

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Indian River County (IRC) Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee (MPOTAC) was held at 10:00 AM on Friday, June 28, 2019, in Conference Room B1-501, Building B, of the County Administration Complex, 1800 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida.

Note: Audio and video recordings of the meeting can be found at
<http://www.ircgov.com/Boards/TAC/2019.htm>

MPOTAC members present were **Acting Chairman Mark Mathes**, City Manager, City of Fellsmere; **Monte Falls**, City of Vero Beach Public Works Director; **Matthew Mitts** (alternate) Acting City of Vero Beach Public Works; **Noah Powers**, Town of Orchid Town Manager; **Rich Szpyrka**, IRC Public Works Director; **Jason Jefferies**, City of Vero Beach Planning Department; **Eric Menger**, City of Vero Beach Airport Director; **Lisa Frazier** City of Sebastian Community Development Director; **Stan Boling**, IRC Community Development; **Roland DeBlois** (alternate), IRC Community Development; **John Teske** Indian River County School Board; and **Mira Skoroden**, FDOT (non-voting advisor); **John Podczewinsky** (alternate), FDOT (non-voting advisor).

MPOTAC members absent were: **Joel Tyson** (alternate) City of Fellsmere; **Cheri Fitzgerald** (alternate), City of Vero Beach Planning Department; **Chris Stephenson** (alternate), Senior Resource Association; **Lisa Ross** (alternate), City of Vero Beach Airport Administrative Manager; **Scott Baker**, City of Sebastian Airport Director; **Paul Carlisle**, City of Sebastian; **Kristin Daniels**, IRC Budget; **Karen Deigl**, Senior Resource Association; **Jennifer Idlette**, IRC School Board Transportation Director; **Undersheriff Jim Harpring**, IRC Sheriff's Office; **Sgt. Kip Benham**, Town of Indian River Shores; **Janie Hollingsworth**, IRC Traffic Engineering; **Capt. Milo Thornton** Indian River County Sheriff Department.

Also present were IRC Staff: **Phil Matson**, MPO Staff Director; **Brian Freeman**, MPO Senior Planner; **Jim Mann**, MPO Senior Planner; **Patti Johnson**, MPO Staff Assistant III & Recording Secretary.

Others present included **Dan Hiden**, FDOT; **Mike Brown**, Transportation Planning Services, Inc.

Call to Order

Acting Chairman Mathes called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM at which time it was noted that a quorum was present.

Mr. Jason Jeffries entered 10:03am

Mr. Rich Szpyrka entered at 10:08 am

Election of Officers of the MPOTAC

ON MOTION by Mr. Boling, SECONDED by Mr. Menger, the members voted (9-0) to approve Mr. Noah Powers, Chairman of the Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee.

ON MOTION by Mr. Boling, SECONDED by Mr. Menger, the members voted (9-0) to approve Mr. Jason Jeffries, Vice-Chair of the Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee.

Mr. Noah Powers assumed his duties as Chair.

Mr. Matson updated the board on the recent changes on the TAC Board. Mr. Matson recognized the up-coming retirement of Stan Boling after 34 years of service with the County and introduced Mr. Roland DeBlois who will become the Interim Community Development Director upon Mr. Boling's retirement. Mr. Matson also mentioned the departure of Mr. Jason Nunemaker who was the TAC Chair for 10 years. The MPO welcomes the new members and looks forward to working with them.

Chairman Powers thanked the Board for the new position and stated that he also has enjoyed working with Mr. Boling and wishes him well on his retirement.

Approval of Minutes of the MPOTAC Meeting of April 26, 2019

MPOTAC Chairman Powers asked if there were any additions or corrections to the MPOTAC minutes of April 26, 2019. There were none.

ON MOTION by Mr. Boling, SECONDED by Ms. Frazier, the members voted (9-0) to approve the minutes of the Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee of April 26, 2019.

Mr. Powers noted there will be a change in the agenda. Item #4 will switch places with Item #5.

Consideration of the Draft Community Characteristics Report

Action Required

Mr. Matson introduced Mr. Brian Freeman of the MPO staff who gave a Power Point presentation, a copy of which is on file in the MPO office.

Mr. Matson stated that the Community Characteristics Report uses census data and breaks the county down into logical communities by socio-economic variables. It is a detailed demographic breakdown given the statistical limitations on the census data.

Mr. Freeman stated that the majority of information in this report is based on information received from the 2015 data which is a midpoint range of the 2010 census and the 2020 census. Mr. Freeman expects to come back in a couple years and update the 2015 with 2020 data. This report is recommended by FDOT in their Administrative Handbook for MPO's as a way to provide information and make sure programs and projects are complying with Title VI (Non-discrimination Requirements).

Mr. Boling commented that there is a lot of good data incorporated in this report and asked how long after the 2020 census will the information be available. Mr. Freeman said the next update will possibly be done by the Summer of 2022, approximately three years from now.

Mr. Matson interjected that this report is very helpful and used by FDOT, planners, engineers, designers and others. This project really launched whole GIS department in the County. Mr. Matson encouraged the committee to share this information with others and stated it is on our website.

Chairman Powers concurred with the importance of this report as he asked Mr. Freeman how many people live on the east side of track and the west side of the track and Mr. Freeman was able to get him that information very quickly.

ON MOTION BY Mr. Falls, SECONDED BY Mr. Mathes, the members voted (9- 0) to recommend that the Metropolitan Planning Organization approve the Draft Community Characteristics Report as presented.

Consideration of the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Land Use and Socio-economic Data Development

No Action Required

Mr. Matson introduced Mike Brown from Transportation Planning Services, Inc. (TPS) who gave an overview of this Power Point presentation (TC 2045 Zonal Data).

Mr. Brown stated that an important tool in the development of the LRTP is the Travel Demand Forecast Model. Mr. Brown noted that Travel Demand Forecast Models are highly

dependent on data inputs. For the 2045 LRTP, two important early steps are determining how many people are expected to live in Indian River County in 2045 (also referred to as the Population Control Total) and identifying where those people will live (also referred to as the Population Allocation).

Mr. Brown stated the last time this model was run the County was in a recession, so there were changes in the projected employment mix. Health services has had the biggest increase which is due to the elderly population.

Mr. Mathes commented on future retail trade employment reductions when currently there are high retail sites. Mr. Brown said this is a 30-year projection and with online shopping expected to increase, the question is how much longer with these brick and mortar retail sites still be around.

Mr. Mitts inquired are you still being required to utilize maximum density based on the vacant land? Mr. Brown replied, the maximum allowable vacancy in the zoning information as an upper threshold, but no, he computes the average effective density. The developer will not necessarily build the maximum units they will only build whatever the market will support.

Mr. Brown indicated that, basically, a model is run that feeds the other model. TPS will prepare a land use model based on where the computer predict people will relocate based on vacant land and the cost of that land. The model will first allocate population to a subdivision that's approved now, especially if it's a newer one with pool, clubhouse, gate, (i.e., Waterway Village). Then it might allocate population to older subdivisions, like VLE, which still have a lot of vacant lands and some of the older original areas of Sebastian, Indian River Heights, and so forth. Then it will probably look at where the new ground is going to be broken. We are seeing a lot of new ground being broken on the 58th corridor. Once the people are in, the travel demand model adjusts.

Mr. Mitts inquired as to whether concerning new growth and traffic projections, if a ratio is used? Mr. Brown replied, it's not a ratio per se, the model goes through a process determining matters with capacity on the roads, changing routes and the way the traffic is loaded on to the network. It's a lot more complicated than just a ratio.

Mr. Brown plans to send the data file to the MPO by July 8th for their review.

Status Report of Other MPO Advisory Committees

Mr. Matson stated the CAC last met on May 7th and recommended the MPO approve the Priority Projects Report and the Transportation Improvement Program. The MPO met on the following day and approved both of the documents, the TIP and the Priority Projects Report.

In September – October, depending on the FDOT’s time frame, the first cut of the work program should be public showing which projects from the Priority Projects Report are included in the schedule for next year.

Mr. Matson wanted to pay respects to Mr. Stan Boling for his years of service to the County and his community.

Other Business

There were none.

Comments from the Public

There were none.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.