

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

A meeting of the MPO BAC was held at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 26, 2010, 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/2010.htm>.

Present were members: **Chairman Libby Harrow**, IRC Representative; **George Sharpe**, Town of Indian River Shores Representative; **Terry Goff**, City of Vero Beach Representative; **Maria Sanchez**, City of Fellsmere Representative; **Chris McCarthy**, City of Sebastian Representative; and **John-Mark Palacios**, non-voting FDOT Representative.

Absent was **Barbara Tilney**, Town of Indian River Shores Representative; **Chief Scott Melanson**, City of Fellsmere Representative; and **Susan Mulcahy**, City of Sebastian Representative (all excused); and **George Sipp**, Town of Orchid Representative (unexcused).

Also present was IRC staff: Phil Matson, MPO Staff Director, and Darcy Vasilas, Commissioner Assistant, District 3.

Call to Order

Chairman Harrow called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

Election of Officers

Mr. Matson asked for nominations for the 2010 MPOBAC Chairman.

ON MOTION by Mr. Sharpe, SECONDED by Mr. Goff, the members voted unanimously (5-0) to re-elect Libby Harrow as the 2010 Metropolitan Planning Organization Bicycle Advisory Committee Chairman.

The floor was opened for nominations for 2010 Vice Chairman of the MPOBAC.

ON MOTION by Ms. Harrow, SECONDED by Mr. McCarthy, the members voted unanimously (5-0) to elect Terry Goff as the 2010 Metropolitan Planning Organization Bicycle Advisory Committee Vice Chairman.

Approval of Minutes from the November 3, 2009 Joint MPO, MPOBAC, MPOCAC and MPOTAC Meeting

ON MOTION by Mr. McCarthy, SECONDED by Ms. Sanchez, the members voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the November 3, 2009 Joint MPO, MPOBAC, MPOCAC and MPOTAC meeting minutes as presented.

Discussion of Bike/Ped Safety Issues in Indian River County

Mr. Matson gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Bike Safety Awareness events held in Fellsmere January 14, 18, 19 and 20, 2010. A copy of this presentation is on file in the Commission Office.

Mr. Matson related while discussing the issue of bike/ped safety with the MPOCAC, the committee identified bicycle visibility as a contributing factor, particularly in the north county area in the winter months. In response, the City of Fellsmere organized a series of bicycle safety events to address the problem. At these events, the MPO Board members, CAC members, BAC members, and MPO staff registered over 100 bicycles through the City's bicycle licensing program and installed front and rear lights on the bicycles. The lights, as well as reflective vests, ponchos, brochures, and other safety-related materials, were donated by the Community Traffic Safety Committee of FDOT. On January 14, 2010, the Fellsmere City Council presented the MPO with a Proclamation declaring that day Bicycle Safety Day.

Mr. Matson continued, since that event, a number of other jurisdictions had expressed an interest in hosting bike/ped safety events.

Ms. Sanchez participated in the Fellsmere Bike Safety event and related the advertising the City did with posting of flyers and distributing vouchers for free bike lights. She announced police officers would be stopping bikers without lights and giving them one for a period of time and eventually would begin issuing citations.

Discussion was held regarding bike lanes throughout the county and the need for better maintenance as grass overtakes many of them which narrows the actual riding space.

Chairman Harrow reported the City of Vero Beach would engrave the serial number on bikes and she recommends her customers to take advantage of the service.

Mr. Matson asked the members to compile a list of bicycle safety items to use in a Public Service announcement. The members came up with the following list:

- Ride with traffic
- Use lights
- A bicycle is a vehicle, obey traffic laws
- Use reflectors or wear light colored clothing
- Look both ways at intersections
- Always wear a helmet while riding a bike
- Be aware of bicycle signs
- Obey the 3-foot distance between vehicles and bike riders law

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

Mr. Matson reviewed his memorandum dated January 19, 2010, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

Other Business

There was none.

Comments from the Public

There was none.

Adjournment

ON MOTION by Mr. Goff, SECONDED by Mr. Sharpe, the members voted unanimously (5-0) to adjourn the meeting at 3:04 p.m.