

**MARTIN METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)**

Wednesday, November 17, 2010 - 1:35 P.M.
Martin County Building Department Conference Room
900 Ruhnke Street, Stuart, FL
www.martinmpo.com
(772) 221-1498

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sam Amerson called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Members in Attendance:

Sam Amerson, Chairman
Joe Capra
Stuart Trent
Mike Moon (arrived at 1:32 p.m.)
Dan Hudson
Terry Rauth for Don Donaldson
Bruce Offord, DEP
Gustavo Schmidt, FDOT
Barbara Timmerman

Members Excused:

Kim Delaney

Members Absent:

Samantha Horowitz, Vice-Chair
Arlene Tanis for Nancy Ziegler, FDOT
Mark Cocco

Staff in Attendance:

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator
Claudette Mahan, Associate Planner
Lisandra Bonet, Administrative Specialist II
Margaret Brassard, Administrative Specialist II

A quorum was present for this committee.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

Mr. Joe Capra moved to approve the Agenda. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Gustavo Schmidt. Motion carried unanimously.

4. APPROVE MINUTES:

- * September 1, 2010 – Regular TAC Meeting
- * September 17, 2010-Joint CAC & TAC Meeting

Mr. Joe Capra made a Motion to approve the minutes of September 1, 2010. Ms. Barbara Timmerman seconded the Motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Joe Capra made a Motion to approve the minutes of September 17, 2010. Ms. Barbara Timmerman seconded the Motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. AGENDA ITEMS

A. CITIZENS' REPORT, FY 2012-2016 TENTATIVE WORK PROGRAM MEMO: temp11TACa06.01

Ms. Beltran stated that this report is submitted to the MPO by the District yearly about this time. The District is looking for review and comments by the advisory committees, then there will be a public hearing on December 1, 2010 in St. Lucie County following the TPO Board meeting. This item will go before the MPO Board on December 20, 2010 for review and approval. Once approval by all of the MPOs in the District has been received, the Tentative Work Program will be submitted to the Florida Legislature. It will be returned, in the spring, to the respective MPOs and that is what the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is based on.

Ms. Beltran introduced Stacey Miller, FDOT representative. Ms. Miller stated that the December 1, 2010 public hearing will actually be held in the City of Ft. Pierce. Then their information will be combined with the other District's information and presented to the Florida Transportation Commission, where there is a Statewide public hearing in Tallahassee. The information is "final reviewed" and sent to the Governor's office and legislature for budgeting approval, then it's returned to the MPO for the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and is adopted by the Department on July 1st and that begins the new Fiscal Year. The entire cycle takes about Eighteen (18) months.

Ms. Miller provided information and a status summary of the three items in the Agenda. Ms. Miller provided the status of key projects listing, the full Citizen's Report and a map of the projects that the Department of Transportation will construct in the next five (5) years. (FY 2011-2012 to 2015-2016).

Of the key projects, FDOT funded everything that they could fund on the MPO's priority list. The first project was Indian Street which continues to be funded for final design and all right of way is funded in the Tentative Work Program. The second priority is a portion of SR76 (Kanner Hwy.) from the interstate to Monterey. This is funded for final design next year. Priority Three is the second portion of Indian Street, from Kanner Highway to Willoughby, it too is funded for final design. The reserve for Indian Street (approximately \$6 million dollars) is for both projects one and three. Funds are being amassed for both projects, but will probably be used on the first priority. It's a reserve box for that particular corridor.

Project five is the other portion of Kanner Highway from County Road 711 to I-95 and it too is funded for final design but not until 2013. A PD&E will be updated and then go into final design.

Item four was skipped because that project was funded through the County Incentive Grant Program. A PD&E was not performed on this project, so no Federal funds will be used, and since it is not a State facility, no State funds will be used.

The Martin County Signal System Enhancement Operation has been dropped. The County has decided not to use those funds anymore so the funds were absorbed into other projects within the program. Signal Maintenance funding will continue just on the Enhancement portion.

Ms. Miller gave a status update on the changes to the Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Corridor, which is a series of highways, facilities, connectors and hubs, i.e. airports, seaports, rail facilities etc. She discussed I-95, County Road 708 to High Meadows, High Meadows to the County line and SR 710. The sidewalk program and Bike/Pedestrian Bus Shelter is still Federally funded, as are US Hwy. 1/SR 5 and Salerno Road. The Small County Outreach Program added three new projects, Dixie Highway, Willoughby Boulevard and Sewall's Point Road. The County Incentive Grant Program will be funding I-95 and SR 76 interchange improvements.

No Federal funding will be received for the Station Improvements for the Amtrak/FEC service at this time. The County will have to work with the Treasure Coast Transportation Council and reorient the TRIP Program funds into something that physically exists.

The City of Stuart and Rio received Enhancement Program funds for sidewalk locations.

A correction was stated regarding the Seabranh Eastcoast Greenway. The project limits were modified to show Phase II of this project from the entrance of Seabranh State Park to the Peck Lake Park Entrance.

The Department has 200 + fund categories that they have to manage. The Small County Outreach Program has two funding sources. One is called SCOP and the other is called GRSC (Growth Management Revenue SCOP). One program is dedicated to doc stamps revenue, and the other program is associated with the Generic State Transportation Trust Fund.

Dan Hudson inquired that with the new legislature and a new Governor coming in, will the revenues be subject to general appropriation or are they all earmarked out of the gas tax? The DOT has several funding sources, two primary sources, one is Federal the other is State (Gas tax). The funds are potentially subject to a sweep, however FDOT has also been on the recipient side, so she can't speak for what could happen. They are subject to Legislative approval.

Mr. Hudson asked if Ms. Miller has any idea when a new secretary will be appointed. The process has begun to look for one, but she doesn't know when an appointment will take place but they have shortlisted it to three applicants. Stephanie Kopelousos has already resigned.

Joe Capra, from the Town of Sewall's point, inquired if there would be any funds for improvements and sidewalks on A-I-A. Ms. Miller indicated that it would fall under Enhancement Funds. The applications will be taken in the spring, but the actual funding cycle will be for fiscal year 2015. All funds prior to 2015 have been dedicated to projects previously approved by the MPO.

Ms. Miller mentioned that last year she advised that the Enhancement Program had been centralized and that the program was no longer being managed in the District and any funds or savings would have to be returned to the Central Office and redistributed around the state. The Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) voiced some concerns with that issue to the Central Office, and they have de-centralized this funding system to be managed by the Districts again. All projects that were in the program for the FY 2015, were funded. Basically, any funds not used for a project will remain in the District instead of being returned to the Central Office. Traffic signals are not included in the Enhancement Funding, but sidewalks, landscaping, pedestrian improvements, pedestrian lighting (not roadway lighting) would qualify for Enhancement Funding.

Terry Rauth inquired when Jenson Beach Boulevard would be resurfaced. Ms. Miller stated that it has not come up on her list yet which indicates that it is not yet in need of resurfacing. This is based on three criteria, "ride, rut and crack" which determines if/when a road will be resurfaced. It hasn't shown up on the list for fiscal years 2014-2015 and it's still not shown as needing funding for resurfacing. This isn't a matter of cycle. The Department does analysis on the roadways annually to determine how many roads are deficient. By State Statute, the Department must maintain 80% of our facilities above that weight. The 20% which falls below that percentage, will be required to be resurfaced. District 4 had a number of lane miles that required being resurfaced a while ago because little resurfacing had been done a number of years ago. They had to resurface 350 lane miles per year. The Department was catching up and over-shot their goal and they were having a hard time finding lanes to resurface. They were at 97% and only needed to be at 80%. Currently, the Department is only required to pave 120 lane miles a year.

A Motion by Terry Rauth was made to accept the report with the comments made and her [the Martin County Engineering Department's] comments, and a second by Joe Capra. There being no further discussion or clarification on the Motion, the Motion passed unanimously.

B. SR710 PROJECT UPDATE

MEMO: temp11TACa06.02

Ms. Beltran introduced Patrick Glass, Project Manager for FDOT and his consultant Robert Gutierrez, to present the update and advise regarding the recent public hearing.

Mr. Glass introduced himself as the project manager of the Project Development and Environmental Study (PD&E) which is SR 710 West of Indiantown running from the Okeechobee County line to Allapattah Rd. Mr. Glass introduced the consultant, Robert Gutierrez to present a power point presentation. (Power point presentation on file. See presentation for details.) This is one of seven studies currently being made in this area. Mr. Gutierrez discussed the details using the slides for clarification.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the CSX is awaiting formal agreement. There are three businesses that will need to be relocated.

Ms. Beltran requested that Mr. Glass give a summation of the Oct. 5, 2010 public hearing which was held in Indiantown, Florida. There is a separate PD&E study regarding the Indiantown by-pass. People are concerned as to whether or not SR710 is going to go around the town or through the town. Mr. Glass stated that regardless of whether or not the road goes in or around the town or have various alternate corridors which would tie in a various locations around the project, he has made it clear that he does not want two lanes going into Indiantown, he wants four lanes, no matter where the by-pass goes. Mr. Glass wants people to feel comfortable going into Indiantown. He doesn't want people to have a beautiful road going around Indiantown and a small two lane road going into Indiantown. He indicated that the members of the CAC, the meeting held earlier this morning, were in agreement with the four lanes going into the town.

C. SR76 PROJECT UPDATE

MEMO: temp11TACa06.03

Ms. Beltran indicated that the PD& E Study has been on the agenda a lot. It was requested of FDOT that an update of the Board's Directives be given. The Board did take the recommendations of the TAC to include the 2035 data in the PD&E study and to re-program the design for the entire project from Monterey to Pratt Whitney. A letter to Gerry O'Reilly, was sent to FDOT which is in the Agenda Package. Anson Sonnett, who is the FDOT Project Manager, is also here should there be any questions. Mr. Sonnet stated that FDOT followed the recommendations and placed the PD&E study on hold until the new traffic data is adopted. They have also refunded the entire corridor of the eastern segment I-95 to Monterey in 2012 and the western segment for 2013. The 2035 plan will be adopted by January, 2011. The final FDOT traffic model is scheduled for March, 2011. They anticipate advertizing in June and executing the contract in January, 2012. Terry Rauth mentioned that a Dog Park had been listed as being significant, but it was not in the Capital Improvement Plan. Apparently it was deleted from the list.

D. MARTIN COUNTY PROJECT UPDATE-

Indian Street Bridge; transit depot

MEMO: tempIITACa06.04

Ms. Beltran stated that at the Special CAC/TAC Advisory committee meeting on September 17, 2011, a member asked that there be an update on the Indian Street Bridge and the transit depot. Terry Rauth is here to update this item. Ms. Rauth stated that she went up to Tallahassee to convey that the bridge is not going to make the impact on the island that the Audubon Society is attesting. The island was donated to the County, free and clear; when things like this happen, the county reserves a 200 foot wide right of way, which is unnecessary, but since it's Martin County, they chose to cover all bases. The hearing regarding the Water Management District permit went well, and they are waiting to hear from the judge. After that, they will begin construction. The houses that have been purchased and the staging at the end of 36th Street is evidence that the project is moving along.

The Transit Building Project is three weeks behind schedule. The City has asked about giving back the project. They will contact the "FTA" and try to rebudget the soft costs currently not covered by the Grant. The FTA would have to approve the County doing that, and as the project is already three weeks behind they are having a meeting to discuss the options for this project. The cost of the project has exceeded the Grant funding so they are trying to see what can be arranged to lessen costs and get back into the budget. Items mentioned were scaling back on the building, or if two pods are desired, build one now and the other one in the future.

6. COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The new Assistant Director for Community Coach, Carlos Tobar, was introduced, and Barbara Timmerman requested information about what steps need to be taken in to have him become a member of the committee. Ms. Beltran will get back to her.

7. COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC

None.

8. COMMENTS FROM FDOT

Mr. Capra commented regarding a letter from Amtrak. Since the Application was deemed not yet ready or ineligible, does it sound like this will be reevaluated in a year or longer? Stacy Miller, from FDOT, said that they are reorienting the series of programs. The USDOT will make these dedicated sources available to all sources of rail services. USDOT doesn't know when the next project will be available but sounds like it will be large sums of funds for large projects, when they come available. It doesn't look like high speed rail will be happening until the next transportation act.

9. NOTES

None.

10. NEXT MEETING

- January 5, 2011 – Regular TAC meeting in the County Airport Maintenance Building at 1:30PM

1. ADJOURN

There being no further business a Motion to adjourn was made by Joe Capra and a second by Terry Rauth. The meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

Recorded and Prepared by:


Margaret Brassard, Administrative Specialist II

2/9/11
Date

Approved by:


Sam Amerson, TAC Chairman

2/09/11
Date