A meeting of the MPO BAC was held at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 25, 2011, 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/2011.htm.

Present were members: Terry Goff, City of Vero Beach Representative; Chief Scott Melanson, City of Fellsmere Representative; Chris McCarthy, City of Sebastian Representative; Vice Chairman George Sharpe, Town of Indian River Shores Representative; Hank Dieffenbach, Town of Orchid Representative; and John-Mark Palacios, non-voting FDOT Representative.

Absent was Chairman Libby Harrow, IRC Representative; (unexcused).

Also present was IRC staff: Phil Matson, MPO Staff Director, Andy Sobczak, Senior Planner; Sharon Schalm, Staff Assistant III; and Misty L. Pursel, Commissioner Assistant, District 1.

Others present was Lee and Dean Hayhurst, Interested Parties.

Call to Order

Vice Chairman Sharpe called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from the May 20, 2011 Meeting

ON MOTION by Mr. Goff, SECONDED by Chief Melanson, the members voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the May 20, 2011 MPO BAC meeting minutes as presented.
**Status Report of Safe Routes to School (SR2S) Non-Infrastructure Grant – No Action Required**

Mr. Phil Matson, MPO Staff Director referred to his memorandum dated October 17, 2011, included in the agenda packet and on file in the Commission Office. He also provided a PowerPoint presentation in conjunction with his memorandum, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

Vice Chairman Sharpe requested a Bike Roadeo Schedule and requested the schedule be made available via email to members, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

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

Mr. Matson reviewed his memorandum dated October 14, 2011, listing other MPO meeting dates. A copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

Mr. Matson reminded the BAC members the next meeting was scheduled for January 24, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Matson noted two additional sidewalk grants from FDOT were awarded: one for two sidewalks in Vero Lake Estates (101st Avenue & 90th Street); and 8th Street. He said the goal was to get sidewalks for every major road in the proximity of the schools.

Mr. Matson reported more grants would be applied for now and in the future. He talked about the North County Rails to Trails project and told the members the project would be 17 miles long and not built all at once.

Mr. Matson discussed receiving an enhancement grant from State of Florida’s Department of Environmental Protection to build a sidewalk from behind Advanced Auto Parts on County Road 510, where it meets County Road 512.

Mr. Matson mentioned an enhancement grant from FDOT allocated to build out the sidewalk (approximately 3 miles) to Interstate 95.

Mr. Palacios asked about the status of the money allocated for the sidewalk which was moved on Highway A1A, east side. Mr. Matson would report back to the Committee his findings.
Other Business

Mr. McCarthy provided an update on the Parks and Recreation Committee.

Mr. Palacious made the Committee aware of a resurfacing project at State Road 60 between 58th Avenue and 66th Avenue, which was in design at the present time. He said FDOT was attempting to place a sidewalk on the south side beside the canal belonging to Indian River Farms Water Management District, wherein maintenance issues, etc. were being discussed. Mr. Matson agreed to check into it and get back to the committee.

At Mr. Goff’s request for a status on the Bicycle Friendly America, Mr. Matson said he had not completed the application to date and his thoughts were to have the City of Sebastian apply for designation because the City was coming up with their own locally developed plan. Mr. Sobczak stated the designation could not be done in unincorporated areas and agreed to make applications on behalf of the surrounding cities.

Chief Melanson asked if the time of this committee could be changed from the middle of the afternoon to later in the afternoon or first thing in the morning. Mrs. Schalm agreed to poll the members for their preference.

Mr. Goff inquired about bike/ped maps, wherein Mr. Matson said he would provide an updated one for him.

Mr. Palacious shared the East Coast Greenway Alliance had their national meeting in Stuart, Florida wherein progress of an additional segment was designated for Hollywood.

At Mr. Matson request, Mr. Palacious updated the Committee on the St. Lucie County Greenway, saying the greenway was going through the edge of Savanna’s Park, which environmentally protected with trails. Mr. Palacious said the plans were still in progress with no definite decisions made.
Comments from the Public

Mr. Lee Hayhurst and his son, Mr. Dean Hayhurst commented upon increasing the width of paths for the use of tricycles. Mr. Matson explained the paths were built with the width of 12 feet, the width of a very large vehicular travel lane. He further said sidewalks could be as narrow as 5 feet and can be as wide as 8 feet.

Mr. Hayhurst inquired whether the local bike shops had any input. Mr. Matson said the bike shops have always been very helpful and cooperative in sending out brochures and flyers about things.

Mr. Hayhurst shared his thoughts of endorsements for the paths from local businesses advertising around the outside of a bike rack in front of bike shops, Go Line, etc.

Mr. Matson thought it was a great idea and had potential to have a partnership where leverage with a bike shop sponsorship, restaurants, etc; anyone with a bike rack could, through advertisement, assist with the cost of a path’s infrastructure. He would look into it.

Chief Melanson brought up bike racks at Go Line stops. Mr. Matson advised bikes on buses was frowned upon by the bus drivers because it would affect them by slowing down their routes making their stops and waiting for the bike to be mounted.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.