

# Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency Board of Directors Budget Workshop Minutes

**Date:** September 15, 2022  
**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Benjamin H. Pingree, PLACE Director  
**Subject:** Summary Minutes to Board of Directors Budget Workshop of May 19, 2022

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## **MEMBERS PRESENT**

<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>CITY</b>
Commissioner Nick Maddox, Chair	Commissioner Curtis Richardson, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Kristin Dozier	Mayor John Dailey
Commissioner Carolyn Cummings	Commissioner Dianne Williams-Cox
Commissioner Brian Welch	Commissioner Jeremy Matlow
Commissioner Rick Minor	Commissioner Jacqueline Porter
Commissioner Bill Proctor	

## **I. WORKSHOP ITEM**

**Mayor Dailey moved to allow Commissioner Proctor to participate in the Workshop virtually. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

**Passed 9-0 (weighted: 55-0)**

**Commissioner Jackson was absent, and Commissioner Maddox was out of the room.**

Director of PLACE, Ben Pingree, introduced the item and outlined presentation points including process, timeline, revenue estimates, and recommendations for the Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency (Blueprint Infrastructure and the Office of Economic Vitality). Director Pingree highlighted the increased revenue, the conservative budget, summarized the budget development process, and explained the five-year project plan. Finally, Director Pingree provided an update on the 2022 Bond Issuance stating that Blueprint was able to secure the bond at an interest rate of 2.5971% and that since the time of the issuance, interest rates have risen resulting in a cost savings for Blueprint.

The Agency's Senior Accountant, Tres Long, provided a brief presentation on the budget process and revenue estimates including an estimated 12% revenue increase for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022. Overall staff expects that revenue will continue to grow through 2040 by 3.34 percent during the life of the tax for a total revenue amount of \$831.33 million. The presentation included inflation considerations and a summary of the budget categories for operating expenses and capital improvements.

Autumn Calder, Director of Blueprint, provided a brief presentation on the draft FY 2023 Operating Budget and five-year CIP for Blueprint Infrastructure including estimated revenues of \$47.97 million for FY 2023. The Five-Year Capital Budget directs expenditure of over \$236 million for the 33 community projects; fully funds eight Regional Mobility, Gateway, and Placemaking projects; provides \$49.5 million for sidewalks, parks, transit, water quality, bicycle infrastructure, and greenways; and includes \$120 million in bond funding. The draft Operating Budget also includes cost of living adjustments.

Mayor Dailey inquired about the funding for the Thomasville Road trail and asked why it was included in the FY 2023 funding. Director Calder explained that in 2019 the IA Board approved prioritization of the greenways master plan project, which included the Thomasville Road trail. Mayor Dailey also asked whether the Thomasville Road trail would be fully funded by Blueprint. Director Calder explained that the funding was nearly a 50/50 with funding coming from the CRTPA from the State. Mayor Dailey also asked would the Thomasville Road trail project come before the IA Board individually for a discussion on whether to proceed with funding. Director Calder responded that the Thomasville Road trail is funded as a part of the Market District Placemaking project and the Greenways project, and would be coming back before the IA Board for discussion early next calendar year.

Commissioner Jacqueline Porter requested clarification on what is considered a protected bike lane. Director Calder explained that a protected bike lane would have a physical delineator between the bike lane and the traffic lane.

Cristina Paredes, Director of the Office of Economic Vitality, presented the draft FY 2023 Operating Budget and five-year CIP for OEV. She stated there is a projected sales tax revenue of \$127.9 million dedicated to OEV through 2039. She explained that the draft five-year budget fully funds committed OEV incentives, allocates funding to support strategic business recruitment, and includes \$2 million towards the competitive projects fund. The draft Operating Budget also includes cost of living adjustments and funding for two new MWSBE positions as approved in FY 2022. Director Paredes explained that \$12.28 million will be invested over the next five years towards economic development programs such as MWSBE Business to Business activities, Competitive Projects Fund, the Targeted Business Programs, Tallahassee International Airport, business development related to magnets, and a multi-year marketing campaign.

Mayor Dailey requested clarification about the \$12.28 million available in the economic development fund over the next five years. Director Paredes explained that there was \$1.4 million in the competitive projects fund and \$2 million available for future leveraging opportunities. Commissioner Dozier sought further clarification about whether money out of the \$12.28 million was currently committed and how much was actually available for new projects and opportunities. Director Paredes further explained that the majority of the money from the \$12.28 million was committed to current competitive projects and economic development projects such as the Tallahassee International Airport and reiterated that there was \$1.4 million in the competitive projects fund and \$2 million available for future leveraging opportunities for a total of \$3.4 million in uncommitted funds for the next five years.

Commissioner Matlow inquired about OEV's bonding capacity until 2027 and the availability of funds for new opportunities as they may arise. Director Pingree explained that staff had not run recent projections of Blueprint's bonding capacity but stated that the OEV will have a total of \$28 million available as unencumbered funds over the life of the tax. Commissioner Matlow also inquired about the funding reallocation of the convention center project funds. Director Paredes explained that staff deallocate funds from the project consistent with IA Board recommendation from previous meetings.

Commissioner Dozier advised that staff monitor the projected budget due the current environment of inflation and increasing construction costs as Blueprint prepares for construction on several projects within the next five years. She also suggested that the IA Board consider removing the convention center as an improvement project as FSU has changed direction with its renovation plans for the convention center.

Commissioner Richardson discussed the positive economic impacts of some of the directions taken by the IA Board and stated that he was happy to hear that many of the projects promised to the community are on schedule to be completed on time and within budget.

Commissioner Williams-Cox praised staff for developing a conservative balanced budget that would allow for the completion of the listed projects and provide for economic development and leveraging opportunities. She stated that inflation and rising costs will have rippling effects across several areas but was confident that the proposed budget was prepared with those considerations. Commissioner Williams-Cox further inquired as to whether the convention center was a project that the community voted for and expressed concerns about removing it from the project list.

**Mayor Dailey moved to approve Option 1. Commissioner Dozier seconded the motion. Motion Passed.**

**Passed 11-0 (weighted 65-0)**

**Commissioner Jackson was absent and Commissioner Proctor voted via WebEx.**

**Option 1: Accept staff's budget recommendations A - I.**

- Budget Recommendation A: Approve the Proposed FY 2023 Infrastructure Operating Budget into the final draft FY 2023 budget plan.**
- Budget Recommendation B: Approve the Proposed FY 2023 – 2027 Infrastructure Capital Improvement Program into the final draft FY 2023 budget plan.**
- Budget Recommendation C: Approve the allocation to the Proposed Implement the Greenways Master Plan into the final draft FY 2023 budget plan and approve the FY 2023 Greenways Master Plan Work Program.**

- **Budget Recommendation D: Approve the Proposed Bike Route System allocation into the final draft FY 2023 budget plan and approve the FY 2023 Bike Route System Work Program.**
- **Budget Recommendation E: Approve the FY 2023 update to the Infrastructure Long-Term Project Funding Plan, to be incorporated into the final draft FY 2023 budget plan.**
- **Budget Recommendation F: Approve the Proposed FY 2023 OEV Operating Budget into the final draft FY 2023 budget plan.**
- **Budget Recommendation G: Approve the Proposed FY 2023 – 2027 OEV Capital Improvement Program into the final draft FY 2023 budget plan.**
- **Budget Recommendation H: Amend the FY 2022 budget to reallocate \$751,826 from the Convention Center project and \$47,000 from the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund project to the Target Business Program project to provide funding for competitive projects that have already been approved by the IA Board, including Project Mango and Project Juggernaut. Amend the FY 2022 budget to reallocate \$1,983 from Magnetic Technologies Recruitment to Business Development Attraction/Expansion, which absorbed all recruitment functions over the last fiscal year.**
- **Budget Recommendation I: Approve the FY 2023 update to the OEV Long-Term Project Funding Plan, to be incorporated into the final draft FY 2023 budget plan.**

## II. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

*The next Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency Board of Directors Meeting  
is scheduled for  
May 19, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.*