

**MARTIN METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
JOINT CITIZENS/BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(CAC/BPAC) MEETING**

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

Wednesday, April 3, 2023 @ 9:00 am

MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 PM by Pinal Gandhi-Savdas, BPAC Chair.

2. ROLL CALL

BPAC Members in Attendance:

Pinal Gandhi-Savdas
Julie Preast
Bonnie Moser
Don Fabricy
Mike Bocchino
Michael MacLeod

BPAC Excused Members:

Dawn Arvin
Hal Forslund
Arlette Cataldo

BPAC Members Not in Attendance:

Bradford Davey
Jody Garret

CAC Members in Attendance:

Larry Sofield
Cindy Greenspan
Blake Capps
John F. Patteson
Helen McBride
Howard Lyndon Brown

CAC Members Excused:

Saadia Tsafarides
Ann Kagdis

CAC Members Absent:

Hilary Young
Trent Steele

Staff in Attendance:

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator
Ricardo Vazquez, Senior Planner
Lucine Martens, Planner
Anthony O'Neill-Butler, Administrative Assistant

Others in Attendance:

George Dzama, Deputy Public Works Director
James Brown Jr., FDOT-Florida's Turnpike Enterprise
Jazlyn Heywood, FDOT-Florida's Turnpike Enterprise
Henry Pinson, FDOT-Florida's Turnpike Enterprise
William Howell, Lochner Engineering
Noah Gram, South Florida Commuter Services
Jake Danduone, South Florida Commuter Services
Andrew Venuert, ACCOM

A quorum was present.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Cindy Greenspan and was seconded by Bonnie Moser. The motion passed unanimously.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

A motion to approve the CAC Meeting Minutes of February 7, 2024, was made by Larry Sofield and was seconded by Cindy Greenspan. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion to approve the BPAC Meeting Minutes of February 12, 2024, was made by Bonnie Moser and was seconded by Julie Preast. The motion passed unanimously.

5. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – Noah Brown with South Florida Commuter Services wanted to share information on an upcoming Florida Transportation Summit with the CAC and BPAC and extended an invitation for them to attend.

6. AGENDA ITEMS

**A. FY23-FY24 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) AMENDMENT
#2 – DE-OBLIGATION OF PL FUNDS**

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator, explained that the de-obligation of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Planning (PL) funds is an FDOT process that releases federal funds previously authorized but not expended by the MPO. MPO staff estimates approximately \$254,000 for consultant services will not be expended by June 30, 2024. MPO staff requests that \$254,000 in PL funds be unencumbered and de-obligated in the FY23-FY24 UPWP and be made available in Year 1 of the next FY25-FY26 UPWP.

A motion to approve the FY23-FY24 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment #2 – De-obligation of PL Funds was made by Julie Preast and was seconded by Larry Sofield. The motion passed unanimously.

B. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) MODIFICATION #2

Ms. Beltran introduced the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Modification #2 which is required to reflect the decreased amount due to the FY23-FY24 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) being amended to de-obligate funds for the FY25-FY26 UPWP.

A motion to approve the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Modification #2 was made by Larry Sofield and was seconded by Julie Preast. The motion passed unanimously.

C. DRAFT FY25-FY26 UPWP

Ms. Beltran presented the Draft FY25-FY26 UPWP to the Committee members. Ms. Beltran noted that the final UPWP will be presented in the May meetings, and that most of the funding for consultants is focused on the Long Range Transportation Plan, the US-1 Congestion Management Study, and a new quarterly update interval to the Development Review Interactive Map.

Julie Preast stated that she was happy to see the products of the Committee's efforts, especially relating to the Development Review Interactive Map.

A motion to approve the DRAFT FY25-FY26 UPWP was made by Julie Preast and was seconded by Larry Sofield. The motion passed unanimously.

D. TITLE VI AND NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY AND PLAN UPDATE

Ricardo Vazquez, Senior Planner, introduced the Title VI and Nondiscrimination Policy and Plan Update. The following updates were made to the Title VI and Other Nondiscrimination Policy and Plan:

- Updated the Martin County BOCC ADA webpage link
- Updated Table 1 – “Top Languages Spoken at Home in Martin County” with American Community Survey (ACS) 2022 5-year estimates

- Added events to the Title VI activity log

A motion to approve the Title VI and Nondiscrimination Policy and Plan Updates was made by Larry Sofield and was seconded by Bonnie Moser. The motion passed unanimously.

E. TURNPIKE AND I-95 DIRECT CONNECTION PD&E STUDY PRESENTATION

Ms. Beltran introduced William Howell with Lochner Engineering who presented the Turnpike and I-95 Direct Connection PD&E Study. Mr. Howell showcased the two preferred alternatives for this project.

Larry Sofield wanted to know why a Bridge Road offramp and onramp were not being included in the scope of this project, as the future growth of this area, and the residents that live there, want it. Julie Preast along with Bonnie Moser both echoed Mr. Sofield's sentiments, stating that it just makes sense to be included and that it is what would be best for Martin County residents. Ms. Beltran did not believe that this would be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan but that she would share the Committee's comments with the MPO Policy Board at the May 6, 2024, meeting. Ms. Preast asked that an update be provided once this input was shared with the MPO Policy Board.

Blake Capps shared his support for the project and stated that as a forty-seven year resident of Hobe Sound, he does not feel that an onramp and offramp for the Turnpike at Bridge Road would be appropriate.

7. COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Bradford Davey wanted to ask that the MPO look into signage and public education for electric bicycles and their place on shared-use pathways. Mr. Davey raised concerns about pedestrians who have been hit and seriously injured by electric bicyclists and how this is a country-wide issue. Julie Preast, Helen McBride, and Bonnie Moser echoed his sentiments; with Ms. Moser adding that a cyclist hitting a pedestrian is still more safe than a vehicle hitting a cyclist.

8. NOTES - None.

9. NEXT MEETING

- Joint CAC/TAC/BPAC – April 29th, 2024

10. ADJOURN – 9:51 AM


Prepared by:



Anthony O'Neill-Butler, Administrative Assistant

4-29-2024
Date

Approved by:



Pinal Ghandi-Savdas, BPAC Chair

4/29/2024
Date

Minutes Approved on April 29, 2024

The Martin MOP 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, 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.