

1 SARASOTA/MANATEE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

2
3 SUDAKOFF CENTER

4 New College

5 5700 North Tamiami Trail

6 Sarasota, Florida

7
8 9:30 A.M.

9
10 **MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 22, 2009**

11
12 Chair Patterson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Mayor Groover Bryant provided an invocation
13 followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Nanette Eubanks, Office Manager, confirmed a quorum was
14 present.

15
16 **PRESENT**

17
18 **City of Sarasota**

19 Commissioner Terry Turner

20 Vice Mayor Kelly Kirschner

21
22 **City of North Port**

23 Commissioner David Garofalo

24
25 **Manatee County**

26 Commissioner Larry Bustle

27 Commissioner Donna Hayes

28 Commissioner Chappie for

29 Commissioner Joe McClash

30
31 **City of Bradenton**

32 Councilwoman Marianne Barnebey

33
34 **City of Venice**

35 Councilwoman Vicki Noren Taylor

36
37 **Sarasota County**

38 Commissioner Joseph Barbetta

39 Commissioner Nora Patterson

40 Commissioner Jon Thaxton

41
42 **City of Palmetto**

43 Mayor Shirley Groover Bryant

44
45 **Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority**

46 Commissioner Bob Waechter

47
48 **City of Holmes Beach (ITPO)**

49 Mayor Rich Bohnenberger

50
51 **Town of Longboat Key**

52 Mayor Lee Rothenberg

53
54 **Non-Voting Members**

55 District Secretary Stan Cann, FDOT

MPO Staff

Michael Howe, Executive Director

Nanette Eubanks, Office Manager

Bob Herrington, Planning Manager

Others

Rod Warner, CAC Chair

Leon Kotecki, TAC Chair

Richard Thomas, Citizen

Ben Walker, FDOT

Chris Birosak, FDOT

Ted Smith, Delcan Group

Richard Thomas, Citizen

Mike Gippert, Citizen

Rob Cribs, Citizen

Shakira T. Crandol, FHWA

Carey Shepherd, FHWA

Carl J. Mikyska, FHWA

Elizabeth Martin, FTA

ABSENT

None

1
2 Chair Patterson recognized Commissioner John Chappie, alternate for Commissioner Joe McClash, and
3 welcomed new City of Sarasota Board Member, Commissioner Terry Turner.
4

5 **SPECIAL ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING**

6 **Please note that the following public hearing item was scheduled for 9:30 a.m. or reasonably**
7 **thereafter and was advertised accordingly.**
8

9 Sarasota/Manatee Transportation Management Area (TMA) Federal Certification Review

10 Ms. Shakira T. Crandol, Transportation Planner, U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway
11 Administration, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Federal Certification Review of the
12 Sarasota/Manatee MPO to be conducted on June 22nd and 23rd of 2009 by Federal Highway
13 Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).
14
15

16 Federal requirements call for FHWA and FTA to jointly certify the transportation planning processes in
17 metropolitan areas with over 200,000 population (Transportation Management Areas [TMAs] at least
18 every four years).
19

20 TMA Certification Reviews utilize a process that consists of four primary activities for each review:
21

- 22 (a) A “desk review” of selected TMA planning process documents;
23
24 (b) A site visit with staffs from the TMA’s various planning agencies (including the MPO,
25 Florida Department of Transportation [FDOT], local/regional transit service provider, and
26 other participating State/local agencies), including opportunities for local elected officials and
27 the general public (particularly the traditionally underserved and traditionally
28 underrepresented) to provide comments on the TMA planning process;
29
30 (c) FHWA/FTA preparation of a *TMA Certification Review Report* that documents the
31 certification review’s findings; and
32
33 (d) A formal FHWA Division Office presentation of the review’s findings and FHWA/FTA
34 certification action at a future meeting of the respective MPO Policy Board.
35

36 Chair Patterson opened the Public Hearing.

- 37
38 - Mr. Richard Thomas, Citizen, spoke regarding the first priority of the
39 Sarasota/Manatee MPO for public transportation should be to fund improved inter-
40 county transit service operating in the US 41 corridor as stated in the MPO’s Public
41 Transportation System Analysis (PTSA).
42 - Mr. Rob Cribs, Citizen, stated he has been attending MPO Board meetings and its
43 Committee meetings as a member of the public over the past five years and has always
44 found complete cooperation from all of the MPO Staff.
45

46 Chair Patterson closed the public hearing.
47

48 The FHWA will accept public comments regarding the TMA Certification of the Sarasota/Manatee MPO
49 until July 23, 2009. Comments may be made in writing and mailed to the attention of Ms. Shakira
50 Crandol, FHWA, in care of the MPO at 7632 15th Street East, Sarasota, Florida 34243 or mailed directly
51 to Ms. Crandol at FHWA Florida Division Office, 545 John Knox Road, Suite 200, Tallahassee, Florida

1 32303. Ms. Crandol may also be contacted via email at shakira.crandol@fhwa.dot.gov or by calling 850-
2 942-9650, ext. 3063. The final report or PowerPoint presented may be requested through the same
3 contact information.
4

5
6 **I. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

7
8 No one from the public came forward.
9

10
11 **II. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

12
13 1. Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority (TBARTA)

14
15 Commissioner Hayes reported on the following:

- 16
17 - TBARTA adopted its Master Plan at its May 22, 2009 meeting.
18 - Received comments from the Citizens Advisory Committee of TBARTA and
19 members of the public.
20 - 25,000 citizens participated via email or telephone in the iTownHall meeting
21 hosted by TBARTA.
22 - Hillsborough County is planning a Passenger Rail route to begin at Fowler
23 by the University of South Florida (USF), go downtown then West over to
24 Pinellas and hook up with Pasco County to the North. Manatee and Sarasota
25 Counties are ready to be the second project, possible Express Bus Service
26 from Manatee to Sarasota County.
27 - More information may be found at <http://twitter.com/TBARTA>.
28

29 Chair Patterson reported on the following:

- 30
31 - At this point TBARTA's Plan is largely a map of the spine routes between
32 the counties.
33 - Mayor Pam Iorio, City of Tampa, presented TBARTA with generalized
34 principles that she felt required discussion. Sarasota County presented
35 similar generalized principles approximately a year ago, creating an overlap
36 with what Mayor Iorio proposed and what was originally proposed by
37 Sarasota County.
38 - Logistics will need to be determined before it is decided who pays for what.
39 - TBARTA will be following Hillsborough County with interest to see if the
40 transit penny goes to referendum as proposed.
41

42
43 **III. CHAIR'S REPORT**

44
45 1. Chair Patterson reported on the following:

- 46
47 - The Chair, along with several MPO Board Members, attended a presentation at
48 University of South Florida (USF) comprised of several transportation leaders
49 including FDOT Secretary Stephanie Kopelousos regarding Public/Private
50 Partnerships.

- 1 - Secretary Kopelousos noted no one from the public was interested in the
2 Alligator Alley proposal.
3

4
5 **IV. MPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

6
7 1. Mr. Howe reported on the following:

- 8
9 - Requested a motion to ratify the Chair's authority on several amendments
10 that were exercised on Stimulus projects under Tab #3 of Members
11 notebooks; i.e. boundary changes for the Town of Longboat Key and the City
12 of Anna Maria.

13
14 Commissioner Thaxton: I move to approve.

15
16 Commissioner Hayes: I second the motion.

17
18 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 19
20 - Pointed out an Addendum to the Consent Section of the Agenda regarding an
21 Amendment to the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for additional
22 money received from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
23 (approximately \$19,000).
24 - Announced the July 27, 2009 MPO Board meeting will be held at the Selby
25 Auditorium, University of South Florida (USF) Sarasota-Manatee Campus.
26

27 **V. CAC/TAC CHAIR'S REPORT**

28
29 Mr. Rod Warner, CAC Chair, reported on the activities of the June 3, 2009 CAC meeting.

30
31 Mr. Leon Kotecki, TAC Chair, reported on the activities of the June 8, 2009 TAC meeting.
32

33
34 **VI. FDOT REPORT**

35
36 1. Secretary Cann reported on the following:

37
38 § FDOT held a Funding Exercise to reduce the Program and balance the
39 budget overall which including taking a %120 million sweep of the
40 Transportation Trust Fund.

41 § The impact of the reduction of the Transportation Trust Fund will be \$171
42 million within the next fiscal year (FY). Changes to the Program will be in
43 FY 2010.

44 § FDOT will notify MPO Staff of impacts, if any, to the Sarasota or Manatee
45 Counties Program for the next fiscal year.
46

47
48 **VII. CONSENT SECTION**

49
50 Commissioner Hayes: I move approval of the Consent Agenda and Addendum.
51

1 Commissioner Thaxton: I second the motion.
2

3 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
4

5 The Consent Items approved were:
6

7 1. Approval of Meeting Minutes
8

9 The May 4, 2009 Board Meeting minutes were approved.
10

11 2. Administrative Amendment to the FY 2008/09-FY 2012/13 Transportation Improvement
12 Program (TIP)
13

14 Approved the request by Manatee County Area Transit (MCAT) and Sarasota County
15 Area Transit (SCAT) to adjust funds to conform to the Federal Transit Administration's
16 (FTA) supplemental allocations.
17

18
19 3. Joint Certification Statement on the Metropolitan Planning Process
20

21 Approved the Joint Certification Statement and authorized the MPO Chair to execute
22 same.
23

24 4. FY 2008/09-2009/10 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment -
25 (ADDENDUM)
26

27 Approved an amendment to the FY 2008/09-2009/10 UPWP.
28
29

30 **VIII. ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING**

31 **Please note the following public hearing items were scheduled for 10:00 a.m. or reasonably**
32 **thereafter and were advertised accordingly.**
33

34 1. FY 2009/2010 – 2013/2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
35

36 Mr. Howe explained the process to develop the TIP started in July 2008 when the MPO
37 Board adopted its Project Priority List. That list was forwarded to FDOT for it to prepare its
38 Draft Tentative Five Year Work Program which includes roadway improvements,
39 enhancement, bridge, safety and public transportation projects (i.e. transit, aviation, port,
40 intermodal and transportation disadvantaged program projects).
41

42 At the December 2008 MPO Board meeting, FDOT presented the Draft Tentative Five Year
43 Work Program that addressed the priorities that were set by the MPO Board in July, 2008.
44 The TIP must be submitted to FDOT by July 15, 2009.
45

46 Mr. Howe pointed out additional changes to the TIP:
47

- 48 1) In May the MPO Board took action to replace the US 301 project with the North
49 Cattlemen Road project due to US 301 being funded with Stimulus money.
50

1 2) The City of Sarasota is requesting to replace the current MPO highest-ranked
2 Congestion Management Project, Dynamic Message Signs, with the second
3 ranked project, the Pineapple Avenue/Ringling Boulevard Roundabout. At this
4 time the City cannot commit staff and operating expenses for the proposed
5 Dynamic Message Signs.
6

7 3) A request by the City of Venice to move the Enhancement Funds for the US 41
8 Business Public Bus Shelter project from Fiscal Year 2009/10 to Fiscal Year
9 2010/11. Due to a time sensitive easement issue, construction of the project will
10 not commence until after July of 2010 which is the start of the Fiscal Year for the
11 FDOT. Movement of these funds to the next cycle will allow the City adequate
12 time to pursue resolution of the easement issue.
13

14 Mr. Howe pointed out that in a tough funding year the Sarasota-Manatee area received \$31
15 million for right-of-way for the middle segment of the Number 1 Priority, US 41 Venice
16 Bypass.
17

18 Chair Patterson opened the advertised Public Hearing.
19

20 Councilwoman Taylor: I move to adopt the FY 2009/10-2013/14 TIP with the noted
21 changes.
22

23 Commissioner Hayes: I second the motion.
24

25 Vice Mayor Kirschner stated the City of Sarasota held discussions regarding roundabouts on
26 US 41 and the City's decision was to look at just one intersection to design and build a
27 roundabout within the next three years. The City does have funding for the construction of a
28 roundabout downtown at Ringling and Palm scheduled for the coming fiscal year and asked
29 is there a way to reprioritize those funds into the project design for this roundabout on US 41
30 and possibly 10th Street or US 41 and 14th Street. Mr. Howe responded it is not too late, the
31 City should work with the FDOT on design and bring the request back at a later date. Vice
32 Mayor Kirschner stated the City will hold a public hearing in July regarding this project and
33 he will then bring the request back to the Board.
34

35 Hearing no one from the public Chair Patterson closed the Public Hearing.
36

37 Chair Patterson requested a vote by the show of hands:
38

- 1 Commissioner Waechter yes
- 2 Mayor Rothenberg yes
- 3 Councilwoman Barnebey yes
- 4 Commissioner Thaxton yes
- 5 Commissioner Chappie yes
- 6 Mayor Bohnenberger yes
- 7 Vice Mayor Kirschner yes
- 8 Commissioner Garofalo yes
- 9 Commissioner Hayes yes
- 10 Commissioner Patterson yes
- 11 Commissioner Turner yes
- 12 Councilwoman Noren Taylor yes
- 13 Mayor Groover Bryant yes
- 14 Commissioner Barbetta yes
- 15 Commissioner Bustle yes

16
17 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

18
19 Chair Patterson requested a presentation from the City of Sarasota regarding the roundabout
20 at a future meeting.

21
22 2. Sarasota/Manatee MPO Draft Public Participation Plan (PPP)

23
24 The purpose of the update is to bring the Public Participation Plan (PPP) into full compliance
25 with the latest Federal transportation legislation, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient
26 Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). In addition, pursuant to
27 Executive Order 13166: Improving Access to Service for Persons with Limited English
28 Proficiency the PPP now includes a demographic analysis of the MPO area that identifies
29 those areas with citizens who meet the criteria for Limited English Proficiency (LEP), and a
30 plan to provide an opportunity for those citizens to participate in the MPO planning process.

31
32 Pursuant to Federal and State regulations and Sarasota/Manatee Metropolitan Planning
33 Organization (MPO) Policy, a draft Public Participation Plan (PPP) was released for
34 public comment for a forty-five (45) day period prior to consideration by the MPO
35 Board. The draft PPP was made available to the public at the MPO office, the MPO
36 website and at all governmental administration buildings and public libraries.

37
38 Chair Patterson opened the advertised Public Hearing. Hearing no one from the public,
39 Chair Patterson closed the Public Hearing.

40
41 Mayor Groover Bryant: I move to adopt the PPP.

42
43 Commissioner Garofalo: I second the motion.

44
45 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

46
47
48 **IX. BOARD ACTION**

49
50 1. Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

51

1 Mr. Herrington explained in March of 2008, the MPO Board authorized staff to execute
2 Professional Services Agreements with three selected firms to serve as General Planning
3 Consultants for professional transportation planning services on a task assignment basis.
4

5 Mr. Herrington explained one of the tasks listed in the Scope of Services of the Agreements
6 was the completion of the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update. The LRTP
7 Update is an eighteen month process which will need to commence in July, 2009 to meet the
8 December, 2010 Federal Highway due date.
9

10 After consideration by MPO staff of the experience and Proposals of the three General
11 Planning Consultants under contract with the MPO, it was determined that the Renaissance
12 Planning Group (RPG) would be best suited to complete this task.
13

14 Renaissance has conducted various studies and projects for the Sarasota/Manatee MPO and
15 its member jurisdictions, including the previous 2030 LRTP Update. Renaissance has also
16 recently opened a local office in Sarasota.
17

18 The draft Scope of Work includes a cost of \$275,803 that is approximately \$100,000 less than
19 the previous LRTP Update conducted in 2005.
20

21 Commissioner Bustle: I move to authorize the Chair to sign a Work Task Assignment to
22 the Renaissance Planning Group for the completion of the 2035
23 LRTP Update.
24

25 Commissioner Barbetta: I second the motion.
26

27 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
28
29
30

31 **X. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**
32

33 1. Regional and Local Transportation Enhancement Programs
34

35 Mr. Walker stated FDOT has just announced a new Regional Enhancement Program and
36 revised Local Enhancement Program for FDOT District One. He explained that FDOT's
37 revised program splits the enhancement program into two parts. One part would be for
38 "Regional" trails and corridors and the other part would continue to fund "Local"
39 enhancement projects. The most significant change is in the funding of the "Local"
40 enhancement which would now be on a competitive basis with the other 5 MPOs and total 12
41 counties in District One. While the Sarasota/Manatee MPO would continue to prioritize its
42 "Local" enhancement priorities it would no longer be assured the \$300,000-\$400,000 for
43 each county area each year as these priorities would now compete with the other MPOs and
44 rural counties. Possible positive aspects of this change is the fact FDOT is raising the
45 individual project maximum from \$300,000 to \$600,000 and an opportunity to fund more
46 than one project per year.
47

48 As to the "Regional" program, FDOT will annually set aside \$1.2 million for award within
49 the District. But, in order to jump start this new "Regional" program, FDOT is only funding
50 "Regional" projects in Fiscal Year 2014/2015 (no local allocations). FDOT District One
51 normally receives about \$3.5 million to \$4 million annually in Federal Enhancement funds.

1 In addition, in order to qualify for award of these Regional Projects, the MPO must adopt a
2 prioritized list from those submitted and then negotiate a "rank ordered" list with our regional
3 partners. As with the Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) the
4 Sarasota/Manatee MPO has two regional partners so we can submit two lists. The partners
5 are the Polk TPO as part of the West Central Florida Chairs Coordinating Committee (CCC)
6 and the Charlotte County-Punta Florida MPO via an Interlocal Agreement.
7

8 FDOT seeks local prioritized enhancement projects for the Fiscal Years 2011/2012 through
9 2013/2014, the Sarasota/Manatee MPO has already submitted priorities for those years.
10 Basically, FDOT has had the Local Enhancement Program on hold for the past three (3) years
11 in order to develop a new program. But, this MPO did continue to submit enhancement
12 priorities each year (FY 2011/123-2013/14). Without awarding funds to priorities, FDOT did
13 set aside (box) the historic level of funds of \$300,000 each year for each county area. FDOT
14 will honor its past practice for the local funds for those 3 years because of this MPO's and its
15 jurisdictions reliance and the uncertainty of the criteria of a new program. In other words, the
16 Sarasota/Manatee MPO area should receive a minimum of \$300,000 per county area for each
17 Fiscal Year 2011/2012-2013/2014 and potentially more as the local program is now
18 competitive and project cap is now \$600,000.
19

20 Vice Mayor Kirschner asked if the current project priorities would be scrapped and the new
21 program would start from zero. Mr. Walker responded no, that FDOT intends on honoring
22 previous years' priorities. FDOT is looking at the outer years toward programming the new
23 policy.
24

25 Vice Mayor Kirschner asked since Regional Priorities are due by August 31, 2009 if same
26 would be an agenda item for the July MPO Board meeting. Mr. Howe responded yes and
27 explained Committees have started meeting and local priorities have already been adopted
28 that will be presented to the Board at its July meeting. The challenge then will be with this
29 MPO's regional partners, Polk TPO and Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO, in establishing
30 a ranked prioritized regional list.

31 Commissioner Thaxton questioned the rule that states a regional trail is required to go
32 through multiple counties. Mr. Walker responded this is just one of the types of definitions; a
33 trail does not have to go through two counties, but if it does, it helps qualify the trail.
34 Commissioner Thaxton asked if same would apply with a trail going through multiple
35 jurisdictions. Mr. Walker answered yes. Discussion ensued regarding the rules and trail
36 projects.
37

38 Mr. Mike Gippert, Citizen, stated the Friends of the Legacy Trail is very interested in seeing
39 if the County could acquire some of the Enhancement funding for an overpass on US 41 at
40 the Trail in Venice which would reduce or even eliminate a crucial safety problem. He asked
41 the Board to keep the request of a overpass in mind as they go forward with Enhancement
42 priorities. Mr. Howe pointed out the MPO's Technical Advisory Committee's (TAC)
43 Subcommittee met last week and scored what potentially could be some Regional
44 Enhancement Projects that will go to the full TAC and MPO Board in July for adoption. At
45 the Subcommittee meeting the Legacy Trail overpass Mr. Gippert was referring to was
46 ranked and scored #1 out of the 5 Regional Projects and will most likely be the
47 recommendation to the Board in July.
48

49 Chair Patterson asked the cost of the overpass project. Mr. Howe answered the cost
50 submitted by Sarasota County is approximately \$4 million.
51

1 Chair Patterson commended the volunteers of the Friends of the Legacy Trail. The County
2 would not be able to operate the trail without them.

3
4 2. City of Sarasota Signal Timing Project

5
6 The agenda item was deferred by the City of Sarasota.

7
8 3. Regional Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Teams

9
10 Mr. Chris Birozak and Mr. Ted Smith, Delcan, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding
11 The Traffic Incident Management Team, a group of organizations meeting regularly to
12 identify issues, and develop improved traffic incident management operations through
13 coordination, communication and cooperation. More information may be found at
14 www.swfltim.org.

15
16
17 **IX. NEXT MEETING DATE**

18
19 The next regular MPO Board Meeting will be held July 27, 2009 at the Selby Auditorium located
20 on the University of South Florida (USF) Sarasota-Manatee Campus.

21
22
23 **X. ADJOURNMENT**

24
25 Chair Patterson adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.
26
27