



**MARTIN METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
POLICY BOARD MEETING**
Martin County Administrative Building Commission Chambers
2401 SE Monterey Road
Stuart, FL 34996
www.martinmpo.com
(772) 221-1498

Monday, February 21, 2022 @ 9:00 am

MINUTES

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** – MPO Chair Doug Smith called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – MPO Chair Doug Smith led the pledge of allegiance.
- 3. PRAYER** - Reverend Jim Harp, Stuart Alliance Church led the Invocation.
- 4. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT:

Doug Smith, Chair
Commissioner Edward Ciampi
Commissioner Troy McDonald
Council Member Guyton Stone
Commissioner Harold Jenkins
Commissioner James Campo

REPRESENTING:

Martin County Board of County Commission
Martin County Board of County Commission
City of Stuart Commission
Village of Indiantown Council
Martin County Board of County Commission
Town of Sewall's Point Commission

EXCUSED ABSENCE:

Commissioner Stacey Hetherington Martin County Board of County Commission
Commissioner Merritt Matheson City of Stuart Commission

Staff in Attendance:

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator
Ricardo Vazquez, Senior Planner
Joy Puerta, Planner
Lucine Martens, Planner
Cherie White, Administrative Assistant

Others in Attendance:

Reverend Jim Harp, Stuart Alliance Church
Lisa Wichser, Martin County Engineer
Kim McLaughlin, Public Works Grants Coordinator
Chris Goetzfried, Capital Projects Administrator
Kris McKirdy, FDOT
Benazir Portal, Kittelson & Associates, Inc.
Mark Plass, FDOT
Victoria Williams, FDOT - Florida Turnpike Enterprise
Mira Skoroden, FDOT
Doug Green, FDOT
Christine Fasiska, FDOT

5. APPROVE AGENDA

A motion to approve the Agenda was made by Commissioner Troy McDonald and seconded by Commissioner Harold Jenkins. The motion passed unanimously.

6. APPROVE MINUTES

MPO Policy Board Meeting – December 13, 2021

A motion to approve the December 13, 2021 MPO Policy Board Meeting Minutes was made by Commissioner Ed Ciampi and seconded by Commissioner Troy McDonald and was unanimously approved.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

8. AGENDA ITEMS

A. SR A1A FROM NE CAUSEWAY BOULEVARD TO HUTCHINSON SHORES RESORT SAFETY STUDY PRESENTATION

Benazir Portal of Kittelson & Associates, Inc. gave a visual presentation to the Policy Board of the Hutchinson Shores Resort Safety Study and improvement recommendations. Mark Plass with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) concluded the presentation by stating that in this roadway segment you have several factors which include the speed of the vehicles and people not knowing the proper way to navigate the roundabout. He stated that it is important to have proper markings on the roundabout by bringing it up to current standards and that in conjunction with reducing speeds will improve the safety and operation of this section of A1A.

Patricia Jones with the Hutchinson Island Preservation Initiative (HIPI) inquired over the construction schedule, timing of the study and lighting along A1A. Kris McKirdy, FDOT, came forward and offered information on the resurfacing of A1A and stated that whatever lighting improvements are needed will be done in the Resurfacing, Restoration and Rehabilitation (RRR) project.

Commissioner Ed Ciampi expressed concern over the schedule. Commissioner Troy McDonald inquired over the number of drug and alcohol related crashes. He also recommended widening the bike lanes and stated that the bike lanes accumulate sand which becomes dangerous to bicycle riders who have narrow tires. Commissioner Doug Smith expressed concern over the speed of vehicles along that section of roadway and that it is very important to look at how to slow them down. He also stated that the yellow blinking beacon for pedestrian crossing is not working and should be red. Mark Plass stated that they were approached about installing a midblock pedestrian signal with the red, amber, green indication, and will be looking at that option. He also stated that it was FDOT's intent to incorporate the many improvements and implement them as quickly as possible and not at the timing of the RRR project. They want to address safety, speed, traffic operations to the extent they can now, not later. He stated there may be improvements in this plan that take longer, and may make sense to put in the RRR project, but our objective is to maximize what we consider to be short to midterm, well before the RRR project is completed.

Mark Plass stated he would be reaching out to Lisa Wichser to discuss options for the pedestrian crosswalk along A1A.

B. ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator introduced the agenda item and stated that the Chair and Vice Chair are the two members of the regional Treasure Coast Transportation Council. Also the Chair is the member of the Governing Board for the statewide MPO called the MPOAC, and the Vice Chair is the alternate. She announced that the upcoming year is very important for attendance to the MPOAC Governing Board meetings because they are going to discuss the breakdown of the MPOAC funding throughout the State. FDOT will be coming out with their new Census numbers late Summer early Fall so they are going to have that conversation on how MPO planning funds from Federal Highway are going to be distributed. The MPOAC meetings are held once a quarter. Ms. Beltran stated that she wanted to update the Board on the responsibility and expectation of the Chair and Vice Chair this year.

Motion to nominate Troy McDonald as Chair and Commissioner James Campo as Vice Chair was made by Commissioner Ed Ciampi. Commissioner James Campo declined the Vice Chair position, Commissioner Troy McDonald accepted the nomination as Chair.

Motion to nominate Doug Smith as Vice Chair was made by Commissioner Harold Jenkins.

Motion to nominate Doug Smith as Chair and Troy McDonald to serve as Vice Chair was made by Commissioner James Campo.

Commissioner Troy McDonald said he would be happy to serve as Chair.

Motion to nominate Commissioner Troy McDonald as Chair was made by Commissioner Ed Ciampi and seconded by Commissioner Harold Jenkins and was unanimously approved.

Motion to nominate Commissioner Doug Smith as Vice Chair was made by Commissioner Ed Ciampi and seconded by Commissioner Harold Jenkins and was unanimously approved.

Motion to nominate Commissioner Merritt Matheson and Commissioner Stacey Hetherington as alternate members to the TCTC was made by Commissioner Doug Smith and seconded by Commissioner Harold Jenkins and was unanimously approved.

Motion to nominate Commissioner Merritt Matheson as Chair to the Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged (LCB-TD) was made by Commissioner Ed Ciampi and seconded by Commissioner Doug Smith and was unanimously approved.

C. FY22 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) APPLICATION

Kim McLaughlin, Public Works Grants Coordinator and Chris Goetzfried, Capital Projects Administrator presented the item to the Board.

They presented their request for the SE Washington Avenue sidewalks project for the 2022 FDOT TAP application cycle. The Federal funds being requested is for full funding, and the grant funds being requested are \$420,000.00 with local fund contributions of \$167,399.65.

Motion to approve the FY22 TAP Application was made by Commissioner Doug Smith and seconded by Commissioner Harold Jenkins and was unanimously approved.

D. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN (PIP) ANNUAL REPORT

Ricardo Vazquez, Senior Planner, introduced the item to the Committee. He states that the MPO Public Involvement Plan (PIP) is a guiding document that helps ensure public input is considered during the transportation planning process. He explained the objectives and strategies that were achieved throughout calendar year 2021.

Motion to approve the Public Involvement Plan (PIP) Annual Report was made by Commissioner Doug Smith and seconded by Commissioner Harold Jenkins and was unanimously approved.

E. PUBLIC HEARING - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

Beth Beltran introduced the item and MPO Chair Troy McDonald opened the public hearing. With no comments from the public or Board, Chair Troy McDonald closed the public hearing.

Motion to approve the Public Participation Plan was made by Commissioner Doug Smith and seconded by Council Member Guyton Stone and was unanimously approved.

F. PUBLIC HEARING - FY22 – FY26 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENT

MPO Chair Troy McDonald opened the public hearing.

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator introduced the item and explained that FDOT has requested that the Martin MPO amend its FY22-FY26 TIP to include two new projects. The first project being added is the 5310 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Advocates for the Rights of the Challenged (ARC) of Martin County Operating Assistance (FM# 450455-1) which has an estimated project cost of \$10,844. The second project being added is the 5310 Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Application Act (CRRSAA) – ARC of Martin County Operating Funds for Fixed Route (FM# 450476-1) which has an estimated project cost of \$61,573.

With no comments from the public or Board, Chair Troy McDonald closed the public hearing.

Motion to approve the FY22-FY26 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment was made by Commissioner Doug Smith and seconded by Commissioner James Campo and was unanimously approved.

G. DEVELOPMENT REVIEW INTERACTIVE MAP

Beth Beltran introduced the item to the Board and introduced the consultant, Frank Veldhuis with Northstar Geomatics, who developed the interactive map. Mr. Veldhuis gave a visual presentation of the draft map. He explained that the data from the different municipalities is still being gathered. Ms. Beltran explained that the map was developed as part of the MPO and will be used for future developments as it relates to transportation needs. Clyde Dulin explained that the map shows specific information in unincorporated Martin County and until other municipalities get a land management system, you would need to contact them for specific development questions.

Commissioner Doug Smith stated that the question of who takes the map project from here, and funding, will need to be decided by the County Commission. Clyde Dulin explained they are evaluating and considering moving forward with that idea. Commissioner Doug Smith appreciated the map and thanked those who put it together. Commissioner Ciampi suggested adding a layer to the map that shows the current road

projects. Beth Beltran said she would work with County staff to incorporate that. Commissioner Doug Smith added that we could also include the condition level of the roadway to the map.

H. DRAFT FY24-FY28 LIST OF PROJECT PRIORITIES (LOPP)

Beth Beltran introduced the item and gave a brief detail of the LOPP. Council Member Stone inquired about how to get pedestrian crosswalk lights relocated. Beth Beltran explained that the process will be discussed when FDOT does their feasibility study in Indiantown, and after this meeting you can discuss that with FDOT. Lisa Wichser, County Engineer, stated that there are currently ongoing discussions in the County about the crosswalks in Indiantown.

Motion to approve the DRAFT FY24-FY28 List of Project Priorities was made by Commissioner Doug Smith and seconded by Commissioner James Campo and was unanimously approved.

I. STATE CERTIFICATION

Beth Beltran introduced the item and gave a brief explanation of the State Certification.

Motion to authorize the Chair to sign the State Certification documents including the Joint Certification, as well as Certifications and Assurances that include Lobbying Certification for Grants, Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Utilization, and Title VI/Nondiscrimination Assurance was made by Commissioner Doug Smith and seconded by Commissioner Harold Jenkins and was unanimously approved.

J. GENERAL PLANNING CONSULTANT (GPC) CONTRACTS

Beth Beltran introduced the item and gave a brief explanation of the General Planning Consultants contracts. The request is to award the GPC contacts to; Kimley-Horn & Associates, T.Y. Lin International, MARLIN Engineering, The Corradino Group, Inc., and Alfred Benesch & Company as recommended by the Selection Committee and authorize the MPO Chairman, the MPO Administrator and appropriate Martin County staff to execute the standard Martin County approved consultant contract with the five firms.

Motion to approve award of the General Planning Consultant (GPC) Contracts to Kimley-Horn & Associates, T.Y. Lin International, MARLIN Engineering, The Corradino Group, Inc., and Alfred Benesch & Company, and authorize the MPO Chairman, the MPO Administrator and appropriate Martin County staff to execute the standard Martin County approved consultant contract with the five firms was made by Commissioner Doug Smith and seconded by Commissioner Ed Ciampi and was unanimously approved.

9. COMMENTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS - None

10. COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Commissioner James Campo congratulated Commissioner Troy McDonald on his appointment as Chair. Commissioner Harold Jenkins presented a letter he had received from a student from Hidden Oaks Middle School expressing concern over the safety along Bridge Road. (The letter has been added as an attachment to the minutes). He explained to the Board that he responded to the student with information he had received from County Engineer Lisa Wichser. He suggested a safety study on additional measures for Bridge Road and stated that enforcement is a critical factor. Commissioner Doug Smith suggested the most effective speed reduction are the rumble strips in the center line as well as the shoulder.

11. COMMENTS FROM FDOT-None

12. NOTES

Beth Beltran MPO Administrator welcomed Council Member Guyton Stone, who is the new representative for the Village of Indiantown.

a. Letter from St. Lucie TPO

Ms. Beltran introduced a letter from the St. Lucie TPO to the Chair of the Treasure Coast Transportation Council (TCTC). The letter states that the St. Lucie TPO requests that the TCTC align regional funding allocations with regional priorities identified in the Regional Long Range Transportation Plan, as well as amend Section 3 of the TCTC Interlocal Agreement to state that there must be a unanimous vote for any actions taken by the TCTC, citing the regional organization to the South as an example. Ms. Beltran stated she would keep the Board updated on any other matters relative to this. Commissioner Troy McDonald stated that the letter appears to be another effort by St. Lucie County to circumvent more funds to them and taking away from Martin and Indian River Counties. Commissioner McDonald stated it would be a mistake to consider any changes. Beth Beltran stated there was a Joint Meeting of the three County Commissions where Indian River County stated they were pleased with the way things are with the current Interlocal Agreement. Commissioner Smith requested the MPO send a letter to be on record, supporting the current Interlocal Agreement.

Motion to approve sending a letter from the Martin MPO Board, signed by the MPO Board Chair to the TCTC stating that the current Interlocal Agreement dated April 10, 2006 should remain in effect since the existing agreement has provided for equitable distribution of funding was made by Commissioner Doug Smith and seconded by Commissioner James Campo and was unanimously approved.

Beth Beltran announced the upcoming Bike to Work Event on Friday March 11, 2022 in Downtown Stuart beginning at 7:00 a.m. at Memorial Park. The event is geared toward people who live and work in Downtown Stuart.

**b. Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC)
Weekend Institute**

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator invited those MPO Board members who have not already attended the MPOAC Weekend Institute to consider attending.

ADJOURNMENT: 11:06 AM

Approved by:



Troy McDonald, Chair

Prepared by:



Cherie White, Administrative Assistant

Minutes Approved on April 18, 2022

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.