

**MARTIN METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
JOINT CITIZEN'S/TECHNICAL/BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY
COMMITTEE (CAC/TAC/BPAC) MEETING**

Martin County Administrative Building Commission Chambers
2401 SE Monterey Road
Stuart, FL 34996
www.martinmpo.com
(772) 221-1498

Monday, October 18, 2021 1:30 P.M.

MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:33 PM by Lisa Wichser, TAC Chair.

2. ROLL CALL

TAC Members in Attendance:

Lisa Wichser, Chair
Michelle Berger, Vice Chair
Kim DeLaney
Mark Cocco
Clyde Dulin for Samantha Lovelady
Mira Skoroden
Tim Voelker
Mary Ann Yaw Sosa for William Powell
Ken DeAngeles

TAC Members Excused:

TAC Members Not In Attendance:

Stuart Trent
Althea Jefferson
David Dyess
Sam Carver

BPAC Members in Attendance:

Joan Moore, Chair
Julie Preast
Jackie Vitale
Kerrie Tyndall
Michael MacLeod
Arlette Cataldo

BPAC Excused Members:

Tom Campenni

BPAC Members Not In Attendance:

Pinal Gandhi-Savdas, Vice Chair

Dawn Arvin

Don Fabricy

Timothy Rossknecht

Hal Forslund

Sgt. Brian Bossio

Chris Wade

CAC Members in Attendance:

Amy Eason, Chair

Cindy Greenspan

Saadia Tsafarides

Ann Kagdis

Trent Steele

David Hafner

CAC Members Excused:

CAC Members Absent:

John Patteson, Vice Chair

Hilary Young

Helen McBride

Al Zilg

Staff in Attendance:

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator

Ricardo Vazquez, Senior Planner

Cherie White, Administrative Specialist III

Others in Attendance:

Blake Capps

Mira Skoroden, FDOT

Jessica Rubio, FDOT

Sabrina Aubery, FDOT

Christine Fasiska, FDOT

Todd Schimefanick, MCSO

Brian Ribaric, FDOT Turnpike Project Manager

Victoria Williams, FDOT Turnpike

Kimberly McLaughlin, Public Works Grants Coordinator

Christopher Goetzfried, Capital Projects Administrator

A quorum was present.

1. APPROVE AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Joan Moore and seconded by Michelle Berger, the motion passed unanimously.

2. APPROVE MINUTES

A motion to approve the Joint CAC/TAC/BPAC Meeting Minutes of April 5, 2021 was made by Michelle Berger and seconded by Joan Moore, the motion passed unanimously.

3. AGENDA ITEMS

A. FLORIDA TURNPIKE WIDENING PD&E PRESENTATION

Brian Ribaric, Turnpike Project Manager presented the Florida's Turnpike Enterprise (FTE) PD&E Study that is being conducted for the Turnpike Interchanges and the Turnpike Widening from Martin Highway to the St. Lucie County line. He also provided information as it relates to the Work Program funding.

Michelle Berger asked if they are considering expediting the projected timeline.

Brian Ribaric explained that it all depends on the traffic patterns or development that could trigger the need. The biggest thing for the Turnpike is if intersections start to fail you start getting cues, and that creates stopped vehicles and backups on the mainline of the Turnpike.

Chair Lisa Wichser stated that Leighton Farms Road is currently being realigned.

Brian Ribaric explained that based on Work Program funding, several projects were developed, one being the Martin Highway Interchange, and widening of the Turnpike. Based on the currently adopted FY22 - FY26 Work Program, the Interchange Improvements project at Martin Highway has design funds programmed for FY23, and the widening of the Turnpike has design funds programmed for FY25. The Draft Tentative Work Program for FY23 - FY27 has removed all funding for both projects.

Amy Eason inquired into if the Right of Way has been attained on Leighton Farms Road for the Turnpike project. Brian Ribaric stated that acquisition would be based on funding, and that there is no funding programmed in the current FY23 - FY27 Draft Tentative Work Program. He explained that if there is a trigger, such as a development, and they reach out to the Turnpike, there could be conversations for advanced acquisitions, but it would be a discussion with Martin County and the Turnpike as to how we can move forward.

B. FY23 - FY27 CITIZENS REPORT - DRAFT TENTATIVE WORK PROGRAM

Jessica Rubio, FDOT Program Management Administrator introduced the process of the List of Project Priorities (LOPPs) for FY2022/23. These priorities were transmitted to FDOT's District 4 Office in Fort Lauderdale. FDOT develops its upcoming Draft Tentative Work Program, also known as the Public Hearing Report, after considering the LOPPs submitted. She presented several Martin County projects that have been advanced. Julie Preast thanked the FDOT for their plans to include sidewalks and bicycle paths north of the Roosevelt Bridge.

A motion to approve the FY23-FY27 Draft Public Hearing Report - Draft Tentative Work Program was made by Joan Moore and seconded by Michelle Berger, the motion passed unanimously.

C. FLORIDA'S TURNPIKE ENTERPRISE – FY23 - FY27 DRAFT TENTATIVE WORK PROGRAM

Victoria Williams, FDOT Turnpike Enterprise, presented the FY23-FY27 Draft Tentative Work Program. She explained that the Florida's Turnpike Enterprise continues to make significant project investments in District Four, including widening the Turnpike through Martin County. In addition, the Turnpike is proposing a project to improve traffic operations for north-south trips that provides a connection between Interstate 95 (I-95) and Florida's Turnpike near the existing I-95/Bridge Road Interchange.

A motion to approve the Florida's Turnpike Enterprise FY23-FY27 Draft Tentative Work Program was made by Michelle Berger and seconded by Kim DeLaney, the motion passed unanimously.

D. VISION ZERO PLAN UPDATE

Stewart Robertson of Kimley Horn & Associates introduced their efforts to develop a Vision Zero Action Plan. This Plan will incorporate Vision Zero initiatives to move towards reducing traffic fatalities and serious injuries to zero. This project includes partner coordination through a Vision Zero Stakeholder Committee, coordination on priority action items, developing policy and programs that support bicycle and pedestrian safety, and identifying demonstration projects to raise awareness of innovative bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. Lastly, it pursues an evaluation process of the effectiveness of the Congested Management Process (CMP) and strategies that are necessary to report on the MPO's adopted Safety Performance Measures. He explained that Kimley Horn held Stakeholder Committee Meetings and are planning on holding a public Open House in February 2022 as well. The website is: www.visionzeromartin.com He stated there is a link to an interactive map on the website so the public can make place-based comments. Many comments have already been received to include, bike lane needed, dangerous intersection, and speeding problems.

The Committees suggested broadly disseminating the information to the public through the other municipalities and on their websites. Stewart Robertson stated that the Martin MPO has been conducting email and social media campaigns to get the message out. He stated it would be great if partner agencies could link directly to this website so people can go on and make comments.

Kim DeLaney stated that in the countermeasures there is no discussion of wider sidewalks or a multi-use path. As a benefit to the Committees, the Transportation Planning Agency (TPA) Board in Palm Beach County is shifting its focus and resources into off-street facilities. She asked if there was data for buffered bikes lanes versus unbuffered bike lanes. She also suggested they consider off-street facilities and shared use pathways. Stewart Robertson agreed that the enhanced separation and shared use paths is a suggestion. He also mentioned the MPO is currently working on the SUN Trail project in Hobe Sound with a similar design technique that could also be applied in this section along US 1, to give cyclists an option to be completely off-road if they don't want to be in the bike lane.

Arlette Cataldo stated that New York City adopted Vision Zero in 2014 and have separated pedestrians and bicyclist by barrier or buffer from traffic. She feels that this would be the only way to accomplish Vision Zero. Stewart Robertson noted that the City of Ft. Lauderdale also recently adopted Vision Zero, and their added bike lanes are in buffered pathways.

Michelle Berger suggested having an overlay of the mass transit or bus schedule as it relates to those crashes depicted in the presented survey. She also recommended reaching out to first responders for their feedback. Stewart Robertson stated that they already have Police and EMS on the Stakeholder Committee.

4. COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Julie Preast requested that someone look at the installation of streetlights along Savannah Road, from Cardinal Avenue intersection to Jensen Beach Blvd, since that area is very dark at night, and there is a slight curve in the road. She also noted the active upgrades to the railroad crossings for Brightline, and the ongoing closure of NE Dixie Highway with a delayed re-opening. She thanked Lisa Wichser and David Dyess for having the City of Stuart Police Department detour traffic at the intersection of NW Alice Street and Dixie Highway. She recommended that the County and City staff prepare for the countywide upgrades to railroad crossings, and their closures being done by Brightline.

Lisa Wichser stated that Brightline has agreed to look at hiring, where they may be needed, off-duty police officers or sheriffs at those adjacent intersections to the crossing upgrades. She also stated they would investigate streetlights along Savannah Road.

5. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - NONE

6. NOTES - NONE

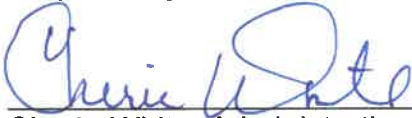
7. NEXT MEETING

Joint CAC/TAC/BPAC Meeting – November 29, 2021

8. ADJOURN 2:51 P.M.

Seeing no other business items remaining on the Agenda and no additional comments, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:51 PM.

Prepared by:



Cherie White, Administrative Specialist III

11-29-21

Date

Approved by:



Lisa Wichser, TAC Chair

11-29-2021

Date

The Martin MPO solicits public participation without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the American with Disabilities Act or persons who require language translation services (free of charge) should contact Ricardo Vazquez, Senior Planner (Title VI/Non-discrimination Contact) at (772) 223-7983 or rvazquez@martin.fl.us in advance of the meeting. Hearing impaired individuals are requested to telephone the Florida Relay System at #711.