

MARTIN METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
POLICY BOARD MEETING

Martin County Board of County Commissioner Chambers
2401 S.E. Monterey Road
Stuart, FL 34996
(772) 221-1498

www.martinmpo.com

Monday, February 27, 2017 @ 9:00 A.M.
Meeting Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER.

The Chair, Mr. Troy McDonald, called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

2. PRAYER–

A moment of silence was held.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. ROLL CALL

Members in Attendance:

Troy McDonald, Chair, City of Stuart Commissioner

Tom Campenni, City of Stuart Commissioner

Vinny Barile, Town of Sewall's Point Commissioner

Harold Jenkins, Martin County Board of County Commissioners

Anthony Dowling, Indiantown Representative, non-voting member

Members Excused:

Edward Ciampi, Martin County Board of County Commissioners

Doug Smith, Martin County Board of County Commissioners

Members Absent:

Sarah Heard, Martin County Board of County Commissioners

Staff in Attendance:

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator

Alice Bojanowski, Senior Planner

Bolivar Gomez, Planner

Ricardo Vazquez, Senior Associate Planner

Margaret H. Brassard, Administrative Assistant III

Others in Attendance:

Dan Hiden, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)

Mira Skoroden, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)

Terry Rauth, Deputy County Engineer, Martin County

A quorum was present for this meeting.

The Chair, Mr. Troy McDonald introduced and welcomed the new Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Board member, Mr. Tom Campenni, from the City of Stuart.

5. APPROVE AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was provided by Mr. Tom Campenni with a second by Mr. Vinny Barile. There was no opposition and the motion passed unanimously.

6. APPROVE MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Vinny Barile to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2016 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tom Campenni. There were no corrections. The motion was approved unanimously.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

(PLEASE LIMIT YOUR COMMENTS TO THREE MINUTES; COMPLETE CARD TO COMMENT)

None.

8. BUSINESS ITEM

A. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Ms. Beltran stated that in accordance with the Bylaws, annually, at the first meeting of the calendar year, the election of officers shall take place. She advised that there are no term limits; the Chair is also responsible to represent the MPO Board at the statewide governing board meetings of the Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Committee (MPOAC), as well as being a member of the Treasure Coast Transportation Council (TCTC). Ms. Beltran said that Chairman McDonald is the current Chair of the TCTC. She advised that historically the Vice-Chair has served as the second member of the TCTC. Staff will also be seeking a nomination for the Chair of the Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation disadvantaged (LCB-TD). The floor was opened for nominations of the Chair.

Mr. Tom Campenni nominated Mr. Troy McDonald to remain as Chair. Mr. Herald Jenkins provided a second to the nomination. Mr. McDonald accepted the nomination. The vote was called with Mr. McDonald being selected unanimously.

Mr. Tom Campenni nominated Mr. Herald Jenkins as Vice Chair. Mr. Jenkins graciously declined the nomination. Mr. McDonald provided some history stating that former Board member Mr. Ed Fielding was the previous Vice Chair but that position is currently vacant as Ms. Sarah Heard received reinstatement to the MPO Board in November by the Board of County Commissioners.

Mr. Tom Campenni nominated Mr. Vinny Barile as Vice Chair which was seconded by Mr. Herald Jenkins. Mr. Barile advised that he would accept the nomination. The vote was called without objection. The nomination passed unanimously.

Ms. Beltran reiterated that in accordance with the TCTC Bylaws, the Chair is a member of that regional Board, though a second member and two alternates are desired.

Mr. Herald Jenkins moved that Mr. Vinny Barile be the second member of the TCTC which was seconded by Mr. Campenni. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Beltran said that two alternates are desired as this is a regional board. Mr. McDonald requested one motion for the two alternates.

Mr. Campenni made a motion nominating Mr. Herald Jenkins and Mr. Edward Ciampi to be the alternates. Mr. Barile provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. McDonald said the final position to be filled is for the Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged (LCB-TD) Chair.

Mr. Jenkins nominated Mr. Campenni as the Chair for the LCB-TD. Mr. Barile provided the second. The Motion passed unanimously.

B. TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM (TAP) – PROJECT APPLICATION

Ms. Beltran advised that Mr. Sam Amerson and Mr. Tim Volker are here from the City of Stuart and Mr. Volker will make the presentation for the one application that was received this year for the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) program. Mr. Volker introduced himself as the City Engineer for the City of Stuart and that he will speak on the Dixie Highway and S.E. Florida Street Sidewalk Extension Project. He advised that this is for the 2017 TAP application cycle for funding in fiscal year (FY) 2020/2021. He provided an aerial map of the project location pointing out the limits of the different segments of the project as well as recently completed projects which will be connected due to this project. He added that in the Fall of 2017 the City will be going under construction for a complete street project on SE Kindred Street and SE Johnston Avenue noting the connectivity that will be provided with Colorado Avenue. He showed a typical section explaining where the sidewalk, roadway and other facilities would be located within the County right-of-way (ROW) ensuring that no ROW or lease would be necessary for the Florida East Coast (FEC) Railroad. Mr. Volker showed a typical section of SE Florida Street stating that curb and gutters would be constructed for better drainage, adding that the existing travel lanes would be reduced by one foot each direction for these amenities. Also included in this project is milling and resurfacing of each lane, which will have sharrow markings installed as a facility improvement in lieu of bike lanes. Mr. Volker provided all the information and breakdown as to the funding allocation adding that the total Construction Cost Estimate would be \$522,820,66; Total TAP funds available \$359,724.09 and Total local funds \$163,225.02. He informed the Board that the City of Stuart City Commission adopted a Resolution on January 9, 2017 and the Stuart Community Redevelopment Agency both provided support for the project. With that, Mr. Volker advised that he would take any questions at this time. Mr. Barile inquired if the sidewalks on Kindred would be repaired. Mr. Volker advised that Kindred is a complete street project which will consist

of both sidewalks/bike lanes on both sides of the roadway in addition to landscaping and traffic calming. Mr. McDonald stated that Kindred Street was a TAP grant from a few years ago and this will continue the complete street work performed on Colorado Avenue. Ms. Beltran advised that there was a Draft Resolution which was reviewed by Legal, handed out prior to the meeting. She stated that this Resolution provides support for the project and directs staff to perform necessary follow up in an effort to promote the project.

A motion to support the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Project Application inclusive of the Resolution was offered by Mr. Harold Jenkins with the second being provided by Mr. Campenni. Seeing no opposition or public comments, the motion passed unanimously.

C. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM (PIP) - ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Bolivar Gomez, Planner for the MPO introduced the project as the 2016 Annual Public Involvement Program (PIP) Report for the MPO. He said it provides the MPO with the opportunity to review and update the document to determine if the five required objectives are being met. Mr. Gomez continued, briefly discussing these five objectives: (1) Advisory Committee Participation and Involvement; (2) Information Accessibility; (3) Feedback in the Process; (4) Public Outreach Tools and Techniques; and (5) Public Input on Program of Projects for Martin County Public Transit.

Mr. Vinny Barile made a motion to approve the MPO's 2016 Public Involvement Program which was seconded by Mr. Tom Campenni. Seeing no additional discussion the question was called and the PIP passed unanimously.

D. PIP – AMENDMENT

Mr. Bolivar Gomez informed the Board that staff from the MPO and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) met in December, 2016, to hold a pre-certification review to critique the existing MPO planning documents in an effort to make them more concise and updated prior to the FHWA upcoming audit. Mr. Gomez said that Mr. Carey Shephard, the Civil Rights Coordinator for the FHWA, recommended additional information be included in the PIP. He said a paragraph was added showing how public comments are integrated into the document as Goals and Objectives as well as to help develop priority projects. Mr. McDonald clarified for the new MPO Board members that the MPO is audited every three to four years. This review, he said, helps ensure that the MPO will be prepared with accurate and current information in the format desired by the FHWA circumventing issues during the audit. Mr. Gomez advised the Board of a couple of additional amendments that were made at the recommendation of FHWA, adding that some State members attend MPO meetings or sit on Steering Committees so they know that the MPO is practicing the correct procedures. He said that staff is seeking approval of the PIP Amendment which is on display at the seven County libraries for the 45 day public review period and he will take any questions at

this time. Ms. Beltran added that the Final document will come back before this Board in April for adoption just prior to the Federal audit.

Mr. Tom Campenni motioned to approve the Public Involvement Program (PIP) Amendment. Mr. Harold Jenkins seconded the motion. Seeing no additional discussion the motion passed unanimously.

E. TITLE VI AND OTHER NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY AND PLAN – AMENDMENT

Mr. Gomez stated that FHWA also reviewed the Title VI document and had a few recommendations on this as well. He delineated the minor additions including adding the MPO Title VI Coordinator to the Organizational Structure, a paragraph regarding the Goals and Achievements of the MPO as well as adding the Community Characteristics Report to mention a couple of changes. Mr. Gomez said that the advisory committees meet the required standards. He advised that staff has attended various trainings sessions regarding Title VI and Civil Rights. In conclusion, Mr. Gomez said that staff is looking for a motion to approve this amendment and he would answer any questions at this time.

A motion to approve the Title VI and Other Nondiscrimination Policy and Plan-Amendment was made by Mr. Vinny Barile. Mr. Tom Campenni provided a second. No additional discussion was forthcoming and the motion passed unanimously.

F. 2040 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP) – AMENDMENT

Ms. Beltran stated that this item is before the Board for a couple of reasons. First, she said, was because of the upcoming Federal Audit. Ms. Beltran said that staff at FHWA was asked to perform a preliminary review of the plan and the recommendations have been reflected in the document. Secondly, the changes address information that was discussed at the December MPO Board meeting.

Ms. Beltran stated that FHWA staff requested that certain information, though located in other areas of the document, be included in Chapter Nine, the Cost Feasible Plan (CFP). Minor changes also were recommended for Chapter Eleven. She detailed each of the changes highlighting some of the Livable Communities Initiatives (LCI) which were in the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) as non-capacity projects which improve the transportation network and the quality of life in Martin. These improvements consist of Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) projects; the Mapp Road and Bridge Road projects as well as parking improvements are included in the LCI line item. She continued and pointed out that the Willoughby Extension Project from Monterey Road to US 1 that was discussed at the previous Board meeting is already in the CFP. Ms. Beltran advised that Chapter Eleven addresses project implementation so text was included explaining how a project advances from the Long Range Transportation Plan to the

Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) to implementation. Mr. McDonald inquired in the absence of Commissioner Smith if this document now reflects all the matters discussed in Commissioner Smith's motion at the previous meeting. Ms. Beltran affirmed that the items he requested were for the Public Hearing concerning Mapp Road, Bridge Road and the Willoughby Extension. She mentioned that the MPO is required to have a public review period of 15 to 30 days. Ms. Beltran said as this is considered a Public Hearing, prior to a motion being made the Public Hearing should be opened.

Mr. McDonald opened the floor for a Public Hearing. He requested any public comments and/or discussion on this matter. **Seeing none the Public Hearing was closed.**

Mr. Tom Campenni made a motion to approve 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Amendment which was seconded by Mr. Vinny Barile. There were no objections, the motion carried unanimously.

G. SCOPE OF SERVICES – PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Ms. Beltran said this Scope of Services is for one of the MPO's General Planning Consultants (GPCs) to assist staff with the upcoming Federal audit, specifically the transportation model. She advised that the GPC is Kimley-Horn and the amount is about \$10,000. Ms. Beltran reflected on the benefits of their assistance during the previous audit as they had provided the modeling work in the 2035 Plan. She stated that it was approved by each of the advisory committees prior to being brought to this Board today.

Mr. Harold Jenkins made a motion to approve the Scope of Services-Professional Services. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vincent Barile. **No additional comments were made. The motion passed unanimously.**

H. COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS REPORT – UPDATE

Mr. McDonald was impressed with the data and its presentation in the report adding that it could be beneficial for many other agencies not just by the MPO. Ms. Alice Bojanowski introduced herself as being with the MPO and stated that in line with Title VI, it's important to determine the make-up of the Martin community. She advised that the MPO created a Community Characteristics Report by looking into demographics based on the U.S. Census. Ms. Bojanowski advised that the Ten year Census accounts for everyone, then there is the American Community Survey which tracks changes without accounting for every person. This is using data, the U.S. Census as well as Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping to show spatially where these people reside in order to determine how they may be better served. She stated that they began with the nine planning areas in the Comprehensive Plan and subdivided it further for additional study. She provided a map showing the different areas studied for this update to the 2012 Study which highlighted Community Characteristics and demographics. She advised that the 10-year Census measures everyone while the American Community Survey only depicts the changes but doesn't account for each person as it's only a survey. She said that

the American Community Census Data focuses primarily on five categories; Minority, ages 65 or older, Households at or below poverty, Households without a vehicle, People with Limited English Speaking Proficiency (LEP). This update she said, replaces the 2014 Update with a five year span of the American Community Survey data recently released, making this more viable due to the wider expanse of time. Ms. Bojanowski advised of the updates and changes that have occurred due to the advisory committees' input. She said they wanted inclusion of the Golden Gate and Rio CRAs into the text references, updated GIS maps and enlarged the type print for better viewing, as well as website references. She noted that the CRAs, each showing boundaries were depicted and she provided a list of websites where people could obtain additional information. Ms. Bojanowski said that the Florida Data Clearinghouse at the University of Florida, who are contracted to FDOT, was also utilized for information.

A motion was made by Mr. Campenni to approve the Community Characteristics Report Update as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins. There were no additional questions and the motion passed unanimously.

I. REGIONAL UPDATE

Ms. Beltran advised the Board that the MPO is moving forward with the 2040 Regional Long Range Transportation Plan adding that the Treasure Coast Technical Advisory Committee (TCTAC) recently met and approved the Regional Needs Map as well as the Regional Network, Prioritization and Performance Measures.

Ms. Beltran provided an update of the MPO Coordination and Planning Area Reform Final Rule, which was reviewed by the MPO Board last August when it was a "proposed" rule. She said there is a bill in both the House and the Senate to repeal this rule. Ms. Beltran recently received an email from the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO) asking that MPO Boards submit letters to their Delegations in support of this Repeal. She conferred with the County's Intergovernmental Liaison regarding the sample letter provided by AMPO and was advised that it would be a good idea to educate the Delegation of this situation. She said if the Board desired to direct staff to draft a letter for the Chairman's signature stating support for this Repeal it would be done. She provided the history of the Rule to the newer Board members expressing the significant changes to the Martin MPO and its affect within Martin County. Mr. McDonald added that it would be devastating to Martin and he recently spoke to Congressman Mast about this matter. Congressman Mast is on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and he advised that he will work on this matter. Since that conversation, Mr. McDonald added, that a bill will be filed so he is of the opinion that submitting a letter supporting the Repeal would be advisable.

A motion was made by Mr. Campenni to request staff to draft a letter for the Chair's signature in support of the Repeal. The motion was seconded

by **Mr. Barile**. Mr. Anthony Dowling sought clarification in that Indiantown would not be represented on an MPO Board in the event of the proposed merger/split. Ms. Beltran advised that currently there is a State “cap” on the number of representatives on MPO Boards so if part of Martin County was merged with Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties, in all likelihood there would not be a representative for Martin. She noted as Mr. Dowling is the Indiantown Representative, according to the interpretation of the Final Rule, there is a good chance that Indiantown would not be included in the MPO process at all. The Rule states that the planning areas should be the urbanized areas and those areas to be urbanized within the next 20 years. Ms. Beltran said that Indiantown may not fall into that category and others that currently have a voice on this Board may not have representation on an MPO Board when this Final Rule is implemented. Mr. McDonald said that in the future, the Rule indicates the possibility that contiguous Urbanized Areas, i.e. Miami-Dade/St. Lucie, could choose to become one Urbanized Area which would result in an MPO from Brevard to Miami-Dade counties which would be the absolute worse-case scenario. It was noted that it defeats the purpose of MPOs in the first place. **The question was called with the motion passing unanimously.**

9. COMMENTS FROM FDOT

None

10. COMMENTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

None.

11. COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. McDonald said that there was a presentation on Florida Aviation at the last Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Committee (MPOAC) Meeting. It describes the significant economic impact that aviation has on the State.

Mr. McDonald inquired of Ms. Beltran when the next Treasure Coast Transportation Council (TCTC) meeting would be held. Ms. Beltran said probably late May/early June as we are scheduled to have the Plan completed by June, the end of the fiscal year. There will be another TCTAC meeting before then.

12. NOTES

Ms. Beltran said that staff received a letter from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity stating that the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) is consistent with the local comprehensive plans.

She also provided information on the Open House for the Florida East Coast (FEC) Rail Grade Crossing Study which is tomorrow evening, at the City of Stuart Chambers from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. She said that the flyer was distributed to

several groups/agencies, is on the MPO's website and she gave an open invitation to everyone to come share their opinions.

Mr. Campenni added that he was in Tallahassee recently for the workshop on this matter [FEC Railroad]. He said it was fascinating to learn the affiliated costs which will be imposed on the local communities. Mr. McDonald clarified that this Grade Separation Project is not solely based on All Aboard Florida (AAF) it will also involve increased volumes of freight traffic. He said this project is supporting Martin residents having the ability to get across the tracks regardless of the circumstances. Future planning needs to begin now as projects like this take years to come to fruition.

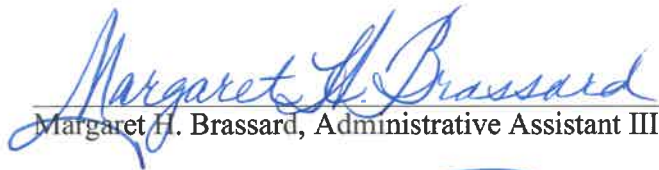
13. NEXT MEETING:

April 17, 2107 at 9:00 AM.

14. ADJOURN

As there were no remaining agenda items, the Chair adjourned the meeting RONR (10th ed.), p.233, c. (9) at 9:51 AM.

Recorded and Prepared by:


Margaret H. Brassard, Administrative Assistant III


Date


Troy McDonald, Chair


Date