

**MARTIN METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
JOINT CITIZEN'S/BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN/TECHNICAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEETING**

Building Department Conference Room A & B
900 SE Ruhnke Street, Stuart, FL 34994

www.martinmpo.com

(772) 221-1498

Monday, April 1, 2019

MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:38 PM by Lisa Wichser, TAC Chair.

2. ROLL CALL

TAC Members in Attendance:

Lisa Wichser, Chair
Kim Delaney, Vice Chair
Joe Capra
Stuart Trent
Yanique Kelly
Tim Voelker
Gissela Saucedo
Sam Carver

TAC Members Excused:

Clyde Dulin

TAC Members Not In Attendance:

David Dyess
Mark Cocco
Ken DeAngeles

BPAC Members in Attendance:

Joan Moore, Chair
Ken Natoli, Vice Chair
Julie Preast
Bryan Richardson
John Trahan
Kev Freeman
Don Fabricy
Jan Icyda
Carlos Morales (arrive 2:00 p.m.)
Larry Wallace

BPAC Excused Members:

Hal Forslund
Gene Zweben

BPAC Members Not In Attendance:

Dawn Arvin
JP Lazo
Sgt. Brian Bossio
Sgt. Geroge Yacobellis
Chris Ross Wade

CAC Members in Attendance:

Amy Eason, Chair
Cindy Greenspan
Ann Kagdis
Albert Zilg (arrive 1:47 p.m.)
Saadia Tsafarides (arrive 1:42 p.m.)
Sheila Kurtz (arrive 1:47 p.m.)
Alfred Miller (arrive 1:54 p.m.)

CAC Members Excused:

Daniel Parz

CAC Members Absent:

John Patteson
Trent Steele

Staff in Attendance:

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator
Bolivar Gomez, Senior Planner
Joy Puerta, Planner
Ricardo Vazquez, Associate Planner
Brigitte Wantz, Administrative Specialist

Others in Attendance:

Vikas Jain, T.Y. Lin International
Lisa Maack, Marlin Engineering
Joe Yesbeck, T.Y. Lin International
George Dzama, Martin County Capital Projects
Richard Gerold

A quorum was present.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

A motion to approve the Agenda as presented was made by Ms. Joan Moore and seconded by Ms. Ann Kagdis. There were no objections and the motion passed unanimously.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

Joint CAC/ TAC Meeting – October 10, 2018

Joint CAC/BPAC/TAC Meeting – November 26, 2018

A motion to approve the October 10, 2018 minutes was made by Ms. Amy Eason and seconded by Ms. Ann Kagdis. There were no objections and the motion passed unanimously.

A motion to approve the November 26, 2018 minutes was made by Mr. Joe Capra and seconded by Mr. Don Fabricy. There were no objections and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEMS

A. TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) APPLICATION

Joy Puerta introduced Mr. George Dzama, Martin County Capital Projects Manager who presented the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Application. Mr. Dzama presented the proposed Salerno Road Sidewalk Project comprised of construction of a 6' wide sidewalk on the north side of SE Salerno Road within the existing County right-of-way. The project is comprised of a 1-mile segment from SE Willoughby Boulevard and SE Cable Drive. The sidewalk and pedestrian crosswalk will provide safety connectivity to residential communities, Indian River State College, Robert Morgade Library, Pinewood Elementary School, and Martin Health System. The total cost of the application is \$338,000 including construction costs of \$290,000. Questions included the costs and funding associated with the project, placement of the sidewalk location, and the requirements for the developer to include sidewalk connections. TAC Chair, Lisa Wischer clarified that new developments were approved last month in the area making the project warranted.

A motion to approve the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Application was made by Mr. Joe Capra and seconded by Ms. Julie Preast. There were no objections and the motion passed unanimously.

B. DRAFT 2045 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP) SCOPE OF SERVICES

Mr. Bolivar Gomez presented the Draft 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Scope of Services. The LRTP is the foundation for the MPO and has a 25-year planning horizon which must be updated every 5 years to receive Federal and State transportation funds.

The scope identifies 10 tasks that the consultant will perform. Mr. Gomez detailed each task to include (1) Public Involvement Plan (PIP), (2) Data Compilation Review and Summary (3), Establish LRTP Goals, Objectives, Policies and Performance Measures (GOPPMs), (4) Travel Demand Forecasting, (5) Congestion Management Process Update, (6) Additional Elements, (7) Needs Assessment, (8) Financial Resources, (9) 20-Year Cost Feasible Plan, (10) 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan Draft Submittal and Finalization. New components to the Plan include emerging technologies of electric and autonomous vehicles, congestion management process, and future transportation scenario planning. Next steps include review of the Draft Scope of Services at the April MPO Policy Board meeting and anticipation for the plan to begin in May or June 2019. The consultant team of Mr. Joe Yesbeck, Managing Principal and Mr. Vikas Jain, Project Manager both of T.Y. Lin International was introduced. Mr. Jain defined the roles for the team; T.Y. Lin for technical work and tasks; CTS Engineering for travel forecast and analyzing congested networks; and Quest Corporation for public involvement and project branding. Mr. Ken Natoli commented on the last LRTP and suggested to look in the next 5-years and review for the progress of changes. There may not be a need to do the plan so often. Questions included the coordination with FDOT District 4 modeling consultants and the review timing. The impact of Brightline was discussed related to the statistical provisions in Martin County. Mr. Jain explained that transit projections and studies are looked at for future modeling. Ms. Kim Delaney commented on the importance of the 5-year projection of the LRTP and that FDOT's approach to Complete Streets is a completely new thought process. The changing expectations are different and they are looking to where the transportation investments take place.

A motion to approve the DRAFT 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Scope of Services was made by Ms. Ann Kagdis and seconded by Ms. Kim Delaney. There were no objections and the motion passed unanimously.

C. CITY OF STUART TRAM BUSINESS PLAN

Ms. Lisa Maack of Marlin Engineering presented the City of Stuart Tram Business Plan. The Tram is a successful system with almost 50,000 passengers transported in 2017. Currently, the operating and maintenance costs are funded by the Community Redevelopment Agency at \$100,000 per year in addition to a 3-year FDOT Public Transit Service Development Program Grant. The grant which provides the 50% local match is expiring at the end of June 2019 and the City of Stuart must look at future funding sources to expand the service. She touched on the scope of the project and the coordination of building a 5-year financial plan. The community embraces the free service. A survey was completed by eighty-one tram riders from various areas. Survey highlights include: 90% of riders learned about the tram by seeing it on the streets, the tram is a key link to provide transportation from current parking areas, and many riders would have walked or biked to their destination if the tram was unavailable. Business owners are supportive and encourage their employees to utilize the tram to get to work. Funding sources was discussed including the addition of on-vehicle advertising revenue

and promotions. A key part of the budget should include publicizing and marketing the service. The route has recently expanded to add a second route. The importance of parking fees as a future funding source was discussed and opportunities with special event fees to keep the current service or expansion was offered. A goal statement of "Continue to Plan, Operate and Maintain the Downtown Stuart Tram consistent with a Vision of enhanced mobility and economic development for the Downtown Stuart Area" was developed with specific objectives to guide the plan for FY2019 through FY2025. Discussion included the final 5-year financial report and the funding needed to keep or expand the service. The costs to purchase the largest tram at a cost of \$35,000.00 with a 2% yearly increase were offered. There was suggestion of charging a nominal fee for each ride to lower the costs and the response of added expenses in installing a fare box, the inclusion of security issues, and the loss of ridership due to the fee. Charging for a local history tour was discussed and the opportunities of offering a monthly rider pass. Questions ensued as to the availability of tapping into Federal funding, MPO public transportation planning dollars, and mobility fees. Discussion ensued related to the tram maintenance, purchase and lease costs, and the possibility of privatizing the service. Comments included consultant operational funding and FDOT future funding opportunities through CRA. Kim Delaney commented that the tram is a predictable and reliable service to free up parking for visitors. She added that transit takes the car out of the mix and allows the city to reduce the downtown parking need to create opportunities for green space. There were comments of the City of Stuart in studying the routes for better public transportation to reduce downtown parking and shift resources into a better system.

A motion to approve the City of Stuart Tram Business Plan was made by Ms. Julie Preast and seconded by Ms. Sheila Kurtz. There were no objections and the motion passed unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Ken Natoli commented about the seriousness of Vision Zero and the need for change. Business as usual will not make the number of fatalities decrease. He offered that land use changes also do not help. Ms. Kim Delaney asked about the bridge construction project along Dixie Hwy north of Cove Road. She commented on a cracked sidewalk connection in the area near Seabranck Preserve State Park which is part of the East Coast Greenway Project. Mr. Dzama explained that the area has the opportunity to include an 8' sidewalk connection.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - None

NOTES

NEXT MEETINGS

CAC Meeting- May 1, 2019 @ 9:00 AM
TAC Meeting- May 1, 2019 @ 1:30 PM
BPAC Meeting- May 6, 2019 @ 2:00 PM

ADJOURN

Seeing no other business items remaining on the Agenda and no additional comments, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:38 PM.

Prepared by:

Brigitte Wantz
Brigitte Wantz, Administrative Specialist III

10/7/19
Date

Approved by:

Lisa Wichser For
Lisa Wichser, TAC Chair

10/7/19
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 Bolivar Gomez, Senior Planner (Title VI/Non-discrimination Contact) at (772) 288-5412 or bgomez@martin.fl.us in advance of the meeting. Hearing impaired individuals are requested to telephone the Florida Relay System at #711.