

**MARTIN METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
JOINT CITIZENS/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](http://www.martinmpo.com)  
(772) 221-1498

Wednesday, October 1, 2025 @ 1:30 pm

**MEETING MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1:33 PM by Robert Daniels.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Susan Ortiz, Administrative Assistant, called roll.

**TAC Members in Attendance:**

Robert Daniels, Chair  
Jim Gorton, Vice Chair  
Dr. Kim Delaney  
Taryn Kryzda  
Mark Cocco  
Peter Kunen  
Samantha Lovelady  
Ashman Beecher  
Lauren Boshell

**TAC Members Excused:**

**TAC Members Not in Attendance:**

Stuart Trent  
Milton Leggett

**BPAC Members in Attendance:**

Julie Preast, Vice Chair  
Bonnie Moser  
Don Fabricy  
Mike Bocchino  
Yvette Goodiel

**BPAC Excused Members:**

Pinal Gandhi-Savdas, Chair  
Jason Bultman  
Michael MacLeod  
Bradford Davey  
Hals Forslund

**BPAC Members Not in Attendance:**

**CAC Members in Attendance:**

Saadia Tsaftarides, Chair  
Cindy Greenspan  
William Stuckey  
Howard Lyndon Brown  
Trent Steele  
Matthew Sexton  
Hilary Young

**CAC Members Excused:**

Larry Sofield, Vice Chair  
Ann Kagdis

**CAC Members Absent:**

Glen Alexander

**Staff in Attendance:**

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator  
Ricardo Vazquez, Principal Planner  
Margie Tamblyn, Senior Planner  
Lucine Martens, Planner  
Susan Ortiz, Administrative Assistant

**Others in Attendance:**

James Brown, Turnpike  
Kelly Budhu, FDOT  
Kathy White, FDOT  
Michael Melendez, FDOT  
Vikas Jain, TY Lin  
Wayne Grane

**A quorum was present.**

### **3. APPROVE AGENDA**

**A motion to approve the agenda was made by Julie Preast and was seconded by James Gorton. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **4. APPROVE MINUTES**

**A motion to approve the Joint CAC/TAC/BPAC Meeting Minutes of April 7, 2025, was made by Samantha Lovelady and seconded by Peter Kunen. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **5. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

### **6. AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **A. FINAL DRAFT 2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

Ms. Beltran opened the meeting by introducing Ricardo Vazquez, MPO Principal Planner and Project Manager for the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Mr. Vazquez noted that the team had reached the finish line with the LRTP. He acknowledged the long and involved process, thanking everyone for their commitment and participation throughout. Mr. Vazquez then went through the key milestones that led to this moment. With all components now finalized and compiled, Ricardo introduced Vikas Jain, the consultant who presented the final draft of the 2050 LRTP.

**A motion to approve the Final Draft 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan was made by Julie Preast and was seconded by Saadia Tsafarides. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **7. COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Ms. Preast raised two concerns. First, she asked whether current and future transportation projects remain financially secure given the broader national climate. Specifically, Ms. Preast inquired whether any funding cuts have affected local projects or if there's reason to be concerned moving forward.

Ms. Preast's second point focused on safety issues surrounding electric scooters and bicycles. Drawing from neighborhood meetings, newspaper letters, and conversations with local law enforcement, she emphasized growing public concern about these fast-moving vehicles. While BPAC primarily addresses bicycle and pedestrian issues, she noted that broader transportation and road safety concerns are deeply intertwined.

Ms. Preast shared that local police officers feel constrained in their ability to enforce safety regulations, particularly when it comes to distinguishing between vehicles with or without pedals, which affects their ability to issue warnings or citations. She referenced information provided by Ms. Tamblyn regarding current Florida regulations and asked

whether FDOT has a committee or initiative underway to review and potentially update rules governing where these vehicles may operate, especially on roads and sidewalks.

Kelly Budhu, the MPO liaison for Martin County, responded to Ms. Preast's first question regarding project funding. She explained that the Draft Tentative Work Program is scheduled to be presented at the next meeting later this month, which will provide a clearer picture of funding allocations for projects in Martin County over the next five years. Mike Melendez, representing FDOT, addressed Ms. Preast's concerns about safety regulations for electric scooters and bicycles. He acknowledged that this issue had surfaced in previous BPAC discussions and emphasized that it remains a fluid and evolving topic as micro-mobility technologies continue to advance and interact with other modes of transportation. Mr. Melendez explained that while the State of Florida has established general classifications and guidance for these vehicles, it has left room for local municipalities and counties to adopt ordinances tailored to their specific needs. This approach avoids a one-size-fits-all mandate and allows communities to regulate sidewalk use, speed limits, and other safety measures based on local conditions.

Ms. Preast asked for clarification, noting that it sounds like the next step would be to engage the Board of County Commissioners to explore interest in creating more localized regulations. Mr. Melendez confirmed that local governance is indeed the appropriate path. He added that FDOT is actively engaged in Statewide conversations through coalitions that include law enforcement, emergency responders, and safety coordinators. These coalitions are working to improve policy, legislation, and even crash reporting standards to better account for incidents involving micro-mobility vehicles. While progress is being made at the State level, he reiterated that nothing currently prevents local governments from taking action to address safety concerns in their own communities.

Jim Gorton provided an update on local efforts to address enforcement and safety concerns related to electric scooters and pedal-assist bicycles. He shared that the Board of County Commissioners is already engaged on the issue and has initiated communication with the Sheriff's office. A letter was sent last month proposing collaboration on enforcement strategies that balance public safety with mobility needs. Lisa Wichser, a former TAC committee member, compiled relevant Florida State Statutes, which were forwarded to the Sheriff to support informed dialogue. Mr. Gorton anticipates a meeting with the Sheriff's office in the coming month or two and suggested that BPAC consider discussing the issue further to develop local recommendations. Ms. Preast expressed appreciation and support for Mr. Gorton's update. She proposed adding the topic to the next BPAC agenda and inviting Mr. Gorton to present the compiled information. Ms. Preast also recommended reviewing ordinances or strategies from St. Lucie and Palm Beach counties to avoid duplicating efforts, noting that even unpublished materials could be helpful.

Mr. Melendez added that FDOT's District Four Safety Office has begun a cursory review of ordinances from municipalities starting in Broward County and moving north. While the effort is informal, he offered to continue raising the issue with the Safety Office and suggested that any findings could be shared with Martin County once available. Ms. Preast proposed a clear path forward for addressing micro-mobility safety concerns,

suggesting that once BPAC reviews the issue and develops recommendations, those should be formally presented to the MPO for consideration. From there, it would be up to the MPO Board to determine whether the matter should be elevated to the Board of County Commissioners. Mr. Fabricy expressed strong support, noting that these safety concerns are visible daily in neighborhoods and on local roads. He offered to help form a smaller working group to develop ideas and suggested adding the topic to a future BPAC agenda. Mr. Daniels added that from a municipal standpoint, it would be more effective if municipalities and the County collaborated to create consistent regulations across Martin County. He pointed out that inconsistent rules such as those varying between Stuart, Sewall's Point, and Jupiter Island can confuse the public and complicate enforcement. A unified approach would make it easier for residents and law enforcement alike to understand and apply the rules.

In response to Ms. Preast's initial question, Ms. Beltran emphasized the importance of attending the upcoming Joint meeting on October 20<sup>th</sup>. She expressed appreciation for the committee's participation and noted that the October 20<sup>th</sup> meeting will feature a presentation from the State's Work Program Office on the Draft Tentative Work Program. She explained that with the MPO process, funding for priorities begins with placement in the fifth year of the Work Program. Once the Draft Work Program is reviewed and recommended by MPO committees and approved by the MPO Board, it is submitted to the District, and then to the Central Office, where it becomes part of the transportation budget presented to the Florida Legislature. Upon Legislative approval, the budget becomes official by July 1<sup>st</sup>, marking the start of the State's fiscal year. She added that recent discussions with the Work Program Office and District Four staff indicate likely funding for the SR-710 widening project. Ms. Beltran stressed the significance of this development and reiterated the need for committee members to attend the October 20<sup>th</sup> meeting to hear the presentation, ask questions, and support recommendations for funding priorities.

Kim Delany noted the recent completion of a new segment and shared that the East Coast Greenway Alliance will host a trail designation ceremony on October 9<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 PM, celebrating the opening of the Jupiter Bridge segment. A reception will follow at the Jupiter Bridge & Lighthouse Museum, and interested parties are encouraged to attend.

Ms. Beltran shared an announcement on behalf of the Turnpike regarding an upcoming public hearing. The hearing will address the proposed direct connect ramp between the Turnpike and I-95. She encouraged all attendees to participate and to share the information with others in their communities who may be interested. The Turnpike will host a virtual meeting on Monday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, and an in-person meeting on Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Beltran reiterated the importance of community engagement and invited everyone to review the printed materials available at the meeting entrance.

## **8. NOTES**

## **9. NEXT MEETING**

- Joint CAC/TAC/BPAC – October 20, 2025

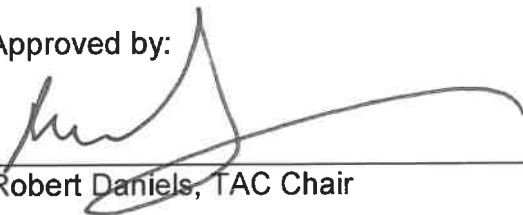
**10. ADJOURN – Chair Robert Daniels adjourned the meeting at 2:47 P.M.**


Prepared by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Ortiz, Administrative Assistant

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Approved by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Daniels, TAC Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Minutes Approved on October 20, 2025**

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 Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require language translation services (free of charge) should contact Ricardo Vazquez, Principal Planner (Title VI/Non-discrimination Contact) at (772) 223-7983 or [rvazquez@martin.fl.us](mailto:rvazquez@martin.fl.us) in advance of the meeting. Hearing-impaired individuals are requested to telephone the Florida Relay System at #711.