



**Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BAC)
MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday – July 27, 2010 - 2:00 p.m.

Conference Room B1-501, County Administration Building “B”, 1800 27th Street, Vero Beach, FL

Note: Audio/Video/Minutes of the meeting can be found at <http://www.ircgov.com/Boards/BAC/2010.htm> .

Also, all reports referenced with an asterisk (*) are on file at the Board of County Commissioners and available upon request.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Libby Harrow, Chairman	Indian River County (IRC) Representative
Chris McCarthy	City of Sebastian (COS) Representative
George Sharpe	Town of Indian River Shores (TIRS) Representative
George Sipp	Town of Orchid Representative (TO)
Chief Scott Melanson	City of Fellsmere (COF) Representative
Chris McCarthy (Alt.)	City of Sebastian (COS) Representative
George Sharpe (Alt.)	City of Vero Beach (COVB) Representative

MEMBERS ABSENT

Terry Goff, Vice Chairman	City of Vero Beach (COVB) Representative
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STAFF/OTHER PRESENT

Phil Matson	IRC MPO Director
Andrew Sobczak	IRC Community Development Senior Planner
Ed Defini	St. Lucie County TPO Senior Planner
John-Mark Palacios	Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)
Beth Casano	Recording Secretary/Commissioner Assistant District 5

1. Call to Order

Chairman Harrow called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes April 27, 2010

On Motion by Chief Melanson and **Seconded** by Mr. McCarthy, the committee unanimously approved the minutes.

3. Update Indian River County Bicycle/Pedestrian Projects

Mr. Sobczak narrated a PowerPoint Presentation* that reviewed IRC’s completed and in-progress Bicycle/Pedestrian Projects over the past ten years.

Projects completed: North Indian River Drive Bikepath; C.R. 512 Scenic Beautification; Old Dixie Highway Sidewalk Project; Two Bridges Pedestrian Loop; State Road A1A Landscape and Beautification Project; Indian River Boulevard Sidewalk Improvement; VB High School and VB Elementary School Sidewalk Project; 8th Street Sidewalk Enhancement; 12th Street Sidewalk Project; 12th Street Bikepath; 58th Avenue Landscape Improvements; Thompson Magnet Elementary School Sidewalk Project; Trans-Florida Central Railroad Corridor Greenway (partially completed,) and, Fellsmere Elementary School Sidewalk Project.

Projects underway: North Indian River Drive Bikepath; Old Dixie Highway Sidewalk from 38th Lane to 65th Street; Indian River Boulevard Sidewalk from 17th Street to 12th Street; 12th Street Sidewalk from 43rd Avenue to 58th Avenue; South Sebastian Greenway Corridor; and, Trans-Florida Central Railroad Corridor Greenway (near CR 512.)

Points made during discussions of the projects:

- Mr. Matson was able to consolidate three years of funding to enable high impact projects but FDOT will soon be requiring that the funds dispersed, which barely cover the cost of building a sidewalk, will have to be used within the same year. Mr. Marks stated the new spending guideline is affecting MPO's all over the State and they, too, are upset about the change.
- Projects have included funding assistance not only from FDOT but also from municipalities and developers. In regard to IRC Land Development Regulations (LDR's), Mr. Matson emphasized the acumen and foresight of Community Development Director, Bob Keating and his staff which accounted for 76 miles of improvements. He pointed out that St. Lucie County was applying LDR's that are similar to IRC's.
- Chief Melanson relayed Fellsmere's appreciation for the Fellsmere Elementary School Sidewalk Project noting that it was being utilized by 60% of the students as well as other pedestrians.
- Mr. Matson stated he was pleased with the cooperative efforts of Fellsmere to let them use property which will be worked into the Trans Florida Central Railroad Corridor Greenways.
- Mr. Matson assured members, at the present time, there are no complaints about the Projects underway and that as far as he knew, all are accommodated by County owned right-of-ways.
- In response to Chairman Harrow's inquiry, Mr. Matson said those opposing the A1A project (east side of SRA1a between Coquina Lane and St. Ed's Drive) were more against the monies being spent than by aesthetics and that the MPO voted to move forward due to FDOT's willingness to fund.

4. Status report of Other MPO Advisory Committees

Mr. Matson reported that the MPO on May 12th and July 8th approved the Unified Planning Work Program, the SR A1A Sidewalk Project, and the Transportation Improvement Program.

5. Other Business

Members discussed public bike safety education and Mr. Matson passed out a release form template for use at bike events. He said that FDOT had donated a few bikes to the County that can be loaned out for safety events not for “give-aways” as was discussed at the last BAC meeting. He stated that his department could loan the bikes, deliver them; also, provide helmets, safety materials and other pertinent literature. Mr. Matson mentioned a woman by the name of Elly Zanin of Commit 2 B Fit, who is presently doing safety programs with the schools. Members discussed various ideas for future events in their cities.

Mr. Palacios noted that the Bike-Ped Partnership had their first meeting last month. He stated that the group would be a support group discussing projects with FDOT and should not be confused with a lobbying type group. Mr. Matson said that he believes FDOT does a great job supporting our sidewalks and bike paths but that he would like to see some funding become available for use outside of the State right-of-way if it helps the State system. For example he’d like to see a parallel network, maybe along the main relief canal, created for SR60 using federal funds.

Members discussed Mr. Sharpe’s appointment as the IRC representative to the Office of Greenways and Trails for the East Coast Greenway Project and how the new route would be reflective of a sort of Appalachian Trail along the Atlantic on the East Coast. Mr. Matson did not believe it would be a huge commitment at this time other than to establish contacts with Herb Hiller and others. As things progress and on Mr. Sharpe’s advice, the Project will become a standing committee item. Mr. Palacios added that the trail will be a part of the National Bicycle Route System which is much like our Interstate System with interconnecting and numbered routes.

Mr. McCarthy noted that the 512 beautification received approval.

6. There were no comments from the Public
7. **On Motion** by Chief Melanson and **Seconded** by Mr. McCarthy, the Board adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.
8. Next Meeting October 26, 2010

Attention: An educational tool for present and potential committee members regarding government in the sunshine, public records, and ethics is now available for review on the IRC website –

<http://www.ircgov.com/Boards/SunshinePresentation.pdf>