

**METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MEETING**

Martin County Administration Building 4th Floor Workshop Room
2401 SE Monterey Road, Stuart, FL 34996

www.martinmpo.com

(772) 221-1498

Wednesday, May 5, 2025 @ 1:30 PM

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM by Jim Gorton.

ROLL CALL

Susan Ortiz, Administrative Assistant, called roll.

TAC Members in Attendance:

Jim Gorton, Vice Chair
Dr. Kim DeLaney
George Dzama
Stuart Trent
Carmine Dipaolo
Mark Cocco
Peter Kunen
Milton Leggett
Samantha Lovelady
Andrew McBean

TAC Members Excused:

Robert Daniels, Chair
Ashman Beecher
Taryn Kryzda

TAC Members Not in Attendance:

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:

Carmine Dipaolo, Mayor of Indiantown

James Brown, FDOT Florida Turnpike Enterprise
Tony Norat, FDOT District 4
Kelly Budhu, FDOT District 4
Michael Melendez, FDOT District 4
Corinn Beem, Kimley-Horn

A quorum was present.

Jim Gorton chaired the meeting due to the excused absence of Robert Daniels. Mr. Gorton introduced the Mayor of Indiantown, Carmine Dipaolo, who is attending the Technical Advisory Committee meeting on behalf of Taryn Kryzda.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Samantha Lovelady and was seconded by Dr. Kim DeLaney. The motion passed unanimously.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

- TAC Meeting – February 3, 2025

A motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2025, was made by Samantha Lovelady and was seconded by Milton Leggett. The motion passed unanimously.

5. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - None

6. AGENDA ITEMS

A. 2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP) – NEEDS PLAN

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator, introduced the LRTP Project Manager Ricardo Vazquez. Mr. Vazquez spoke briefly about where the MPO is in the process of the Long Range Transportation Plan which began about one year ago. Ricardo Vazquez then introduced Vikas Jain of TYLin (the consultant's Project Manager) to discuss the Needs Plan.

Mr. Jain detailed the project status with the activities that are completed to date and items that are being worked on as our October 2025 adoption approaches. Some completed tasks include visioning sessions, key stakeholder interviews, public outreach events, project steering committee meetings, and surveys.

Vikas then discussed the Needs Plan which is based on information obtained from our public involvement and technical analysis from the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Model. The Treasure Coast Regional Planning Model focuses on the existing and committed transportation network, and projects Martin County's population and employment growth over the next 25 years. The Needs Assessment has seven roadway projects, seven intersection improvements, and three transit projects.

The Deficiency Analysis highlights 29 roadways that will be overcapacity in the next 25 years. The 2050 Needs Plan includes the following projects/improvements:

- Transit Improvements
- Roadway/Highway Improvements
- Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Improvements
- Turnpike Projects
- Transportation Systems Management & Operations (TSM&O)
- Freight Improvements
- Safety Improvements
- Complete Streets
- Non-Motorized Improvements
- Infrastructure Hardening (Resiliency)
- Waterborne Transportation
- Aviation Projects
- Other Improvements (park-and-ride facilities, pedestrian overpasses, and FEC double tracking over the St. Lucie River)

Samantha Lovelady asked for more information about #19 SW 36th Street from SW Mapp Road to SR-76/Kanner Highway on the Deficiency Analysis. Ms. Lovelady was curious as to why the bridge was shown as being overcapacity. Mr. Jain stated that the approaches may need some work but said that widening the bridges would not be necessary. Ms. Lovelady stated that this roadway is no longer called SW 36th Street. Mr. Gorton stated that this roadway is referred to as County Road 714 but may soon be known as State Road 714.

Jim Gorton stated that a project that he would like clarity on is #4 Bridge Road between Pratt Whitney and I-95. Mr. Gorton noted that there is not much development in this area, and he was curious as to why this area had shown up on the overcapacity analysis. Mr. Gorton pondered if this roadway was previously listed in the 2045 LRTP or if it was new to the 2050 Needs Assessment. Mr. Jain stated that this area was projected to have quite a bit of growth along Bridge Road in this section. Mr. Gorton and Ms. Lovelady stated that the growth projected in this area is that of golf courses and industrial sites.

Mr. Gorton made a correction regarding the water taxi service legend that had colors corresponding to the wrong routes. Jim Gorton asked for clarification on the route of the St. Lucie Inlet State Park route and wondered if it would be best to go directly from the end of Cove Road to the State Park. Dr. Kim Delaney stated that the parking situation at the end of the Cove Road may not be conducive to having the ferry service launch there, she instead recommended that going from Sandsprit Park may be a better option as parking is more abundant there.

Dr. Kim Delaney complimented the team on the attention to detail of pulling in prior studies as using the Long Range Transportation Plan provides the ability for many of these projects to move forward with funding in the future.

A motion to approve the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) – Needs Plan was made by Samantha Lovelady and was seconded by Peter Kunen. The motion passed unanimously.

B. DRAFT FY26–FY30 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Margie Tamblyn, MPO Senior Planner, presented the Draft FY26 – FY30 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP serves as the MPO’s short term planning document that covers a five-year planning horizon. The TIP is updated annually and includes a comprehensive list of transportation projects that are regionally significant, MPO priorities, and that receive federal, state, and local funding. Ms. Tamblyn discussed the organization of the TIP document and shared where information could be found on the TIP Project Sheet. She discussed the public involvement schedule as well as the locations in which the Draft TIP could be found both on the MPO website, in Martin County Libraries, and in the Martin County Administrative Center.

Ms. Tamblyn discussed the List of Project Priorities which is included in our TIP. Samantha Lovelady inquired about Priority #1 to see if the Mayor of Indiantown felt that the project limits were sufficient. Mayor Dipaolo stated that he would like to see the entire 710 Widening Project completed as soon as possible as there are many houses being built in Indiantown.

Jim Gorton stated that the way the 710 Widening is structured is that both ends of the project are funded, but the middle is the area where funding is still needed. He continued emphasizing that the middle is an area of concern as that is where most of the crashes are occurring. Mayor Dipaolo shared that he has concerns about State Road 710 as it is a very dangerous roadway; he recommends that the 710 be divided and widened to four lanes for the safety of roadway users.

Andrew McBean inquired about the Grade Separation Project along SR-714 / Monterey Rd at the FEC Railroad Tracks to see if anyone had further information about the project. Jim Gorton stated that FDOT still must meet with staff and other county departments and that more information will be available in the future.

A motion to approve Draft FY26–FY30 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was made by Samantha Lovelady and was seconded by Andrew McBean. The motion passed unanimously.

C. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Beth Beltran introduced Michael Melendez (FDOT District 4) and Corinn Beem (Kimley Horn) to present the FDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan Update. Michael Melendez of the Office of Modal Development introduced the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan Update as a follow up to the 2018 Plan. Corinn Beem discussed that the objective of the Master Plan was to see where along the State Highway System the

bicycle and pedestrian system could be either added or enhanced. She discussed their process in identifying gaps in both the bicycle and pedestrian network and the prioritization of projects with their criteria which included accessibility, demand, connectivity, and safety. As a result of their prioritization, there are five roadway segments in Martin County that are key corridors needing improvement. The goal is to choose from these five key locations to identify two to develop cost estimates and planning level concepts. Ms. Beam stated that the Master Plan Update will be finalized in Fall of 2025.

Dr. Kim Delaney inquired about why the SUN (Shared Use Non-motorized) Trail was not notated as a key corridor deficiency. Michael Melendez discussed that there are a few key SUN Trail facilities that are funded currently including the segment along US-1 from Bridge Road to Osprey Street and the segment along US-1 from Bridge Road south to the Hobe Sound Wildlife Refuge. He continued stating that FDOT must be careful about prioritizing the SUN Trail, as other entities may be responsible for maintaining the trails.

Dr. Kim Delaney looked for clarity on the five segments that were prioritized in the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. Mr. Melendez shared that there are five segments that are highlighted per county as the key corridors. They are not necessarily the top five priorities; they are based on criteria as well as alignment with the Work Program. He shared that there are additional segments and needs within Martin County that fall into a tier list ranking from one to four.

Dr. Delaney wondered how this Master Plan plays a role in the budgeting and planning process. Mr. Melendez shared additional criteria that was considered including alignment with the Work Program. Michael stated that this information is subject to change if there is a strong feeling one way or another. He then discussed the relationship between context classification and facility types; an example he points to relates to how guidelines vary depending on facility type as well as design speed along a roadway. Mr. Melendez points to how different types of cyclists will prefer different facilities; a serious cyclist may not want to ride along a shared use path and a 10-year-old would not want to ride in a bike lane.

Jim Gorton inquired about the section of US-1 south of Bridge Road leading to Jonathan Dickinson State Park that does not have a sidewalk, there is a paved shoulder available which may go away with the next Resurfacing Project. Mr. Gorton wondered what alternatives may be available to the cyclists who utilize that roadway especially if it is not prioritized in this master plan. Mr. Melendez stated he was not sure what will occur on this roadway. Michael then mentioned a section of roadway in Highland Beach where there will be a new bike lane. He discussed that they are looking at ways to educate and inform users of the system. Mr. Melendez is open to having those conversations in Martin County as well.

George Dzama looked to clarify the meaning of a designated bike lane. One of the five segments listed, Mr. Dzama knows has a curb and gutter with a 4-foot paved shoulder. Mr. Melendez stated that four feet or greater qualifies as a bike lane. Mr. Dzama mentioned that there is the potential to remove the Monterey Road Segment from the list and consider adding in a shared use path as the right of way exists to do so for a future

Resurfacing Project. Michael Melendez stated that they will take a look at that roadway section.

Dr. Kim Delaney recommended that we review the priorities and recommend that another priority is added to the map since there presently is a facility along Monterey Road. A positive, Dr. Delaney notes, is that when funding becomes available these projects are typically prioritized so it is important to include projects that are missing a facility.

As this was an Information Item, no vote was required from the committee.

7. COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS – None

8. NOTES - None

9. NEXT MEETING

- TAC Meeting: June 2, 2025, at 1:30 pm
- Meeting Location: Martin County Administrative Center
4th Floor Workshop Room

ADJOURNMENT: 2:40 P.M.

Prepared by:


For 

Margie Tamblyn, Senior Planner



Date

Approved by:



Robert Daniels, Chair



Date

Minutes Approved on June 2, 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, 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.