

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

Martin County Administrative Building 4th Floor Workshop Room

2401 SE Monterey Road, Stuart, FL 34996

www.martinmpo.com

(772) 221-1498

Monday February 14, 2022 @ 2:00 PM

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM by Chair Joan Moore

2. ROLL CALL

BPAC Members in Attendance:

Joan Moore, Chair

Pinal Gandhi-Savdas, Vice Chair

Julie Preast

Jackie Vitale

Don Fabricy

Timothy Rossknecht

Michael MacLeod

Members Absent Excused:

Thomas Campenni

Kerrie Tyndall

Members Absent:

Dawn Arvin

Hal Forslund

Arlette Cataldo

Staff in Attendance:

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator

Ricardo Vazquez, Senior Planner

Joy Puerta, MPO Planner

Cherie White, Administrative Assistant

Others in Attendance:

Chief Tina Ciechanowski, Sewall's Point Police
Chris Goetzfried, Martin County Capital Projects Administrator
Mark Plass, FDOT (Virtual)
Benazir Portal, Kittelson & Associates (Virtual)
Clyde Dulin, Comp Planning Administrator
Frank Veldhuis, NorthStar Geomatics

3. APPROVE AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Julie Preast and seconded by Jackie Vitale, the motion passed unanimously.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

- BPAC Meeting – September 13, 2021

A motion to approve the Minutes of September 13, 2021 was made by Jackie Vitale and seconded by Julie Preast, the motion passed unanimously.

5. AGENDA ITEMS

A. ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

A motion to nominate Joan Moore as Chair was made by Julie Preast and seconded by Don Fabricy, the motion passed unanimously.

A motion to nominate Pinal Gandhi-Savdas as Vice Chair was made by Julie Preast and seconded by Don Fabricy, the motion passed unanimously.

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

Mark Plass, FDOT District Four, gave a visual presentation to the Committee on the SR A1A from NE Causeway Boulevard to Hutchinson Island Shores Resort safety study. The presentation included recommendations as it relates to traffic conditions, safety performance of the roadway, midblock crossing that serves the resort, and the roundabout.

Benazir Portal, Kittelson, FDOT Consultant gave a presentation as to the crash patterns speed, crossings, and safety.

Mark Plass explained that FDOT is proposing a flashing beacon at the mid-block pedestrian crossing near the Hutchinson Shores Resort.

Julie Preast complimented the pedestrian crosswalks in Key West with flashing beacons and mast arms. She also asked them to consider two feedback signs alerting drivers to slow down before the roundabout.

Jackie Vitale suggested adding an additional yield sign at the roundabout. Mark Plass said they would investigate that signage. Julie Preast said that this is a highly traveled intersection/roundabout by all surrounding counties, as well as something that most visitors may not be familiar with how to maneuver.

Joan Moore asked that they consider revisiting lighting along that roadway. Mark Plass stated that there was a lot of pushback from the residents to add lighting but agreed that section of roadway is very dark and lighting is recommended that would be the most positive effect from the crosswalk to the roundabout. He stated that he would have discussions with County staff to see what the feeling is about lighting, how one would justify this, and what the additional limits would be.

Beth Beltran stated that this would need to be a discussion by the elected officials. Julie Preast asked if the low-profile lights can be considered and felt that having those lights installed would trigger vehicles that they should slow down. Mark Plass stated the only lighting that is being installed is wildlife sensitive lighting. Pinal Gandhi-Savdas asked if there would be an opportunity to install benches or street furniture since that may help reduce vehicle speed.

C. FY22-FY26 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENT.

Ricardo Vazquez, MPO Senior Planner introduced the item. He explained that there are two additional items that have been requested by FDOT to amend into the FY22-FY26 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The first item is a 5310 Grant for Advocates Rights of the Challenged (ARC) for operating assistance, and the second item is another 5310 Grant funded by Corona Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA). The 5310 Grant funds are funds used for the transportation disadvantaged, and the Martin MPO is supportive in obtaining as much funding as possible to provide that population with trips.

A motion to approve the FY22-FY26 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment was made by Julie Preast and seconded by Jackie Vitale, the motion passed unanimously.

D. FY22 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) APPLICATION.

Joy Puerta, MPO Planner introduced the item to the Committee. She explained that the MPO received one application from Martin County and introduced Kim McLaughlin, Public Works Grants Coordinator, and Chris Goetzfried, Capital Projects Administrator. They presented the County's request for the S.E. Washington Avenue Sidewalk Project

for the 2022 TAP application cycle. The federal funds being requested are \$420,000.00 with local fund contributions of \$167,399.65.

Julie Preast suggested adding a median with wider travel lanes that may reduce speed.

A motion to approve FY22-Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Application was made by Pinal Gandhi-Savdas and seconded by Timothy Rossknecht. The motion passed unanimously.

E. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN (PIP) ANNUAL REPORT.

Ricardo Vazquez presented the Public Involvement Plan annual report. He introduced the various objectives and strategies that were achieved in Calendar Year 2021.

Julie Preast asked if they would be adding more covered bus stops. Ricardo Vazquez stated he would look into that and respond back to the Committee.

Don Fabricy expressed concern over the empty Marty busses. He agreed that bus stops need better markings or covered benches, so people know they are there. He said there needs to be a business plan and asked for a presentation in the future.

Julie Preast complimented the MPO staff for their hard work and creative ways on engaging the public.

A motion to approve Public Involvement Plan (PIP) Annual Report was made by Julie Preast and seconded by Jacki Vitale the motion passed unanimously.

F. DEVELOPMENT REVIEW INTERACTIVE MAP PRESENTATION.

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator introduced the item to the Committee and explained that this item is an information item and is still a work in process. She introduced the consultant Frank Veldhuis, 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. Beth Beltran explained that the map was developed as part of the MPO planning and will be used for future developments as it relates to transportation needs. Clyde Dulin explained that the map shows specific information in the County and until the municipalities get a land management system, individuals would need to contact them for specific development questions.

Pinal Gandhi-Savdas stated that the City of Stuart does not have a land planning program and this map would be a great tool for the City of Stuart's web site. She also inquired as to how often the map would be updated. Mr. Veldhuis explained that for MPO purposes the map would be updated twice a year. Beth Beltran explained that the County and City have both expressed interest in updating the map more frequently. Julie Preast asked if this could be added to the overall Martin County

website and felt this would be a good public outreach tool. Clyde Dulin stated that the County has the Owl mapping system that houses the up to date development information for the unincorporated areas of the County.

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

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator introduced the item and gave the Committee a status report on the Martin MPO DRAFT FY24-FY28 List of Project Priorities.

Jackie Vitale expressed concern over the funding of mitigation for the MacArthur Blvd. Sea Level Rise project when the road is not accessible to the public. Beth Beltran explained that section of the road is 1500 feet north of bathtub beach and does not include the private gated community. She also stated that both roads have a Federal Classification, which means they can go through the MPO process. Chris Goetzfried, Martin County Capital Projects Administrator explained that the South Sewall's Point Road is considered an emergency evacuation route.

Pinal Gandhi-Savdas inquired as to how another project could get added to the list. Beth Beltran explained that if the City is interested in the future it can be discussed to possibly add it to the draft list for next year and that it also requires the scoping form from the local government.

A motion to approve Draft FY24-FY28 List of Project Priorities was made by Pinal Gandhi-Savdas and seconded by Julie Preast the motion passed unanimously.

6. COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Julie Preast said she saw a post on Nextdoor Neighborhood about no signage along Goldenrod indicating a school zone near Jensen Beach High School. Beth Beltran stated she would let the TAC School Board Representative know of the concerns.

Jackie Vitale expressed concern over the signalization versus pedestrian crossing light issue at the intersection of East Ocean and Monterey. Beth Beltran stated she would check with FDOT about that because at one time it was changed to no right turn on red. Pinal Gandhi-Savdas expressed concern over the access from Fresh Market to the County Administration Building. Beth Beltran explained that the driveway was being used as a highly traveled road and was becoming too dangerous.

Joan Moore, Chair stated she took pictures of the bike lane overgrowth along A1A and forwarded them to Joy Puerta to send to FDOT. She also mentioned that in St. Lucie County, police are patrolling the vehicles that are stopping in the pedestrian crosswalks at intersections. Julie Preast noted that if there is a grant opportunity to educate the public on the three-foot rule for bicyclist.

7. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC-NONE

8. NOTES

a. Bike to Work Event-Friday, March 11, 2022

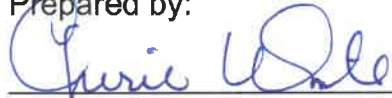
Joy Puerta, MPO Planner announced the Bike to Work Event to the Committee.

9. NEXT MEETING

CAC/BPAC/TAC Joint Meeting – April 4, 2022 @ 1:30 PM

ADJOURNMENT: 3:50 P.M.

Prepared by:



Cherie White, Administrative Assistant

5-2-22

Date

Approved by:



Joan Moore, BPAC Chair

5/2/22

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.