

**MARTIN METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC) COMMITTEE
MEETING
MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, April 9, 2012 - 5:00 P.M.
Martin County Administration Building
Growth Management Conference Room, 1st Floor
2401 SE Monterey Road
Stuart, FL 34996
(772) 221-1498**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Joan Moore , Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL

Members in Attendance:

Mr. Ken Natoli, Vice-Chair (arrived at 5:13 P.M.)
Mr. Joseph DeFronzo
Mr. Kevin B. Edwards
Mr. Hal Forslund (arrived at 5:17 P.M.)
Mr. Ronald Shewmaker
Mr. John Mildenberger
Mr. Edward Vossen (arrived 5:33 P.M.)
Ms. Cheryl Lenartiene
Mr. John-Mark Palacios
Mr. Steve Schimmel

Excused Members

Mr. Robert Taylor
Ms. Dawn Arvin
Mr. Bill Schnell
Mr. Rick Yost

Members Not In Attendance:

Mr. Jim Hudson
Officer Michael Pope, (ExOfficio)
Officer James C. Brooks (Ex-Officio)
Mr. Eric Cerniglia
Mr. Martin Paulk (Ex-Officio)

Staff in Attendance:

Ms. Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator
Ms. Margaret H. Brassard, Administrative Specialist II
Mr. Michael Malham, Senior Planner

Others in Attendance:

Sam Amerson, City of Stuart
Julie Preast, Rio Civic Club
Greg Nolte, Martin County Engineering Department
Steve Schimmel
Chase Osborn
Conner Osborn
Etienne Bourgeois

A quorum was not present at the roll call. The approval of the agenda and minutes were postponed to see if a quorum would be made at a later time in the meeting. The Chair moved the meeting to the update on the Build-A-Bike.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

(A quorum was attained by 5:13 P.M. After the presentation of the Agenda Item 6A the motion to approve the agenda was held.)

A motion to approve the Agenda was made by Mr. Ken Natoli. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cheryl Lenartiene. There were no objections. The motion passed unanimously.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes from the meeting on March 12, 2012 was made by Mr. Ken Natoli. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cheryl Lenartiene. There were no objections. The motion passed unanimously.

5. FDOT COMMENTS

Mr. John-Mark Palacios, from FDOT updated the members as to the grate on Monterey Road just east of Old Dixie. After reviewing the grate he has submitted a letter to the manage department to see if they can do something about it, however he's not heard back from them at this point.

6. AGENDA ITEMS

**A. FY2012/13 TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT
APPLICATIONS FOR FY2015/16 FUNDING**

MEMO: temp12BPACa07.01

Ms. Beltran gave an overview about Enhancement funds for the new members. There re two projects this year that met the criteria to go through the MPO process: Baker Road Sidewalk Extension and Landscape Beautification from the City of Stuart and Hutchinson Island Gateway from Martin County. Sam Amerson from the City of Stuart presented the Baker Road Project advising that this project will be to construct an eight foot wide sidewalk which will go from Green River Parkway east to Savannah and northeast to connect with another sidewalk near Braille Place. This will also connect some sidewalks on the north side of Baker which were recently completed by the County, from Felix Williams School east to Green River

Parkway, including a cross walk on Green River Parkway. This will pick up on the east side of Green River Parkway. Additionally, the sidewalk will extend across Baker Road along Cardinal Avenue to Savannah Road, where stamped asphalt will be installed and it will connect to the east side of Savannah near the industrial park. It makes two complete connections, and will have two stamped asphalts installed. That segment of the roadway has recently been transferred to the City of Stuart, so when the project is completed, it will be owned and maintained by the City of Stuart. Two of the sidewalks mentioned in this project are on the top ten of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Plan which the BPAC recently had approved by the MPO. The committee members discussed the details with Mr. Amerson and were very pleased with the proposed connections. Ms. Julie Preast, from the Rio Civic Club came in support of this project. She advised the committee of ideas that the CRA is working on to enhance SR 707. Ms. Preast thanked the committee for their support of this worthwhile project.

Mr. Greg Nolte stated that he is with Martin County Engineering, and he is presenting for the Hutchinson Island Gateway Project for the Hutchinson Island Coalition. He noted that Mr. Jim Hudson, a BPAC member, is the Chairman of the Hutchinson Island Coalition. The Hutchinson Island Coalition formed about one and a half years ago and they wanted to set some priorities for projects on the island. They came up with three main categories with which to work. Beautification, safety and signage were the three major areas they wished to cover. They have contracted with a local architectural firm and they are creating a Master Plan (See Map in the Agenda). This project would have roadside landscaping on A-1-A, consisting of Coconut Palms, Oleanders, lots of color and ground cover. The safety aspect was also considered and they plan to change the five crosswalks to be stamped asphalt, and add landscaping with hardened medians to create a safe haven for the slower residents crossing the streets. Mr. Malham stated that this project is called the Treasure Coast Indian River Scenic Highway. Mr. Nolte stated that a signal is going in at the Publix on A-1-A and they have been advised that there will be striped crosswalks installed for now and the Coalition will be able to install safety and beautification changes at a later date.

Ms. Beltran asked that the committee rank the two projects presented.

Ms. Cheryl Lenartiene made a motion to rank the Baker Road Project to be the number one project and the Hutchinson Island Project to be the number two project. Mr. Kevin Edwards gave a second to this motion. There were no oppositions. The motion passed unanimously.

B. REVISION OF MPO BYLAWS

MEMO: temp12BPACa07.02

Ms. Beltran stated that the Bylaws should be changed to replace the name of "Council on Aging" to the generic "public transit provider". The County

currently has a contract with MV Transit who is providing the service, but this leaves it open in the event the County chooses to take over the role of transit provider at a later date, without having to change the Bylaws again. Also at the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) it was mentioned that with the recently passed Transportation Bill, it states that FDOT is to be a non-voting Technical Advisor on the MPO Policy Board as opposed to an Ex-Officio non-voting member. Staff recommends these changes be made to the Bylaws.

Ms. Cheryl Lenartiene made a motion to change the words “Council on Aging” to the generic “public transit provider” in the Bylaws. This motion was seconded by Mr. Hal Forslund. There was no additional discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Kevin Edwards to amend the language in relation to FDOT from Ex-Officio member to Technical Advisor. The motion was seconded by Mr. John Mildenerger. There was no additional discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. PROJECT UPDATE: SR 710 BRIDGE LIGHTING AND INDIAN STREET WIDENING/#3 PRIORITY
MEMO: temp12BPACa07.03

Ms. Beltran stated that the MPO Policy Board submitted a letter to FDOT requesting that lighting be provided, installed and maintained on the SR 710 Bridge project. FDOT responded stated that the MPO could use their discretionary funds (Federal Attributable Funds) for funding the lighting of this project. Currently the two priorities funded with the discretionary funds are the number one project, CR 714 and the number three priority, Indian Street Project. CR 714 leading up to the Veteran’s Memorial Bridge is fully funded, and those funds should remain there. The number three priority, Indian Street Widening Project has been studied and it was learned that the current bridge project had to acquire right-of-way from The Crossings Apartment Complex via eminent domain and this widening project would require the State to return to this same landowner and acquire more property creating a major impact to this apartment complex landowner. It was also studied that the level of service on that section of roadway is more than ample to accommodate the traffic even after the opening of the bridge. The number two priority of the MPO is Kanner Highway from the I-95 Interchange to Monterey Road. Portions of this roadway are currently failing to meet the level of service needed. Therefore, staff is recommending that \$350,000 of the \$2.23 million programmed for ROW acquisition funds in FY 2013 be moved from the number three priority to the lighting of the Big John Monahan Bridge, and the difference be programmed to the MPO’s number two priority, Kanner Highway, from the I-95 Interchange to Monterey Road. Also the funds in FY 2016 for the construction of Indian Street are

recommended to be moved to the Kanner Highway reserve which is for construction. At the Joint CAC and TAC meeting in February, Mr. Kellogg from Sewall's Point requested that the town would like to receive a portion of the funding which is being moved from the Indian Street widening project, to fund the \$144,000 that the Town had to pay for the pedestrian lights on A-1-A. The Town received Enhancement funds last year enabling them to work directly with FDOT during the resurfacing project. The Town entered into a JPA with FDOT and those Enhancement funds were applied to the landscaping and crosswalk, but decorative lighting is not a participating item, so the debt fell on the Town. It was advised that Mr. Kellogg will be writing the MPO and include a cost estimate. Ms. Beltran stated that even after speaking to Mr. Kellogg, she has not received a letter from him to date, so staff's recommendation remains the same.

A motion was made by Mr. Natoli recommending that \$350,000 of the \$2.23 million, programmed for ROW acquisition funds in FY 2013 be moved from the number three priority to the lighting of the Big John Monahan Bridge, and the difference be programmed to the MPO's number two priority, Kanner Highway, from the I-95 Interchange to Monterey Road. Also the funds from FY 2016 from the construction of Indian Street to the Kanner Highway reserve which is for construction. This motion was seconded by Mr. John Mildenerger. There was no opposition. The motion passed unanimously.

D. DRAFT UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

MEMO: temp12BPACa07.0

Ms. Beltran stated that the MPO develops the UPWP every two years which identifies the planning activities budgeted for completion during the next two years. This UPWP will cover FY July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2014. The two projects that would be of most interest to the BPAC is the U.S. 1 Corridor Retrofit, which is addressing congestion management strategies instead of widening U. S. 1. The second item of interest is the Household Travel Survey. This concerns travel behavior within the region which studies origin and destination of trips, times, and various forms of travel patterns. Mr. Malham has reviewed a number of different areas which he states will help Martin justify projects which they have considered.

A motion was made by Mr. Kevin Edwards to recommend the Draft UPWP to go to the MPO Board for approval. Ms. Cheryl Lenartiene provided a second to this motion. There was no additional discussion. The motion passed unanimously

E. BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ACTION PLAN

MEMO: temp12BPACa07.05

Mr. Malham stated that the Action plan was endorsed by approximately eight agencies and now we are looking to acquire people and organizations with

whom to partner to establish a data base and partnerships in the community. Now we need to collect ideas which have worked for you in the past in businesses, or personal life. This will be a running list of projects which otherwise wouldn't have anything to do with bicycle or pedestrian facilities. Mr. Malham has set up an indicator of success so the plan can be tracked.

F. BUILD-A-BIKE

MEMO: temp12BPACa07.06

Mr. Malham reported that Mr. Steve Kurtz, the program organizer for the Treasure Coast Cycling Classic is still waiting on permitting due to the change in route and is to be submitting additional information that he is to be obtaining from the City of Stuart Police Department soon. Due to lack of time, it was suggested that this event be skipped until next year as the benefit of the donation for the sponsor is dwindling. This project was tabled until next year.

7. COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Natoli advised that a sidewalk on Martin Down has been changed to include a 90 degree angle and a light post in the middle of this sidewalk. This is very difficult on cyclers especially with pedestrians present.

A motion was made by Ken Natoli to recommend to the MPO that a letter be sent to FDOT requesting that an angled sidewalk be included or something which would make the adjustment between the sidewalks be easier to navigate. Also suggested was including moving the sidewalk or adding additional surface around the pole to provide for easier navigation. Mr. Hal Forslund gave a second to the motion. There was no opposition. The Motion passed unanimously.

8. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

9. NOTES.

None.

10. NEXT MEETING

June 11, 2012

11. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 PM without a motion. There being no objections the meeting adjourned.

Recorded and Prepared by:

Margaret H. Brassard
Margaret H. Brassard, Administrative Specialist, II

May 14, 2012
Date

Approved by:

Joan Moore
Joan Moore, Chair

5/14/12
Date