

**MARTIN METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday, May 04, 2011 - 9:00 a.m.**

Martin County Administration Building

County Commission Chambers

2401 SE Monterey Road

Stuart, FL 34996

[www.martinmpo.com](http://www.martinmpo.com)

(772) 221-1498

**MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Sheila Kurtz, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Members in Attendance:**

Sheila Kurtz, Chairman

Amy Eason

Michael Houston

Albert Zilg

Kevin Trepanier, Ex-officio

**Members Excused:**

Joseph DeFronzo, Vice-Chair

Alex Trovato

Jody Ianuzzi

Mark Mathes

John Patteson

**Members Absent**

Trent Steele

**Staff in Attendance:**

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator

Michael Malham, Planner II

Margaret H. Brassard, Administrative Specialist II

**Others in Attendance:**

Mark T. Diekma

**A quorum was present for this committee.**

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The Chair recognized a new member of the committee, Mr. Michael Houston. Mr. Houston advised the committee that he was a member of the Martin MPO's first CAC, and that he is representing Commissioner Doug Smith.

**3. APPROVE AGENDA**

Staff is requesting that an item be added to the agenda as the first agenda item, which is the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendment for Fiscal Year (FY) 2011/2015 to include funding of the three Enhancement Fund Projects that were presented at the CAC meeting on April 6, 2011.

**Ms. Amy Eason made a motion to approve adding the TIP amendment to the agenda as the first agenda item. This motion was seconded by Mr. Al Zilg. There was no objection. The motion passed unanimously**

**4. APPROVE MINUTES**

**A motion to approve the minutes for the April 6, 2011, meeting was made by Ms. Eason. This motion was seconded by Mr. Zilg. There was no objection. The motion passed unanimously.**

**5. AGENDA ITEMS**

**A. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2011/2015 TO INCLUDE FUNDING OF THE THREE ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS**

Ms. Beltran stated that a letter was submitted to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to approve the funding for the three projects which were ranked by the Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) at the last meeting. Funds were re-distributed from prior projects that were unsuccessful in obtaining either public support, rights-of-way, or by not being cost effective. The MPO now has a screening committee to review projects prior to being brought before the advisory committees and the MPO Board in an effort to eliminate this situation in the future.

Ms. Kurtz highly praised the work of the agencies for their coordination and their success in being able to fund each of the projects.

**A motion to recommend the TIP amendment as presented, to fund the three Enhancement Fund Projects, was made by Amy Eason. Mr. Zilg requested and received clarification from Ms. Beltran regarding the funding sources between the current TIP and the amended TIP. This motion was seconded by Mr. Zilg. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**B. DRAFT FY2011/12 – FY2015/16 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)**

MEMO: temp11CACa09.01

Ms. Beltran explained the process of the TIP, beginning with how FDOT and MPO staff meet to discuss the List of Project Priorities (LOPP) based on the adopted Long Range Transportation Plan. These priorities are taken back to FDOT and that is what the Tentative Work Program is based upon. In November and December, FDOT returns to Martin County to present the Tentative Work Program to the committees and the Board. After comments are received from the advisory committees and Board, the Tentative Work Program goes to the Central Office in Tallahassee where it is combined with the other districts in the State and goes

before the Legislature, which is where it is, currently. Meanwhile, the MPO's develop their five-year TIPs, and in this TIP begins in FY 2012. The Draft FY 2012-2016 TIP is in your agenda package, and will be presented to the Board and its advisory committees so it can be modified by the time it returns to the committees and Board for a final approval in June. The Draft will be on display in the County libraries and in the reception area of the Administrative Center beginning May 5, 2011, for public review and response. The locations of the Draft TIP were included in the Stuart Newspaper ad and on TC Palm.com.

Mr. Malham explained the organization of the Draft TIP and directed the committee to review the copy which was included in the Agenda. (See Draft in the Agenda, and the handout which was an enlarged version of the Project list included in the Draft.) Mr. Malham explained that as required of MPO's, the TIP is a comprehensive list of projects which will be occurring in Martin County, funded through Federal, State and local funds, from FY 2012 through 2016. Mr. Malham detailed items of significance within the TIP, and advised that the Final TIP will be seeking a recommendation of adoption at the June 1, 2011, CAC meeting. He advised that the projects were derived from the Citizen's Report/Tentative Work Program which was approved in November with the exception of FM425863-1 a resurfacing project, and the other was FM 427569-1 a drainage improvement project. He also advised of the projects that were removed. The first being the sidewalks project from the City of Stuart and Rio/CRA areas. The sidewalks from this project were removed due to the fact that this project did not have the support of the public. This project will be re-included at a later date. The second was an FEC Rail project, in the amount of \$5 Million, which has been removed. Much of this was local funding, so the County did not lose State funding on either project. He briefly discussed the Transportation Disadvantaged Program funding and the local Capital Improvement Programs (CIP's) developed by Sewell's Point, the City of Stuart and Martin County. Mr. Malham also pointed out the list of group and reserve projects which will allow staff to make administrative modifications to this document, if needed, as opposed to having to complete the tedious amendment process, consisting of taking each change to FDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Mr. Malham followed up with the financial summary, and advised that the total amount anticipated to be spent within the County in the next five years, will be approximately \$107 million, of which \$7 million is local funds and \$99 million are Federal and State funds. Finally, there is a map showing the locations of the specific project locations.

Mr. Zilg inquired as to the plan for freight which was noted in the Draft. Ms. Beltran clarified that addressing freight is a requirement; however, as Martin doesn't have a port or major freight transfer facility, the MPO works with FDOT in regards to their Strategic Intermodal Systems (SIS) facilities as identified in the 2035 Plan: I-95, the Turnpike, and SR 710. Mr. Malham added that improving the roadway network system, will improve freight movement.

Mr. Zilg inquired about enhancing the Congestion Management System (CMS). Mr. Malham stated that the current Congestion Management Plan (CMP) is in the

process of being updated, and Ms. Beltran stated that a budget for this plan has already been approved and is in the UPWP.

Mr. Houston inquired if the Florida East Coast Railway (FEC) connection in Downtown Stuart is a part of this plan. Mr. Malham stated that this funding was from the Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) from the previous year. Ms. Beltran stated that a transit depot is being built in Stuart, which is funded using American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds and for passenger service along the FEC if the need arises, as the depot is adjacent to the rail corridor. TRIP funding will be supplementing these funds to improve the bus transit capacity at the depot which will serve as a transfer location for the Treasure Coast (TC) Connector. Ms. Beltran stated that the \$118 million which had been planned for the passenger rail service was still in the Tentative Work Program's budget.

Mr. Zilg asked about the improvements of U. S. Highway One. Ms. Beltran stated that the U. S. Highway One Retrofit Project as noted in the 2035 Regional Long Range Transportation Plan (RLRTP) begins in 2016 which is the last year of this TIP. It will be addressed at the next priority project meeting because that U. S. Highway One corridor has congestion issues but the committees and the Board do not want the road widened. They want other methods of increasing the mobility by signal improvements, intersection improvements, and transit. The TIP will be brought back to the committees next month as FDOT has moved up their approval dates because they want their program in place prior to the re-districting of elected officials due to the Census.

Ms. Beltran asked for a recommendation for the Draft TIP to be brought before the Board.

**Mr. Houston made a motion to recommend that the Draft TIP be brought before the MPO Board, and Ms. Eason seconded this motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.**

### **c. BUS SHELTER PROGRAM**

MEMO: temp11CACa09.02

Ms. Beltran gave a synopsis and brief history of this project and directed the Committee to their agendas to view a photo of the design of the shelters. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) through FDOT informed the MPO staff that this project was not a highway project. It was a transit project and the funds needed to be flexed to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Transit funds could be used for bus shelters, but this is done through Headquarters and not at the regional level. Once the funds were funneled to the FTA regional office in Atlanta, MPO staff had to address various FTA requirements, including the local match in the form of Toll Revenue Credits. Staff determined that it would be best to have a uniform concept throughout the County for the bus shelters. There is one design to make this be more cost effective, and the local areas may for example install their crest/logo to indentify the shelter to the given area. It was discussed having ads on the shelters as a form of generating revenue, to pay for the

maintenance of the shelters. The picture in the agenda does not show a trash receptacle however there will be a receptacle at each shelter. Depending upon the location of the shelter, the setbacks, and the amount of materials being used will vary. Shelters located on State Highway Systems, (i.e. U. S. Highway One.) will require a larger setback than those in a CRA.

Staff is requesting each of the committees to review the shelter and its information, and recommend that it be taken to the MPO Board; then staff will ask the MPO Board to give a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners to approve the shelters. The County Commissioners are the designated recipient of the FTA funds, so they have the ultimate approval. The shelters have a double sided area which can be used as adverting, posting historical information, or a transit map with information. This transit grant would be able to fund the eight shelters planned, depending of the locations. The State does have additional funds in a Service Development Grant, which is approximately a half million dollars, and the State has said that if Martin and St. Lucie Counties work together, on the TC Connector Route which runs along U. S. Highway One, that the Service Development Grant could provide the shelters along U.S. 1, leaving the FTA funds available for shelters in the local areas which don't have the rigid requirements of the State Highway System. Mr. Zilg asked if a priority list has been made, Ms. Beltran indicated that to date there isn't a list, however, she will get back to the committee if and when one is provided. Ms. Beltran stated that what she is currently bringing the committee is the shelter design, so it can be placed out for bid by the County.

Ms. Beltran clarified that what she will bring to the Board from this committee is the recommendation that having an ad on one side of the shelter is fine but the committee would want to have a system map or historical information on the other side. She will also advise that this committee was in support of the solar lighting, the design of the shelters, and the perforated wall which allows airflow through the shelter. She stated that this project will also go before the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) and she'll get input from them regarding how bicycles can be accommodated by having a bicycle rack installed at the shelters.

## **6. COMMENTS FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Mr. Zilg stated that at the last meeting he asked for information regarding responsibilities of the State and local governments to advise the community of evacuation plans, when the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will be transporting nuclear waste. Ms. Beltran indicated that she has not heard back from those with whom she has contacted, but that she will follow up on this matter and get back to this committee with their response.

Mr. Zilg inquired as to when the traffic impact reports were completed, if there was any consideration given to the seasonal fluctuation. Ms. Beltran stated that she conferred with staff from the Regional Planning Council (RPC) who prepared the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), and their sub consultant, Kimley Horn and Associates, who did the modeling, and they did take into consideration the seasonal impact.

**7. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None.

**8. COMMENTS FROM FDOT**

None.

**9. NOTES**

Ms. Beltran stated that the Board did agree to have FDOT include the SR 710 Shared Use Path in the PD&E Study, however they did not agree to the construction of the path at this time.

Ms. Beltran welcomed Michael Houston, who is the newest appointee of the District 1 County Commissioner.

**10. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be June 1, 2011.

**11. ADJOURN**

**Mr. Houston made a motion to adjourn, and there was a second by Ms. Eason. There were no objections. The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 AM.**

Recorded and Prepared by:

  
Margaret H. Brassard, Administrative Specialist II

  
Date

Approved by:

  
Sheila Kurtz, CAC Chairman

  
Date