



**MARTIN METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
POLICY BOARD MEETING**
Martin County Administrative Building Commission Chambers
2401 SE Monterey Road
Stuart, FL 34996
www.martinmpo.com
(772) 221-1498

Monday, December 12, 2022 @ 9:00 am

MINUTES

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** – MPO Chair Troy McDonald called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.
- 2. PRAYER** – Pastor Jim Harp, Stuart Alliance Church led the Invocation.
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – MPO Chair Troy McDonald led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 4. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT:

Troy McDonald, Chair
Doug Smith, Vice Chair
Commissioner Sarah Heard
Commissioner Harold Jenkins
Commissioner Christopher Collins
Commissioner James Campo
Council Member Susan Gibbs-Thomas

REPRESENTING:

City of Stuart Commission
Martin County Board of County Commission
Martin County Board of County Commission
Martin County Board of County Commission
City of Stuart Commission
Town of Sewall's Point Commission
Village of Indiantown Council

EXCUSED:

Commissioner Stacey Hetherington Martin County Board of County Commission

Staff in Attendance:

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator
Ricardo Vazquez, Senior Planner
Joy Puerta, Planner
Lucine Martens, Planner
Alor Cadorna, Administrative Assistant

Others in Attendance:

Jessica Rubio, FDOT
Christine Fasiska, FDOT
Sabrina Aubery, FDOT
John Krane, FDOT
Ronald Kareiva, FDOT
Kris Kehres, FDOT
Steve Braun, FDOT
James Brown, FDOT- Turnpike
Victoria Williams, FDOT- Turnpike
Matt Brosman, Kimley-Horn
Pastor Jim Harp, Stuart Alliance Church
Gerald Bolden, The Corradino Group
Cheryl White, Martin County Transit
Jack Carmody, St. Lucie LLC

5. APPROVE AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda with item 8F being changed to item 8B was made by Commissioner Doug Smith and seconded by Commissioner Harold Jenkins, the motion passed unanimously.

6. APPROVE MINUTES

MPO Policy Board Meeting – October 17, 2022

A motion to approve the MPO Policy Board Minutes of October 17, 2022 was made by Commissioner James Campo and seconded by Commissioner Doug Smith, the motion passed unanimously.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

8. AGENDA ITEMS

**A. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT)
FY24 – FY28 DRAFT TENTATIVE WORK PROGRAM**

Beth Beltran introduced Steve Braun from FDOT-District Four who presented the Florida Department of Transportation FY24 – FY28 Draft Tentative Work Program. He discussed the Martin Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Policy Board approved List of Project Priorities (LOPPs) for FY24 – FY28. These priorities were transmitted to FDOT's District-Four Office who then developed the Draft Tentative Work Program after considering the LOPPs submitted.

Commissioner Smith inquired if the NW Alice Street at FEC Railroad Crossing was going to be realigned. He also inquired if it was possible to move forward faster with the grade separation project at SR-714/Monterey Road at FEC Railroad Crossing with new funding programs from the Federal Government. Commissioner McDonald agreed on looking at the realignment of the NW Alice Street at FEC Railroad Crossing to improve traffic flow

and safety. Steve Braun stated that they will look at a couple of feasible studies on some of the preliminary concepts, but he believes in this case he does not think it will be a full realignment.

Commissioner Heard inquired when are the widening projects for Cove Road scheduled. Steve Braun mentioned that they have not programmed the construction or potential right-of-way phases for Cove Road. The intersection improvement could really be a short term to midterm solution.

Commissioner Campo expressed his concern about road congestion. He mentioned that the largest dollar amounts of these projects are resurfacing and the largest problem that we should be addressing is road congestion. Commissioner Smith added the road congestion on Roosevelt Bridge going Southbound to Joan Jefferson is also a problem.

A motion to approve the FY24 – FY28 Draft Tentative Work Program and to also request that if future Work Programs include projects that address improvements to rest areas or truck parking, that FDOT provide the Martin MPO Freight Transportation Advisory Committee (FTAC) the opportunity to review them was made by Commissioner Doug Smith and seconded by Commissioner Harold Jenkins, the motion passed unanimously.

B. CR 714 UPDATE

Ronald Kareiva from FDOT-District Four presented the update for CR 714 Realignment Project to the Board and several conceptual alignments were discussed. There was discussion regarding the property owner's concerns with the proposed designs of the realignment.

Jack Carmody who represents St. Lucie LLC and the Sanchez Family came forward to propose a direct route from SR 710 right into CR 714. The Sanchez Family and St. Lucie LLC owns the property on both sides of the road. They are proposing to have a straight road that goes right through CR 714 to eliminate any curve. He added that if the requested route by the Mr. Sanchez is taken, he will donate the land, and is not in support of a roundabout.

Commissioner Heard agreed that the alternative that Mr. Carmody proposed looks like a solution to the problem. She inquired if this proposed alternative has been considered. Beth Beltran mentioned that the Okeechobee County Commission agreed with having the new road in their county and they agreed to maintain the new road if there was a traffic signal at the new intersection of CR 714 and SE 126 Blvd. However, FDOT District-One could not guarantee a traffic signal but could guarantee a roundabout. Okeechobee County would not pass a resolution agreeing to the new road if there was not a signal or a roundabout at the new intersection. Additionally, when District One was doing a PD&E study for the widening of SR 710 and realignment of CR 714, Alternative A was the Preferred Alternative that the MPO has been referring to for years.

A motion to ask the Department to focus on Alternative A, that takes CR 714 directly to SE 126 Blvd; to study, restudy, and figure out how to signalize that intersection.

Also, to request that MPO staff draft a letter to the Okeechobee County Commission and Heartland Regional TPO to send the following options: will Okeechobee County maintain the roadway if the intersection is signalized; would Okeechobee County want Martin County to maintain the roadway; and that the Martin County Board will follow up tomorrow at the County Commission meeting with the same conversation and will send a letter as well to the Okeechobee County Commission and Heartland Regional TPO and copy FDOT District One & Four and the property owner's representative, Mr. Carmody, was made by Commissioner Doug Smith and seconded by Commissioner Harold Jenkins, the motion passed unanimously.

C. FLORIDA TURNPIKE ENTERPRISE FY24 – FY28 DRAFT TENTATIVE WORK PROGRAM

Beth Beltran introduced the item and Victoria Williams who presented the Florida Turnpike Enterprise FY24 – FY28 Draft Tentative Work Program. She discussed the significant project investments in District Four, including widening the Turnpike through Martin County. In addition, the Turnpike is proposing a project to improve traffic operations for north-south through trips that provides a connection between I-95 and Florida's Turnpike near the existing I-95/Bridge Road Interchange. After a short discussion, she was available to answer questions and requested approval.

Commissioner Campo inquired about the widening of the Turnpike from Orlando to Martin County. Victoria Williams stated that the Orlando to Martin County line is being reviewed and they have a new study called the mainline initiative.

Lisa Wichser suggested that the temporary bridge replacement on the South of Becker Road could be left permanent and used for the future widening. Victoria Williams stated that she will check with the project manager and will certainly give feedback on it.

A motion to approve the Florida Turnpike Enterprise FY24 – FY28 Draft Tentative Work Program was made by Commissioner Doug Smith and seconded by Commissioner Harold Jenkins, the motion passed unanimously.

D. TRANSPORTATION NETWORK RESILIENCY STUDY

Beth Beltran introduced Matt Brosman from Kimley-Horn who gave a presentation on the Transportation Network Resiliency Study. The intent of this study is to provide a mechanism/methodology on how to consider resiliency/climate change in the transportation planning process.

Commissioner Campo asked why the rain induced flooding was not part of the study because in Sewall's Point that is a huge problem that they are currently facing. Matt Brosman stated it's a function of data availability and the scope of this project. Kimley-Horn requested modeling information and analysis information that they could incorporate but it was outside of the scope of this study to prepare a full hydrologic analysis.

A motion to approve the Transportation Network Resiliency Study was made by Commissioner Sarah Heard and seconded by Commissioner Doug Smith, the motion passed unanimously.

E. UPWP REVISION 1 - MODIFICATION

Beth Beltran gave an overview of the agenda item. She explained that the MPO is required to develop a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) document identifying the planning activities budgeted for a two-year time period. She requested approval to transfer \$25,000 from the staff salaries line item to the US-1/Palm City Road Intersection Feasibility Study.

A motion to approve the UPWP Revision 1 – Modification to transfer \$25,000 from the staff salaries line item to the US-1/Palm City Road Intersection Feasibility Study was made by Commissioner Sarah Heard and seconded by Commissioner Harold Jenkins, the motion passed unanimously.

F. US-1/PALM CITY ROAD INTERSECTION FEASIBILITY STUDY SCOPE OF SERVICES

Beth Beltran introduced Gerald Bolden with The Corradino Group who gave a brief overview on the agenda item. The intent of this study is to improve safety and mobility for all modes at the US-1/Palm City Road intersection, as well as manage speeds along SW Palm City Road. The scope of services includes identifying and evaluating conceptual alternatives and gathering input from the public and relevant stakeholders to recommend an alternative to eliminate the uncontrolled right turn from southbound US-1 onto southbound SW Palm City Road and deter traffic from using SW Palm City Road.

A motion to approve the US-1/Palm City Road Intersection Feasibility Study Scope of Services was made by Commissioner Christopher Collins and seconded by Commissioner Harold Jenkins, the motion passed unanimously.

G. 2023 SAFETY PERFORMANCE TARGETS

Beth Beltran gave a brief overview of the item and discussed that the State Departments of Transportation and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) are required to continue to adopt Safety Performance Targets to meet Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirements. She requested approval to adopt FDOT's Vision Zero Safety Targets for FHWA's safety performance measures.

A motion to approve Vision Zero Safety Performance Targets for 2023 was made by Commissioner Sarah Heard and seconded by Commissioner Doug Smith, the motion passed unanimously.

H. MPO BYLAWS AMENDMENT

Beth Beltran introduced the item and stated that MPO staff is recommending amending the MPO Bylaws to include language that states the MPO Board Chair must approve the

MPO administrator's timesheets and expense reimbursements. She requested approval and was available to answer any questions.

A motion to pass the Bylaws Amendment pending review and approval from Sarah Woods, County Attorney, was made by Commissioner Harold Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Sarah Heard, the motion passed unanimously.

9. COMMENTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS - None

10. COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Chair McDonald shared some information he gathered at the last MPOAC Meeting in Orlando, and the big topic of discussion was the replacement of the gas tax. With the electric and hybrids vehicles coming out they talked about a study showing how the gas tax works. He said to keep an eye for it because it will affect funding.

11. COMMENTS FROM FDOT – None

12. NOTES

- Brightline requests a letter of support for CRISI Grant. No action was taken on this subject.

ADJOURNMENT: 11:36 AM

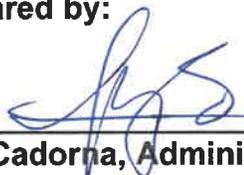
Approved by:



Troy McDonald, Chair

2/27/23
Date

Prepared by:



Alor Cadorna, Administrative Assistant

2-27-23
Date

Minutes Approved on February 27, 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 American 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.