-2010 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) will be available for review beginning in March 2005. Developed annually by the CRTPA, the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) provides a comprehensive list of transportation projects occurring within the MPO area within the next five years. The draft FY 2006 – FY 2010 will be posted on the CRTPA's website as well as presented to the CRTPA and its subcommittees in March. In addition, a public hearing on the TIP will be held in May. For more information, please contact Greg Burke at 891-8540.