

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, November 22, 2019 in the County Administration Building "B", Room B1-501, 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 Vice-Chairman **Jason Jeffries**, City of Vero Beach, Planning Department; **Cherry Stowe** (alternate), Town of Orchid; **Eric Menger**, City of Vero Beach, Airport Director; **Chris Stephenson** (alternate), Senior Resource Association; **Scott Baker**, City of Sebastian, Airport Director; **Danessa Chambers** (alternate) City of Vero Beach; **Kristin Daniels** IRC Budget Department; **Mark Mathes**, City of Fellsmere, City Manager; **Ken Griffin**, City of Sebastian, Engineering; **Lt. Mark Buffington** (alternate), IRC Sheriff's Office, Traffic Unit; **Rich Szpyrka**, IRC Public Works Director; **Roland DeBlois**, Interim IRC Community Development Director; **Jon Teske**, IRC School Board; and **Mira Skoroden**, FDOT (non-voting advisor).

MPOTAC members absent were **Chairman Noah Powers**, Town of Orchid, Manager (**Excused**); **Matthew Mitts**, City of Vero Beach, Public Works Director; **Lisa Frazier**, City of Sebastian (**Excused**); **Janie Hollingsworth**, IRC Traffic Engineering; **Karen Deigl**, Senior Resource Association; **Sgt. Kip Benham**, Town of Indian River Shores.

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 **Christine Fasiska**, **Dan Hiden**, **Eric Penfield**, FDOT; **Gustavo Schmidt**, Tylin International.

Call to Order

MPOTAC Vice Chairman Jeffries called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM at which time it was noted that a quorum was not present. At that point, the Vice Chairman moved to the next item on the agenda.

Consideration of the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Schedule.

No Action Required

Mr. Matson gave a brief overview of the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Schedule. According to State and Federal Law, all MPO's must adopt an update to their Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) every 5 years. LRTP's form the basis of the Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP), FDOT's Five-Year budget for transportation projects in the Metropolitan Area.

Mr. Matson further noted that State and Federal regulations require that the MPO prepare a 2045 update to its adopted 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) by January 1, 2021. To meet this goal, the MPO authorized staff to undertake a new LRTP update in the spring of this year. Since that time, several activities have been undertaken. Some of these include socio-economic data development; travel demand model validation; revenue estimation at the state and federal level; and an evaluation of compliance with Goals, Objectives, and Policies.

In the coming year, the anticipation is that LRTP activities will increase substantially. To identify major milestones and dates, staff has developed the attached Draft 2045 LRTP Update Schedule. The schedule shows the important milestone dates for these meetings. The MPO expects to have financial analysis in March, and the needs portion in May, June, and July. This is where staff will start evaluating project restrictions based on our financial limitations. In October, staff would like to have a preliminary plan in place so that in December final adoption may occur.

Mr. Teske entered @ 10:07 AM

Mr. Menger entered @ 10:17 AM

A quorum was now present.

Approval of Minutes of the MPOTAC and MPOCAC Joint Meeting of October 1, 2019

MPOTAC Vice Chairman Jefferies asked if there were any additions or corrections to the MPOTAC and MPOCAC Joint Meeting minutes of October 1, 2019. There were none.

ON MOTION by Mr. Szyrka SECONDED by Mr. Mathes, the members voted (10-0) to approve the October 1, 2019 Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee meeting minutes as presented.

FDOT Presentation on I-95 Multimodal Master Plan

No Action Required

Mr. Matson introduced Ms. Christine Fasiska and Mr. Eric Penfield, from FDOT, who provided an update of the I-95 Multimodal Master Plan. Ms. Fasiska went over the new Managed Lane policy recently adopted by FDOT. Mr. Penfield provided a portion of the presentation concerning lane designation, managed lanes and how it is incorporated into the I-95 Multimodal Master Plan. A copy of this presentation is on file in the MPO office.

Mr. Penfield further expounded on a couple of areas. There will be lengthening of the deceleration lane at the SR 60 Interchange. The Fellsmere Road Interchange will incorporate turn lane improvements at the 108th Avenue intersection, just east of I-95. There have been some comments received concerning the area of Fellsmere Road in the westbound direction. Currently designed as a drop-left turn lane, the concern of drivers feeling trapped in that turn lane has been voiced. Mr. Penfield related that the department has been looking into this and is working with the Traffic Operations team to develop solutions. There is another issue with the Welcome Center turn lanes. FDOT's Traffic Operations team has performed a field investigation with local officials, done some research, and will be working to develop solutions.

Mr. Szyrka stated this topic will be brought up at the next MPO meeting and wanted Mr. Penfield aware of this so that FDOT will be able to properly address these concerns. Mr. Penfield stated his appreciation for the heads up.

There was a discussion on what is involved in the designation of managed lanes, and if they can be used for general purpose. Mr. Penfield and Ms. Fasiska addressed these questions and concerns adequately.

Update on Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects

Mr. Matson introduced Mr. Jim Mann, MPO Senior Planner, who will give an update on Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects. A copy of this presentation is on file in the MPO office.

Since the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan's inception in 2015, corridors of bike/ped facilities have been built, or have funding to be built. The information presented will be an update of projects that have been completed or are programmed to be completed, from the tables within the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.

Mr. Mathes interjected that CR 512 from Willow to I-95 was incorporated with the resurfacing. Mr. Mann thanked Mr. Mathes for that update. Mr. Mann solicited the committee for their input on projects they would like to see added, or that are completed, but not noted. Mr. Mann further expounded the MPO is grateful for all of the work and assistance received with these projects around the county.

Mr. Mann solicited any questions from the committee. Mr. Jon Teske from the IRC School Board commented National Bike to School Day is May 6th. Mr. Teske would like to coordinate a meeting with MPO Staff and the Sheriff's Department to lay out the safest route possible for that day. Mr. Matson interjected that MPO will set up a meeting to further discuss this as there are a variety of different scenarios involved.

Status Report of MPO Advisory Committees

No Action Required

Mr. Matson reviewed his memorandum, dated November 15, 2019, included in the agenda packet and on file in the MPO Office. Also noting the next meeting dates for the MPO and its advisory committees.

Other Business

MPO Certification

Mr. Matson referred to his memorandum dated November 14, 2019, included in the agenda packet and on file in the MPO Office. At this point Mr. Matson reviewed the certification process and stated it is not required to take action on this item, but asked that the TAC formally accept this certification.

ON MOTION by Mr. Mathes SECONDED by Ms. Daniels, the members voted (13-0) to approve the MPO Annual Certification Statement as presented.

Comments from the Public

Vice Chairman Jeffries remarked the City of Vero Beach is currently working on the Three Corners Project. The Three Corners property is the location of the former power plant site and sewer plant. There is a website titled Speak up Vero and the City is soliciting comments from the public. Comments are open to all citizens in Indian River County. The City will host charrettes in January for further discussions.

Adjournment

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