

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BAC)

A meeting of the MPO BAC was held at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 23, 2009, in Conference Room B1-501 of the County Administration Building B, 1800 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida. You may hear an audio of the meeting; review the agenda and the minutes on the IRC website - <http://www.ircgov.com/Boards/BAC/2009.htm>.

Present were members: **Chairman Libby Harrow**, IRC Representative; **Barbara Tilney** and alternate **George Sharpe**, Town of Indian River Shores Representatives; **Robin Pelensky**, City of Vero Beach Representative; and **Carlos Aceveda** (arrived at 10:05 a.m.), City of Fellsmere Representative.

Absent was **Vice Chairman Terry Goff**, City of Vero Beach Representative; **George Sipp**, Town of Orchid Representative; **Chief Scott Melanson**, City of Fellsmere Representative; and **Susan Mulcahy**, City of Sebastian Representative (all excused).

Also present was IRC staff: George Glenn, Assistant County Attorney; Phil Matson, MPO Staff Director, Sutapa Chatterjee, MPO Planner; Arjuna Weragoda, Project Engineer, Public Works; and Darcy Vasilas, Commissioner Assistant, District 3. Others present were Alyson Craig Metcalfe and David Knight, Knight, McGuire and Associates; and Edward Halsey, Interested Citizen.

Call to Order

Chairman Harrow called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. and noted a quorum was not yet present so no action could be taken on any item at this time.

Review of the Approved Land Use Vision Plan and the Adopted Land Use Scenario of the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan - No Action Required

Mr. Phil Matson, IRC MPO Staff Director, explained this Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) was looking at alternative modes in the course of transportation planning. All rules for federal highway funding were being changed soon and more flexibility may be given to this bill than what was available last time in putting more money into the bike/pedestrian modes.

Mr. Matson commented there was a different team working on the LRTP, the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC), was working with Kimley Horn and Associates and they had come up with some very commonsense strategies not normally thought about when on the roads cycling or walking. He felt if some of these land use principles were applied in future development of the county a better scenario would be the result when moving forward.

Mr. Matson turned the meeting over to Ms. Sutapa Chatterjee, MPO Planner, who gave a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

Ms. Chatterjee reported the LRTP was a federally mandated document that needed to be updated every five years for a time horizon of twenty-five years; therefore we were at the beginning of the 2035 land use process. She added the document needed to be submitted to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) by December, 2010.

Ms. Chatterjee explained on Saturday, March 14, 2009, the MPO formally kicked off the future land use analysis process by holding a Public Workshop at the Vero Beach Community Center. At that workshop, TCRPC staff outlined several transportation and land use planning principles such as connectivity and intermodal corridor development that would be considered throughout the LRTP process. Through small group discussions and face-to-face interviews, the consultants also identified a number of community preferences to be considered in the development of a preferred land use scenario.

Some of the recommendations made by the citizens were as follows:

- Keep “Small Town Character”
- Mixed-Use in Downtown Vero
- Create a “Corporate Campus” at CVS
- Provide Development Incentives for Greater Connectivity
- Encourage More Traditional Neighborhoods
- Create Grid of Streets in Fellsmere (particularly Annex areas)
- Create I-95 Interchange at Oslo (with Industrial Land Use)
- Keep U.S. 1 four lanes through Sebastian
- Fill in the Urban Service Areas before Expanding Outside
- Preserve Green Space

Mrs. Tilney inquired with all the improvements to the Land Use Plan, would sidewalks and bikeways be included. Mr. Matson replied in the affirmative and noted most likely there would be more roads instead of wider roads causing less traffic.

Presentation of the Development of the Lagoon Greenway by Indian River Land Trust and Indian River County – *No Action Required*

Mr. Matson introduced Mr. David Knight, from Knight, McGuire and Associates. Mr. Knight explained he was working with Indian River Land Trust on the Lagoon Greenway Plan which was located on Indian River Boulevard.

Mr. Knight pointed out the goals of the Lagoon Greenway Plan were as follows:

- Create a continuous set of pathways for non-motorized use through the upland and lowland areas along the Indian River Lagoon with ample public access, as appropriate.
 - Make use of existing unimproved mosquito district impoundment roads.
 - Provide a diversity of connected pathways and elevated walkways.
 - Create safe access from adjacent neighborhoods and public properties.
- Provide for a diversity of recreational and educational opportunities within the Greenway Planning Area as appropriate for the residents and visitors of Indian River County. Recreational activities should include bicycling, jogging, walking, lagoon viewing, canoe/kayak access, fishing, wildlife observation and study, dog walking, and fitness.
- Continue to protect and conserve the natural resources of the Lagoon and adjoining wetland and upland habitats.
 - Conduct trail and wetland clean ups.
 - Provide for long-term abatement of invasive plants.
 - Implement improvements to the natural resources.
- Establish interpretive facilities (and corresponding programs) for educating the public of the significance of the Greenway's local natural and historic resources and the need for their management. Interpretive facilities should include: trail and interpretive signage;

trailhead kiosks and observation decks to accommodate individuals and/or groups; distribution points for educational materials; and wildlife viewing areas.

Mr. Carlos Aceveda arrived at 10:05 a.m. thus making a quorum.

Presentation of the Status of Current Bike/Pedestrian and Greenway Efforts in Indian River County – *No Action Required*

Mr. Arjuna Weragoda, IRC Project Engineer, gave an overall view through a PowerPoint presentation, of proposed sidewalk projects. They were as follows:

- 12th Street Sidewalks:
 - 54th Avenue to 43rd Avenue (Waiting for FDOT Approval)
 - 43rd Avenue to 27th Avenue (Construction is Complete)
 - 16th Avenue to 11th Avenue (Anticipated Construction Complete End of 2009)

- 8th Street Sidewalks:
 - 18th Court to Old Dixie Highway (Start September 2010)
 - U.S. Hwy 1 to 6th Avenue (On Hold)

- Indian River Drive North: From City of Sebastian City Limits to Roseland Drive

- Indian River Boulevard: From 12th Street to 17th Street

- Old Dixie Highway: From U.S. 1 to 6th Street

- Old Dixie Highway: From 1st Street SW to 2nd Lane

- 66th Avenue: From 16th Street to S.R. 60

- 16th Street: From 74th Avenue to 66th Avenue

- 66th Avenue: From S.R. 60 to Barber Street

- CR-510: From CR-512 to Indian River Lagoon

- Oslo Road: From 27th Street to 58th Avenue

- 53rd Street: From 56th Place to Indian River Boulevard
- 43rd Avenue: South County Line to 26th Street

Ms. Chatterjee reported two grants had been applied for by the MPO for greenways.

Approval of Minutes of March 10, 2009 Joint MPO/Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee and MPO/Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

ON MOTION by Mrs. Tilney, SECONDED BY Ms. Pelensky, the members voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the Minutes of the March 10, 2009 Joint MPO/Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee and MPO/Citizens Advisory Committee meeting as presented.

Status Report of Other MPO Advisory Committees – *No Action Required*

Ms. Chatterjee announced the MPO Citizens Advisory Committee and the MPO Technical Advisory Committee had not met since June 10, 2009. The MPO met on July 8, 2009 and the primary issue of consideration was the 2035 Long Range Transportation – Land Use Vision Plan. The MPO voted to approve the alternative Future Land Use Scenario as the preferred land use scenario for the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan.

Other Business

There was none.

Comments from the Public

There was none.

Adjournment

Chairman Harrow adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m.