

**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](http://www.martinmpo.com)  
(772) 221-1498

**Monday February 13, 2023 @ 2:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**2. ROLL CALL**

**BPAC Members in Attendance:**

Joan Moore, Chair  
Pinal Gandhi-Savdas, Vice Chair  
Julie Preast  
Bonnie Moser  
Jody Leclair  
Michael Bocchino  
Michael MacLeod  
Arlette Cataldo

**Members Absent Excused:**

Don Fabricy  
Timothy Rossknecht  
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  
Alor Cadorna, Administrative Assistant

**Others in Attendance:**

Jacqui May, City of Stuart

Joe Capra, Captec Engineering Inc.  
Michael Melendez, FDOT

**A quorum was present.**

**3. APPROVE AGENDA**

**A motion to approve the agenda with the removal of item 6C was made by Julie Preast and seconded by Pinal Gandhi-Savdas, the motion passed unanimously.**

**4. APPROVE MINUTES**

- BPAC Meeting – September 12, 2022

**A motion to approve the Minutes of September 12, 2022, was made by Mike Bocchino and seconded by Julie Priest, the motion passed unanimously.**

**5. COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC - None**

**6. AGENDA ITEMS**

**A. FY 23-FY27 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) - AMENDMENT #2**

Joy Puerta gave a brief overview on the FY23-FY27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #2. She stated that FDOT requests an amendment because a new project has been added to the Work Program (FM#452227-1). This project is part of a Statewide Initiative to install rumble strips on the shoulders of high-speed state roadways (50 mph and above). She requested approval and was available to answer questions.

Mike MacLeod mentioned that on Bridge Road the rumble strips are taking half of the bike lane.

**A motion to approve the FY23-FY27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – Amendment #2 was made by Julie Preast and seconded by Mike Bocchino, the motion passed unanimously.**

**B. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**A motion to nominate Pinal Gandhi-Savdas as Chair by Julie Preast and seconded by Mike Bocchino, motion passed unanimously.**

**A motion to nominate Julie Preast as Vice Chair by Joan Moore and seconded by Pinal Gandhi-Savdas, motion passed unanimously.**

### **C. ADOPTION OF BRIDGE, PAVEMENT, AND SYSTEM PERFORMANCE TARGETS**

This item was moved to the next agenda.

### **D. COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS REPORT SCOPE OF SERVICES**

Joy Puerta introduced Lucine Martens and she gave a brief overview of the Community Characteristics Report Scope of Services. She mentioned that the guidance from the USDOT requires that MPOs collect and analyze socio-economic data to better incorporate the needs of diverse groups into the transportation decision-making process. She requested approval and was available to answer questions.

Julie Prest asked how are we funding this study. Beth Beltran mentioned that we are funding it through our Federal Highway Planning Funds.

Pinal Gandhi-Savdas inquired if we are going to have specific information regarding demographics to certain neighborhoods. Lucine Martens stated that yes, a person will be able to go in and pinpoint a neighborhood to see certain demographics.

**A motion to approve the Community Characteristics Report Scope of Services was made by Julie Prest and seconded by Jody Lecleir, the motion passed unanimously.**

### **E. FY23 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM (TAP) APPLICATIONS**

Joy Puerta introduced the item to the Committee. She explained that the MPO received one application from the City of Stuart and introduced Pinal Gandhi-Savdas, CRA Director for the City of Stuart and Joe Capra, Project Engineer. They presented the South Dixie Highway Improvements for the 2023 TAP application cycle. The federal funds being requested are \$481,673.38 with local fund contributions of \$508,714.66.

Julie Prest asked if the extra footage that we are getting for the sidewalk is that part of the FEC land. Pinal Gandhi-Savdas stated that the portion of the sidewalk on the north end is in the FEC's right of way and from Camden Avenue to Colorado Avenue is the City of Stuart's right of way. Julie Prest added that one of the problems was getting through downtown and if we can include this new sidewalk that's coming in as part of the East Coast Greenway (ECG), it would be very beneficial for the bicyclist. Beth Beltran mentioned that the ECG is normally 10 to 12 feet wide but sometimes they will make an exemption for an ECG designation. MPO staff will coordinate with FDOT.

Bonnie Moser inquired if we could get coconut trees to provide some shades for the pedestrian area and maybe we can take one or two parking spaces for few additional trees for the pedestrian. Pinal Gandhi-Savdas stated that they are using the same landscaping company that did the project North of Joan Jefferson.

**A motion to approve the FY23 Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Applications was made by Julie Preast and seconded by Mike Bocchino, the motion passed unanimously.**

#### **F. DRAFT FY25 – FY29 LIST OF PROJECT PRIORITIES (LOPP)**

Joy Puerta introduced the item and gave the Committee a status report on the Martin MPO DRAFT FY25-FY29 List of Project Priorities. She mentioned that FDOT requires that the MPO submit the Draft LOPP by March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The final LOPP will be presented at the June advisory committee meetings and MPO Board meeting before adoption.

Julie Preast inquired about Project #9, which is the NW Alice St. and how the project description says pedestrian facilities. She thought this was going to be a realignment project of NW Alice St. and Wright Blvd. Beth Beltran mentioned that the MPO Board did ask FDOT to look at realignment of NW Alice St. and Wright Blvd. and they are able to include that as part of the Draft LOPP when reviewed at next MPO Board meeting.

Bonnie Moser suggested Project #15, which is the NW Citrus Blvd. with resurfacing/shoulder widening and bike lanes that those be more than just a straight bike lane and have some sort of protected or separated facility so more folks will use the bike lanes.

**A motion to approve the Draft FY25 – FY29 List of Project Priorities (LOPP) with additions of NW Alice St. including not only the pedestrian crossings but realignment on NW Alice St. with Wright Blvd; to add protected bike lane on SW Citrus Blvd. was made by Julie Preast and seconded by Mike Bocchino, the motion passed unanimously.**

#### **G. DEVELOPMENT REVIEW INTERACTIVE MAP UPDATE**

Joy Puerta introduced Ricardo Vazquez who gave a visual presentation of the interactive map. He also informed the committee that this is an information item. The Martin MPO Policy Board requested that MPO staff work with local government staff and review approved and proposed land developments. A map was developed showing County and municipal land developments.

Julie Preast suggested to update the map more frequently especially if these projects are going before the City Commission and Board of County Commission. Beth Beltran clarified that this map is being updated every six months by the MPO because that

goes with the List of Project Priorities cycle. Pinal Gandhi-Savdas added that the City of Stuart will be getting a new software that is going to link all the permits and applications to GIS in the future to avoid a six month gap.

#### **H. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ANNUAL REPORT – 2022**

Ricardo Vazquez introduced the item to the Committee and presented the Public Involvement Annual Report. He introduced the various objectives and strategies that were achieved in Calendar Year 2022.

Julie Preast complimented the Martin MPO on public outreach and every year the team have improved dramatically.

**A motion to approve the Public Involvement Annual Report - 2022 was made by Pinal Gandhi-Savdas and seconded by Mike Bocchino, the motion passed unanimously.**

#### **7. COMMENTS BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Joan Moore mentioned the BPAC attendance has been atrocious. She also had a discussion with a couple about a multi-modal trail in Hobe Sound similar to the one North of Gomez. She encouraged them to call their commissioner and let them know that you support the investigation of having that multi modal-path coming through the South end of Gomez.

Julie Preast mentioned that Golden Gate Avenue looks atrocious, and it really needs to be resurfaced.

#### **8. NOTES**

- **Farewell to Chair Joan Moore**  
Beth Beltran thanked Ms. Moore for the outstanding job she has done while serving on the BPAC. Ms. Moore was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation and flowers.

#### **9. NEXT MEETING**

JOINT CAC/TAC/BPAC Meeting – APRIL 3, 2023 @ 1:30 PM

**ADJOURNMENT: 3:10 P.M.**

Prepared by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alor Cadorna, Administrative Assistant

5/8/2023  
Date

Approved by:

for:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Moore, BPAC Chair

5/8/2023  
Date

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