

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

A meeting of the Indian River County (IRC) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) was held at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, October 14, 2020, conducted through Zoom, and hosted in County Administration Building "B", Room B1-501, 1800 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida for those unable to attend virtually.

Note: Audio and video recordings of the meeting can be found at <http://www.ircgov.com/Boards/MPO/2020.htm>

MPO members present: IRC Commissioners: **Commissioner Susan Adams**, District 1; **Commissioner Joseph Flescher**, District 2 (10:06am); **Commissioner Tim Zorc**, District 3; **Commissioner Peter O'Bryan**, District 4; **Commissioner Bob Solari**, District 5; **Chairman Bob Auwaerter**, Vice Mayor, Town of Indian River Shores; **Bob McPartlan**, Council Member, City of Sebastian; **Laura Moss**, Vice Mayor, City of Vero Beach; **Joe Graves**, City of Vero Beach; **Rey Neville**, (alternate), City of Vero Beach; **Gerald "Jerry" Renick**, City of Fellsmere; **Tiffany Justice**, IRC School Board; **John Podczewinsky** and **Christine Fasiska**, FDOT (non-voting advisors).

Absent: **Ed Dodd**, Mayor, City of Sebastian (excused); **Hal Ofstie**, Mayor, Town of Orchid, (non-voting member).

IRC staff present: **Brian Freeman**, MPO Staff Director; **Jim Mann**, MPO Senior Planner; **Phil Matson**, IRC Community Development Director; **Jason Brown**, IRC Administrator; **Rich Szpyrka**, IRC Public Works Director, (10:24am); and **Patti Johnson**, MPO Staff Assistant 3/Recording Secretary.

Also present: **Joe Earman**, IRC Commissioner-Elect; **Maria Marquez**, **Victoria Williams**, **Caryn Gardner-Young**, **Dan Hiden**, and **Kristopher Kehres**, FDOT; **William Roll**, Kimley-Horn & Associates; **Matthew Mitts**, City of Vero Beach; **Tom Lanahan**, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council; **Matt Wiesenfeld**, HDR Engineering; and IRC PW Drainage.

Call to Order

Chairman Auwaerter called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Roll Call of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Members.

It was noted that a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes of the MPO Meeting of September 9, 2020

Action Required

Chairman Auwaerter asked if there were any additions or corrections to the MPO meeting minutes of September 9, 2020. There were none.

ON MOTION BY Commissioner O'Bryan and SECONDED by Commissioner Zorc, the members voted (10-0) to approve the minutes of the Metropolitan Planning Organization September 9, 2020 meeting.

Commissioner Flescher entered @ 10:06am

Status Report of MPO Advisory Committees

No Action Required

Mr. Freeman reviewed his memorandum, dated October 7, 2020, included in the agenda packet and on file in the MPO Office. He also noted the next meeting dates for the MPO and its advisory committees.

Consideration of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) – Cost Feasible Plan

Action Required

Mr. Freeman introduced William Roll, from Kimley-Horn and Associates, who presented the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Cost Feasible Plan. Mr. Roll shared a power point presentation on this plan. A copy of this presentation is on file in the MPO office.

The Chairman opened the floor for comments and suggestions. The discussion included building greenways along the canals, the proposed Aviation Blvd. flyover, creating a new medical node west of Vero Beach to reduce the number of trips crossing the railroad to get to the hospital, and the four-laning of 53rd Street between 58th Avenue and 66th Avenue.

Mr. Szyrka commented there are two new communities going in the area (Mandala Village and Providence Point). As part of their developer's agreement, they have agreed to pay a portion of fees to cover four-laning at that location and then taper down about 1000 feet.

Commissioner Zorc would like to change 53rd Street, starting from 58th Avenue heading west to 66th Avenue to a four-lane divided road with the developers funding that portion of extension.

Mr. Roll recommended the MPO Staff get with the County Engineering Department to get specific guidance as to the limits of the four-lane divided. One of the things we have to do is demonstrate cost feasibility in the plan. If there is developer funding to offset the costs, that

would balance the costs included in this plan, thereby not putting other projects in jeopardy. There being no further comments, the item was open for motion.

ON MOTION BY Commissioner Zorc and SECONDED by Commissioner Flescher, the members voted (11-0) to recommend approval of the Consideration of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) - Cost Feasible Plan with the modification from Commissioner Zorc, "Changing the indicated number of lanes on 53rd Street from 58th to 66th Avenue, to reference new four-lanes with developer funding".

Mr. Roll asked for a motion to open Public Comment and conduct a roll call for the record.

ON MOTION BY Commissioner Zorc and SECONDED by Commissioner Flescher, the members voted (11-0) to open the Public Comments on the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) – Cost Feasible Plan.

Consideration of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments

Action Required

Mr. Freeman explained that FDOT has requested that the MPO approve two amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) adopted by the Indian River County MPO earlier this year. Both amendments will enable FDOT to allocate funding earlier than anticipated for projects that are already included in the TIP.

These two projects proposed for amendment are:

- 82nd Avenue, new road construction from 69th Street to CR 510: The TIP amendment moves all ROW funding into FY 20/21 and adds \$57,680 in preliminary engineering in FY 20/21. FDOT has indicated that ROW acquisition for this project is now complete. (FM# 2308792)
- SR A1A over Sebastian Inlet Bridge Replacement: The TIP amendment will change the project length from 0.292 miles to 0.915 miles. It will add \$550,000 in environmental for FY 2022/23 and add ROW funding totaling \$6,154,884 into FY 2022/23 and FY 2023/24. (FM# 4456181)

Chairman Auwaerter opened the floor for comments from the board.

A discussion was held regarding the right of way acquisition for the bridge. Mr. Freeman answered he did believe the land was state owned, and it may be that monies are transferred

amongst agencies. Mr. Freeman directed the question as to the payment process to FDOT. Mr. Podczerwinsky will look into this after the meeting. If he receives the information during the meeting, he will provide an update.

There being no further comments, the item was open for motion.

ON MOTION BY Commissioner O'Bryan and SECONDED by Commissioner Zorc, the members voted (11-0) to recommend approval of the Consideration of the 2020 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments Update. The Recording Secretary took the vote via roll call.

Other Business

Mr. Freeman informed the Board there was a scheduling conflict and the representative from DBI would be unable to attend and would reschedule. Chair Auwaerter asked DBI puts together their slides or other materials be distributed prior to the meeting for the public and members.

Chairman Auwaerter asked Victoria Williams with FDOT to give an update on the status of the project for improvements at SR 60 and the Florida Turnpike (re-stripping and other various enhancements). Ms. Williams stated there is a statewide website that recaps the entire project. Ms. Williams will email the link so that the board may review it. Mr. Podczerwinsky will follow up with Operations staff and report to Mr. Freeman.

Mr. Freeman stated he does have an update concerning the 17th Street Causeway. A project to replace light poles on the bridge is nearing completion, and a second project to reinforce structural beams under the bridge will commence soon.

Comments from the Public

Mr. Podczerwinsky has a partial answer regarding the causeway, the height of the bridge has increased (from 39' clearance to 65') so it is necessary to extend the roadway more than originally planned.

Ms. Williams has an update regarding SR 60 and 441. This project will be adding a center turn lane of SR 60, east of US 441 to the Turnpike. The letting date is December 2, 2020 due to this being an evacuation route.

There were no further comments.

Adjournment

There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 10:49 AM.