

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

Martin County Administrative Building, Capital Project Workshop Room
2401 SE Monterey Road, Stuart, FL 34996

www.martinmpo.com

(772) 221-1498

Monday, September 11, 2023 @ 2:00 PM

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting started officially at 2:03 P.M. and was called to order by Pinal Gandhi-Savdas, Chair.

2. ROLL CALL - Ricardo Vazquez, MPO Senior Plan, called roll.

BPAC Members in Attendance:

Pinal Gandhi-Savdas, Chair

Julie Preast, Vice Chair

Bonnie Moser

Mike Bocchino

Arlette Cataldo (arrived 2:21 PM)

Members Excused:

Michael MacLeod

Jody Leclair

Don Fabricy

Hal Forslund

Bradford Davey

Members Absent:

Dawn Arvin

Staff in Attendance:

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator

Ricardo Vazquez, Senior Planner

Joy Puerta, MPO Planner

Lucine Martens, MPO Planner

Others in Attendance:

Jeff Weidner, Marlin Engineering

TJ Delancy, Stuart Police Department

Claudette De Los Santos, FDOT

Stewart Robertson, Kimley-Horn & Associates

A quorum was present for the meeting.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

A motion to approve the Agenda was made by Mike Bocchino, seconded by Bonnie Moser. The motion passed unanimously.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

- BPAC Meeting – June 12, 2023

A motion to approve the Minutes of June 12, 2023, was made by Julie Preast and seconded by Mike Bocchino. The motion passed unanimously.

5. COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC - None

6. AGENDA ITEMS

A. FY24 - FY28 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) ROLL-FORWARD AMENDMENT #1

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator, requested approval of the FY24 Martin MPO Roll Forward Report TIP Amendment. The Roll-Forward funds from FY23 will be added to the FY24-FY28 TIP, after being approved and signed by the MPO Policy Board Chairman. The Roll-Forward Amendment will be submitted to FDOT prior to the October 1, 2023, effective date.

A motion to approve the FY24-FY28 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Roll-Forward Amendment #1 was made by Julie Preast and seconded by Mike Bocchino, the motion passed unanimously.

B. FY23/24 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) REVISION 2 / AMENDMENT

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator, presented Revision #2, an amendment, since we are increasing the budget by \$150,963.00. MPO staff recommends that this increase in funding be added to Task 4 – Consultant "2050 Long Range Transportation Plan" line item and Task 6 - Transportation Systems Planning Consultant "Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility Map" line item.

A motion to approve FY23/24 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Revision 2 / Amendment #1 was made by Julie Preast and seconded by Bonnie Mosser. The motion passed unanimously.

C. FY24 - FY28 TIP MODIFICATIONS

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator, presented the four modifications requested by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). The modified projects are US-1 at Joan Jefferson, Cove Road from SR-76/Kanner Highway to US-1, Intersection Lighting Retrofit Improvement, and Martin County FY22/23-FY23/24 UPWP.

A motion to approve the FY24 - FY28 TIP Modifications was made by Bonnie Moser and was seconded by Julie Preast. The motion passed unanimously.

D. US-1 AT SW PALM CITY ROAD INTERSECTION FEASIBILITY STUDY - ALTERNATIVES

Joy Puerta, MPO Planner, presented the US-1 at SW Palm City Road Intersection Feasibility Study to the Committee. The presentation included the pros and cons of the five Alternatives being proposed to address the speeds of vehicles and the volume of cut-through traffic.

A lengthy discussion took place discussing each of the Alternatives.

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator, commented on the US-1 at Kanner Highway right-turn lane and its expected completion in 2025. Once this project is completed, it should clear up some of the traffic on US-1.

A motion to approve the US-1 at SW Palm City Road Intersection Feasibility Study - Alternatives was made by Mike Bocchino and was seconded by Bonnie Moser. The motion passed unanimously.

E. DRAFT 2045 REGIONAL LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RLRTP)

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator, introduced Stewart Robertson with Kimley-Horn & Associates. Stewart Robertson presented the Draft 2045 Regional Long Range Transportation Plan and the new updates and improvements that have been made to it. The five goals for the plan are to provide a safe and connected multi-modal transportation system for the regional movement of people and goods, to support the economic prosperity of the region through targeted equitable transportation investments, to protect the region's natural and social environment while minimizing impacts to local communities, to continue to conduct the coordinated regional planning and decision-making process, and to protect and enhance the unique quality of life in the Treasure Coast region. Stewart Robertson also introduced the new tiered scoring system which will consist of three (3) tiers. The next steps for the Draft 2045 RLRTP are to present it to the individual MPO's, the Treasure Coast Technical Advisory Committee (TCTAC), and the

Treasure Coast Transportation Council (TCTC) for adoption. MPO staff recommends approval.

Julie Preast wanted to compliment Stewart Robertson on the inclusion of the climate change rising water resiliency.

Bonnie Moser commented that she has seen a lot of widening projects and wondered how it would impact our alternative transportation modes and how safe the streets will be for them once the roads are made even wider. Stewart Robertson informed her that many of the widening projects do have opportunities to implement multi-modal facilities such as shared-use paths and sidewalks.

A motion to approve the Draft 2045 Regional Long Range Transportation Plan (RLTRP) was made by Julie Preast and seconded by Michael Bocchino. The motion passed unanimously.

F. TRANSIT EFFICIENCY STUDY FINAL REPORT

Lucine Martens, MPO Planner, introduced Jeff Weidner of Marlin Engineering. Under Task 6, the Martin MPO's FY22/23 – FY23/24 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) identifies the Transit Efficiency Study (TES). The purpose of this study was to describe the existing MARTY system (services and ridership); review the adopted Transit Development Plan (TDP), socioeconomic trends, and travel patterns. The Transit Efficiency Study Final Report identifies various Transit Network Scenarios (some looking at ridership, some looking at coverage, and some a combination of both ridership and coverage scenarios (hybrid scenario), and the cost analysis for these scenarios.

Julie Preast brought up the two new potential routes to Rio/Jensen Beach and Palm City. Jeff Weidner informed her that the Rio/Jensen Beach route was tested for what it would do to ridership. The study is moving forward, and the Board moved to focus more on what we have now and how to make that better, but the door is still open to look at other opportunities.

A motion to approve the Transit Efficiency Study Final Report was made by Bonnie Moser and was seconded by Julie Preast. The motion passed unanimously.

G. PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE SUPPORT TASK SCOPE OF SERVICES

Lucine Martens, MPO Planner, requested approval of a Scope of Services for Professional Assistance Support. The adopted FY23 - FY24 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) specifies that the MPO will obtain one or more General Planning Consultants (GPCs) to provide assistance to staff on a task order basis. This task order provides four (4) additional Open Houses or Listening Sessions in addition to the previous two (2) that were approved with the TDP for a total of six (6) that would cover all five Commission Districts in Martin County. The MPO will use its General Planning

Consultants, Marlin Engineering, Inc. and their sub-consultant Kittelson & Associates for this work effort.

A motion to approve the Professional Assistance Support Task Scope of Services was made by Julie Preast and was seconded by Mike Bocchino. The motion passed unanimously.

H. HOBE SOUND NORTH CORRIDOR SUN TRAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY - FINAL REPORT

Jeff Weidner with Marlin Engineering presented the background, public engagement, stakeholder engagement, and the final report for the Hobe Sound North Corridor SUN Trail Feasibility Study. Jeff Weidner explained how they were directed to focus on the west side of the US-1 corridor and how it was the most popular option as there is plenty of right of way. The SUN Trail will cost \$1.55 million per mile, this includes all the earthwork, drainage, and signage.

Julie Preast asked if she was correct when she heard that this project would take, plus or minus, ten (10) years to complete. Jeff Weidner informed her that it would only take that long if they were planning on taking right of way, and since they are not planning on doing so, it should take 1-3 years for construction to begin and could be completed in as soon as five (5) years. Julie Preast also asked those present if they had any public input for this project, specifically from those it would impact. Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator, informed her that there had been a great amount of citizen input and that the west side US-1 proposal was the preferred alignment.

A motion to approve the Hobe Sound North Corridor SUN Trail Feasibility Study - Final Report was made by Julie Preast with the comment to include shade trees along the corridor if possible. The motion was seconded by Bonnie Moser and passed unanimously.

7. COMMENTS BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS – Julie Preast made a comment about North Sewalls Point Road and the bicyclist signage at the Palmer Road intersection. She also requested that there be “sharrow” markings on the road because the small sign is not going to do it.

8. NOTES - None

9. NEXT MEETING

BPAC Meeting – October 16, 2023 @ 1:30 PM

ADJOURNMENT: 3:24 P.M.

Prepared by:



Anthony O'Neill-Butler, Administrative Assistant

2-12-2024
Date

Approved by:

For: Pinal, Julie Preato, Vice Chair

Pinal Gandhi-Savdas, BPAC Chair

2-12-24
Date

Minutes Approved on October 16, 2023

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, 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.