

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Indian River County (IRC) Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was held at 10:00 AM on Friday, August 28, 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/TAC/2020.htm>

TAC members present: Chairman **Noah Powers**, Town of Orchid, Manager; **Jason Jeffries**, City of Vero Beach (10:10am); **Andy Sobczak**, IRC Community Development (alternate); **Ruth Bommarito**, (alternate), IRC Budget Department; **Rich Spyrka**, IRC Public Works Director; **Nicolas Rojas**, (alternate), City of Fellsmere (10:05am); **Sgt. Kip Benham**, Indian River Shores; **Scott Baker**, City of Sebastian, Airport Director; **Robert Loring**, (alternate), City of Sebastian, Engineering; **Matthew Mitts**, City of Vero Beach, Public Works Director (10:05am); **William Howard**, City of Vero Beach, Airport; **Jon Teske**, IRC School Board; **Lt. Mark Buffington**, (alternate) IRC Sheriff’s Office; **Chris Stephenson**, (alternate), Senior Resource Association, and **Michael Hicks**, FDOT (non-voting advisor).

Also present were IRC Staff: **Brian Freeman**, MPO Staff Director; **Jim Mann**, MPO Senior Planner; **Patti Johnson**, MPO Staff Assistant III & Recording Secretary. Others present included **William Roll** and **Zach Chappell**, Kimley-Horn & Associates; **John Podczerwinsky**, **Victoria Williams**, and **Caryn Gardner-Young**, FDOT; **M. Thornton**.

TAC members absent: **Ken Griffin**, City of Sebastian (excused).

Call to Order

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

Roll Call of the MPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Members.

The MPO Recording Secretary performed a roll call of the committee members with those present responding. The following members or alternates were present: Noah Powers, Andy Sobczak, Ruth Bommarito, Rich Spyrka, Sgt. Kip Benham, Scott Baker, Robert Loring, William Howard, Jon Teske, Lt. Mark Buffington, Chris Stephenson, and Michael Hicks.

It was noted at this time that a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes of May 22, 2020 Meeting.

Action Required

MPOTAC Chairman Powers asked if there were any additions or corrections to the TAC Meeting minutes of May 22, 2020. Mr. Loring wanted the minutes to reflect that Ms. Lisa Frazier was present at that meeting.

ON MOTION by Mr. Baker and SECONDED by Sgt. Kip Benham, the members voted (11-0) to approve the May 22, 2020 Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee meeting minutes with the necessary correction.

Mr. Mitts and Mr. Rojas joined the meeting at 10:05am; Mr. Jeffries joined the meeting at 10:10am.

Consideration of Long Range Transportation Plan – Draft Cost Feasible Plan Concepts.

Action Required

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

Mr. Roll reminded the Committee the deadline to approve this plan is December 2020. Failure to adopt the plan by the deadline puts the risk of denial for federal funding. The next step in this process will be to look at these jobs and see which projects should be moved into years 6-10.

Mr. Freeman added, for those who are familiar with the 2040 plan that was adopted five years ago, if you look at the table of projects, it is basically the same as you see today. Projects that are high priority like the Oslo Road Interchange and CR510 are included in this plan. The Aviation Blvd. and US 1 intersection is considered a major roadway improvement. This will potentially be an overpass going over US 1 making an extension of Aviation Blvd. to the hospital on 37th Street.

Mr. Howard inquired as to the Aviation Blvd. and US 1 intersection. The first part of this project is called PD&E, and what are the other parts involved. Mr. Freeman replied yes, FDOT will undertake this project and it is scheduled to formally take off in about a year. A very detailed analysis and report will be prepared. Next will be the basic concept of what the improvement will be. FDOT will have to look at the proximity to the Airport, runway approaches etc. Once the PD&E is completed, the concept of the project will be established.

Mr. Howard continued, depending on the scope of the project, the Airport might need

to lobby for funds, when should they begin? Mr. Freeman replied it would depend on the scope of the project as it is defined in the PD&E. All of this activity will occur over the next five years.

Chairman Powers opened the floor for additional comments from the board. There being none, the item was open for motion.

ON MOTION by Mr. Spyrka and SECONDED by Ms. Bommarito, the members voted (14-0) to recommend approval of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) – Draft Cost Feasible Plan Concepts.

Consideration of the 2020 Transit Development Plan Annual Update

Action Required

Mr. Freeman provided a power point presentation and explained the Transit Development Plan (TDP) requires that major updates are required every five years. The update is a component to obtain funding in the Public Transportation Block Grant. A copy of this power point presentation is on file in the MPO office.

Mr. Freeman continued, the last time the survey was done, there were over 700 responses received. This demonstrates the community interest and their involvement in this service.

For the past 15 years, there has been a continued increase in ridership. Even during the COVID shut down, the numbers decreased but as of this month, we are showing the same numbers as past years.

Under the capital program, vehicle replacements are ongoing as well as several bus shelter constructions. Bus shelters have increased with ten constructed this year alone. There is also up for discussion on the construction of a new North County Transit Hub.

Chairman Powers opened the floor for comments from the board. There being none, the item was open for motion.

ON MOTION by Mr. Spyrka and SECONDED by Mr. Teske the members voted (14-0) to recommend approval of the 2020 Transit Development Plan Annual Update.

Consideration of Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments

Action Required

Mr. Freeman introduced Mr. Jim Mann who gave a synopsis of the Transportation

Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments. Further stating at the end of each state fiscal year, FDOT typically requests a roll-forward amendment to the TIP. Approval of the roll-forward amendment to the TDP ensures that the included projects can continue from FDOT's FY 2019/20 Work Program into the new 2020/21 Work Program. The attached Roll-Forward Report, provided from FDOT, lists the projects that will carry forward into the new work program.

Chairman Powers opened the floor for comments from the board. There being none, the item was open for motion.

ON MOTION by Mr. Spyrka and SECONDED by Mr. Teske the members voted (14-0) to recommend approval of the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) Amendments.

Status Report of MPO Advisory Committees.

No Action Required

Mr. Freeman reviewed his memorandum, dated August 19, 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.

Other Business

There was none.

Comments from the Public

There was none.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:36 AM.