

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

A meeting of the Indian River County (IRC) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) was held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 14, 2010, in the County Administration Building, 1800 27th Street, Building B, Room B1-501, Vero Beach, Florida.

Present were: Chairman **Richard Gillmor**, Mayor, City of Sebastian; **Peter O'Bryan**, **Wesley Davis**, and **Joe Flescher**, Commissioners, IRC; **Debbie MacKay**, IRC School Board; **Kevin Sawnick** and **Sabin Abell**, Councilmembers, City of Vero Beach; **Frannie Atchison**, (arrived at 10:10 a.m.) Councilmember, Town of Indian River Shores; **Susan Adams**, (arrived at 10:08 a.m.) Councilwoman, City of Fellsmere; **Don Wright**, Council Member, City of Sebastian; **Tykus Holloway**, FDOT District 4 Representative; and **Richard Dunlop**, Councilman, Non-voting member, Town of Orchid.

Absent was: **Bob Solari** and **Gary Wheeler**, Commissioners, IRC (both excused).

Also present were IRC staff: Phil Matson, IRC MPO Director; Bob Keating, Community Development Director, Chris Mora, Public Works Director; Michael Love, Traffic Engineer; Sharon Schalm, Staff Assistant III, MPO; and Darcy Vasilas, Commissioner Assistant, District 3.

Others present: Monte Falls, Public Works and Engineering Director, City of Vero Beach and Karen Diegl, Chief Executive Officer, Senior Resource Association.

Call to Order

Chairman Gillmor called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m., at which time it was determined a quorum was present. All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes of March 10, 2010 MPO meeting

**ON MOTION by Commissioner Flescher,
SECONDED by Commissioner Davis, the members
voted unanimously (9-0) to approve the minutes of
March 10, 2010 as presented.**

Status Report of MPO Advisory Committees – No Action Required

Mr. Phil Matson, IRC MPO Director, reviewed his memorandum dated April 5, 2010, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

Consideration of a Resolution of Support and a Memorandum of Understanding For Participation in the Development of a Grant Application for Funding Under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Sustainable Communities Initiative – Action Required

Mr. Matson explained recently, the Treasure Coast and South Florida Regional Planning Councils initiated the process to prepare a joint regional application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Sustainable Communities Initiative (SCI) grant program. The SCI application will be submitted by the Councils on behalf of the many public, private, non-profit, and other regional stakeholders from the seven-county region of Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, and Indian River Counties. In keeping with the regional nature of the SCI program, the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council has requested the MPO's participation in, and support for, the joint regional application. Staff recommends that the MPO consider the copy of the Resolution of Support and Memorandum of Understanding included in the agenda packet, and on file in the Commission Office, for participating in the Councils' SCI application and approve the Resolution and Memorandum.

Councilwoman Adams arrived at 10:08 a.m. and Councilmember Atchison arrived at 10:10 a.m.

Council Member Wright questioned why we were joining the South Florida area of Miami/Dade County instead of the Orlando area. Mr. Matson responded part of the reason was a legal formality because we were in the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council as the northernmost county; and Palm Beach was the southernmost. He felt the real driver for the regional effort was the Palm Beach-Broward-Miami synergy. With Palm Beach in two regional planning councils, we ended up aligned with Miami/Dade County.

Mr. Matson opined the region we should be in was open to debate. He felt the idea of sustainability that some areas wanted more growth, and that growth should occur in an intelligent way, in building out they have instead of breaking new ground, was a good idea.

ON MOTION BY Commissioner O'Bryan, SECONDED BY Councilmember Abell to approve staff's recommendation to adopt the Resolution of Support and Memorandum of Understanding, to have it signed and sent to the appropriate parties.

UNDER DISCUSSION Mrs. MacKay asked about Section 8 Housing designations. Mr. Robert Keating, IRC Community Development Director, explained IRC already had Section 8 Housing programs which were administered by the Housing Authority. He continued Section 8 programs gave vouchers to potential qualifying tenants and they can exercise those vouchers where the private sector provides the actual housing.

THE MOTION WAS CALLED and the members voted unanimously (11-0) to approve the motion as stated.

Consideration of Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment – Action Required

Mr. Matson related this was most likely the last project to be funded from last years' Tip Prioritization. He reviewed in spring 2009, MPO came up with projects that were "shovel ready" or ready to go that could use the federal stimulus funds allocation. From those projects, several were currently underway, including the Barber Street resurfacing, Babcock Road resurfacing, 20th Avenue; the construction of a new transit administrative facility on 43rd Avenue, and landscaping on 58th Avenue.

Mr. Matson continued the highest ranked, unfunded priority was Old Dixie Highway from 12th Street to State Road 60; the road needed resurfacing and does not measure up on any of the technical criteria. According to FDOT, due to projects on the stimulus list coming in under budget there was money available for this next priority in the amount of \$640,000 and staff needed the approval from MPO to accept the money from FDOT and add it to the work program.

ON MOTION BY Commissioner Davis, SECONDED BY Commissioner Flescher, to approve staff's recommendation to approve the Transportation Improvement Program Amendment.

UNDER DISCUSSION Commissioner O'Bryan commended Mr. Matson and staff for staying on top available funds and always having a project ready to go when funds became available.

Commissioner Davis asked if the project along Old Dixie Highway was just for resurfacing or would sidewalks be included. Mr. Matson responded the right-of-way was very constrained in some areas of Old Dixie Highway but he asked Mr. Tykus Holloway, our District 4 FDOT representative, to see if there was sidewalk money available in conjunction with this project.

THE MOTION WAS CALLED and the members voted unanimously (11-0) to approve staff's recommendation.

Extension of General Planning Consultant Contracts – Action Required

Mr. Matson reported in May, 2007, the MPO authorized staff to hire two General Planning Consultants (GPC's) to undertake various Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Planning tasks that require consultant services. Those contracts are set to expire in May, 2010. According to the original GPC contracts, "...subject to the MPO's sole discretion, this Agreement may be extended by the MPO Staff Director or designee for an additional one (1) year beyond the initial three (3) year period of the Agreement, if specifically delegated this authority by the MPO." He continued staff recommended the MPO authorize the MPO staff director to renew the Highway Planning GPC contract with the firm of Kimley-Horn and Associates and the Transit GPC contract with the firm of Stanley Consultants for an additional year.

ON MOTION BY Commissioner Davis, SECONDED BY Councilwoman Adams, the members voted unanimously (11-0) to approve staff's recommendation.

Other Business

Commissioner Davis asked what the status was of the GoLine transfer station proposed for the old IRC Administration Building site. Mr. Matson responded he was working with Karen Diegl, CEO of Senior Resource Center, on having a meeting with the residents of Original Town and route changes were being timed out in order to find a suitable solution. Mr. Matson was confident there was an amicable solution and would be bringing the results back to the MPO at a later date.

Commissioner Flescher inquired if there was an update on sidewalks for CR510. Mr. Chris Mora, IRC Public Works Director, responded IRC was working on doing the sidewalk instead of FDOT because ground water tests from the site had not yet been cleared and may take over one year before that happened. He

continued FDOT required clear water tests before taking the right-of-way IRC was trying to convey to allow them to finish up the last 330 feet of sidewalk.

Mr. Mora continued the County was going to get a survey and mark a path then either mulch the area or install the sidewalk. He anticipated the project should be complete within one year.

Councilman Dunlop queried about a sidewalk that was discussed previously from the beach to the intercoastal along CR510. Mr. Matson related there had been a lot of opposition from some of the residents, although he liked the plan. He felt it would eventually get done, but there were many projects that would be done ahead of it.

Mr. Matson announced Mrs. Schalm was distributing a "2010 Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council Legislative Policy Positions Statement" which is on file in the Commission Office. He explained the MPOAC was the committee composed of the Chairmen of all 26 MPO's in Florida. Once a year this group came together to develop with policies and positions that help all MPO's.

Comments from the Public

There was none.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.