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2 **SARASOTA/MANATEE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**
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4
5 8009 15th Street East
6 Sarasota, Florida 34243
7

8 **9:30 A.M.**
9

10 **MINUTES FOR APRIL 27, 2015**
11

12 Chair Bennett called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Commissioner Alan Maio, Sarasota County,
13 provided the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Nanette Eubanks, Office Manager,
14 confirmed a quorum was present.
15

16 **PRESENT**

17
18 **Sarasota County**

19 Commissioner Alan Maio

20 Commissioner Christine Robinson

21 Commissioner Charles Hines

22
23 **Manatee County**

24 Commissioner Vanessa Baugh

25 Commissioner Larry Bustle

26 Commissioner Betsy Benac

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28 **City of Sarasota**

29 Vice Mayor Susan Chapman

30 Mayor Willie Shaw

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32 **City of North Port**

33 Commissioner Linda Yates

34 Vice Mayor Jacqueline Moore

35
36 **City of Venice**

37 Councilman Jim Bennett

38
39 **Island Transportation Planning**

40 **Organization (ITPO)**

41 Mayor Bill Shearon, Bradenton Beach

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43 **City of Palmetto**

44 Mayor Shirley Groover Bryant

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46 **Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority**

47 Commissioner Jack Rynerson
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48 **Town of Longboat Key**

49 Commissioner Jack Daly

51 **Non-Voting Advisors**

52 Secretary Billy Hattaway, FDOT District One

54 **ABSENT**

56 **City of Bradenton**

57 Councilman Patrick Roff

58 Councilman Gene Brown

60 **MPO Staff**

61 Michael Howe, Executive Director

62 Nanette Eubanks, Office Manager

63 David Hutchinson, Planning Manager

64 Mike Maholtz, Senior Transportation Planner

65 Colleen McGue, Transportation Planner

67 **Others**

68 Dorian Popescu, CAC Chair

69 Claude Tankersley, TAC Chair

70 Roxann Lake, FDOT

71 Vicki, Nighswander, Citizen

72 Julius Rauch, Citizen

73 Nick Lepp, Renaissance Planning Group

74 Michael Adams, Adkins

75 Ray Chiaramonte, TBARTA

79 Chair Bennett recognized and welcomed new Board Member, Commissioner Jack Daly, Town of Longboat
80 Key and Senator Jim Sebesta. Certificates of Appreciation were presented by Chair Bennett to Dr. Robert
81 DiSabatino, City of Bradenton Citizen Member, and Ms. Paula Wiggins, Sarasota County, for outstanding
82 service on the Bicycle/Pedestrian/Trails Advisory Committee (BPTAC).
83

1 **I. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

- 2
- 3 1. Ms. Vicki, Nighswander, Citizen, expressed concern with issues created by growth. She
4 suggested consideration of crash data to be included in the planning process and for
5 developers, fire/rescue/police, hospital personnel, etc. to meet annually and discuss the
6 impact of growth.
- 7
- 8 2. Mr. Julius Rauch, Citizen, suggested reserving right-of-way for future use would assist in
9 alleviating traffic issues

10

11

12 **II. CAC/TAC CHAIR'S REPORT**

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14 Mr. Dorian Popescu, Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) Chair, reported on the activities of the
15 April 2, 2015 CAC meeting.

16

17 Mr. Mike Maholtz, MPO Staff, on behalf of Claude Tankersley, Technical Advisory Committee
18 (TAC) Chair, reported on the activities of the April 13, 2015 TAC meeting.

19

20

21 **III. PTTF REPORT (Public Transportation Task Force)**

22

23 The PTTF did not meet in April.

24

25

26 **IV. FDOT REPORT**

27

28 Ms. Roxann Lake, FDOT, reported on the following:

- 29
- 30 ~ The Department is in the process of setting up a meeting with Manatee County Traffic
31 Management Center (TMC) Staff, FDOT Timing Staff, City of Bradenton Staff and the City
32 of Palmetto Staff to discuss traffic management for both the Green and DeSoto bridges. The
33 strategy is to discuss the limitations, possibilities (i.e. special timing plans for spring training
34 etc.) and be prepared for the next peak season with either a plan to manage congestion or to
35 have facts in hand to show the network is above capacity to handle the increase in traffic.
 - 36 ~ The project to add right turn lanes at the foot of the Green Bridge at 3rd Avenue and
37 Manatee Avenue along 9th Street West is programmed for construction in 2018.
 - 38 ~ Regarding the Central Manatee Network Alternatives Analysis (CMNAA), FDOT is still
39 focused on establishing the existing condition and preparing for the analysis phase of the
40 study that will identify projects that achieve the improvement goals.

41

42 Mr. Ryan Weeks, FDOT, provided a short PowerPoint presentation regarding upcoming projects:

- 43
- 44 ~ East Bay Drive/Gulf Drive North Pedestrian Improvements Project (SR 789) from 27th
45 Street to Manatee Avenue (SR 64)
 - 46 ~ Martin Luther King Boulevard and 15th Street East Intersection Improvement Project
 - 47 ~ Legacy Trail Pedestrian Bridge over Laurel Road
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2 **V. MPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**
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4 Mr. Michael Howe reported on the following:
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- 6 - Thanked Congressman Buchanan for arranging a visit by Congressman Bill Shuster, current
7 House Chair for the Transportation Commission.
- 8 - Announced the Florida Transportation Commission (FTC) will be holding its meeting at the
9 Lakewood Ranch Town Hall on May 6, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The FTC will tour
10 Port Manatee on May 5, 2015.

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13 **VI. CHAIR'S REPORT**
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15 Chair Bennett reported on the following:
16

- 17 - Announced Mr. Jeff Kramer, formally of the Center for Urban Transportation Research
18 (CUTR), has been named the new Executive Director for the Metropolitan Planning
19 Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC).
- 20 - Encouraged Members to continue to send information regarding traffic signal issues to Ms.
21 McGue, MPO Staff (Colleen@MyMPO.org).

22
23
24 **VII. CONSENT SECTION**
25

26 Chair Bennett noted there was an Addendum to the Consent Section.
27

28 Commissioner Benac: I move approval of the consent agenda with the Addendum as
29 presented.
30

31 Mayor Groover Bryant: I second the motion.
32

33 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
34

35 The consent items approved were:
36

37 1. Approval of Meeting Minutes
38

39 The March 23, 2015 Minutes of Sarasota/Manatee MPO Regular Board meeting were approved.
40

41 2. Joint Certification Statement of the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process
42

43 The Joint Certification Statement of the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process was
44 approved.
45

46 **ADDENDUM**
47

48 Appointment to the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)
49

50 Ratified the appointment of Ms. Claudia Carlson of the City of Holmes Beach to the CAC representing the
51 Island Transportation Planning Organization (ITPO).
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1 **VIII. ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING**

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3 **Please note that the following public hearing item was scheduled for 10:00 a.m. or reasonably**
4 **thereafter and was advertised accordingly.**
5

- 6 1. Amendment to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014/2015 – FY 2018/2019 Transportation Improvement
7 Program (TIP)
8

9 Ms. Colleen McGue, Transportation Planner, explained the proposed TIP amendment
10 brought forward by the Florida Department of Transportation requesting changes to the
11 following project in Manatee County:
12

13 FPN #435136-1 SR 64 from East of existing Trail to Anna Maria Bridge; New
14 Description SR 64 from Martinique Drive to East of 107th Court West
15

16 Chair Bennett opened the Public Hearing. Having no one come forward Chair Bennett
17 closed the Public Hearing.
18

19 Commissioner Maio: I move to approve the Amendment.
20

21 Mayor Groover Bryant: I second the motion.
22

23 Chair Bennett noted this item requires a vote by the show of hands.
24

25 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
26
27

28 **IX. BOARD ACTION**

- 29
30 1. Amended Joint Regional Multimodal Transportation System
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32 Mr. Mike Maholtz, MPO Staff, explained this regional roadway network and defining criteria
33 was created in 2004 as a requirement of the Interlocal Agreement between the Sarasota/Manatee
34 Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Charlotte County- Punta Gorda MPO. It is
35 used primarily to assist with the identification of Transportation Regional Incentive Program
36 (TRIP) projects, but also assists with the development of other project priorities and the Long
37 Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Once adopted by this Board same will be presented to the
38 Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO for input. Mr. Michael Adams of Adkins addressed
39 questions and concerns from the Board.
40

41 Commissioner Maio questioned if the color of River Road on the map could be changed to
42 indicate its significance as an evacuation route. Mr. Adams indicated this could be done.
43

44 Discussion ensued regarding several roadways (Sumter Boulevard, Toledo Blade and River
45 Road) on the map not designated as evacuation routes. Mr. Maholtz stated the map will be
46 reviewed to ensure nothing was missed; the roadways that have multiple purposes will be
47 provided with dual classifications.
48

49 Commissioner Benac noted there are more north/south corridors (collectors) in Manatee County
50 that are not reflected on the map, such as Harrison Ranch Boulevard. Mr. Maholtz stated
51 Harrison Ranch Boulevard would be added to the map.
52

1 Commissioner Yates asked if there is a difference in funding between the classifications of
2 arterial versus evacuation. Secretary Hattaway stated he is not aware of anything from a
3 funding category for prioritization regarding evacuation routes.
4

5 Commissioner Maio: I move approval with the updating of the map reflecting the
6 comments made today from the different jurisdictions.
7

8 Commissioner Yates: I second the motion.
9

10 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

11
12 2. Sarasota County's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Sections 5307 and 5339 Grant
13 Applications
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15 Ms. Jaclyn Sotomayor, Sarasota County Area Transit (SCAT), explained Sarasota County is
16 applying for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5307 and 5339 Grants. The Grants will
17 include the following projects:
18

- 19 1. Transit enhancement such as bus shelters and amenities purchase,
20 installation, replacement and/or repair
- 21 2. Provision of American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Paratransit
22 services
- 23 3. Replacement of rolling stock (buses) that have exceeded their life
24 expectancy
- 25 4. Preventative maintenance of rolling stock and related equipment
- 26 5. Bus support equipment and facilities
- 27 6. Rehab and renovate shop equipment
28

29 The total amount of the two Grants is \$9,926,290.
30

31 Mayor Groover Bryant: I move for MPO Board endorsement.
32

33 Commissioner Hines: I second the motion.
34

35 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
36

37 3. 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Goals
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39 Mr. Mike Maholtz, MPO Staff, explained the Strategic Mobility Plan (aka 2040 Long Range
40 Transportation Plan) is a strategic document for intermodal transportation investments to support
41 and strengthen the region's economic vitality, livability and environment over the next 25 years.
42 A critical component in the plan is the establishment of the Goals for which the MPO will use to
43 evaluate future mobility projects.
44

45 MPO Staff has worked with the Long Range Transportation Plan Committee, from both
46 Counties and all the municipalities, to develop Goals for the Strategic Mobility Plan that aligns
47 with the current Federal Legislation, MAP-21.
48

49 Mr. Nick Lepp presented an overview of the proposed Goals:
50

- 51 • Promote economic vitality and viability through regional coordination of the intermodal
52 system

- Improve accessibility and intermodal connectivity through promoting proximity to jobs and efficient, movement of freight and goods
- Improve management, operations and coordination to promote and efficient transportation system locally and regionally
- Improve environmental sustainability and community livability in coordination with local government comprehensive plans
- Ensure financial feasibility and fiscal sustainability of the transportation system to support the long term vision of the region

Public comments will be received through July and a draft of the final document will be presented to the MPO Board at its September Meeting.

Commissioner Robinson noted in item #2 the element of multimodal transportation is missing. Mr. Lepp responded multimodal will need to be included in order to be consistent.

Commissioner Benac stated Goal #3 should be Goal #1. Mr. Lepp noted the Goals would be switched.

Commissioner Benac: I move the Board endorse the Goals with the changes that have been discussed.

Commissioner Yates: I second the motion.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

X. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS (May Require Board Action)

1. Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) and Regional Transportation Alternative Projects (RTAP)

Ms. Colleen McGue, MPO Staff, provided a brief overview of the programs:

TRIP:

- For the past nine (9) years the FDOT has administered a transportation funding program entitled "Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP)."
- Funded projects are required to be on a regional road network negotiated with a regional adjoining MPO/TPO.
- The Sarasota/Manatee MPO has two Interlocal agreements with regional partners: the Polk TPO (as part of our membership in the CCC-Chairs Coordinating Committee) and the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO.
- A successful project must pledge 50% of the total project cost to receive the other 50% from State funds.
- Applications for TRIP funding must be based upon a negotiated prioritized list between the regional partners.

REGIONAL TRAILS:

- Approximately six (6) years ago the FDOT District One (our District) established a new program as part of the Federal Enhancement program.
- While the Federal Enhancement program had provided many fine projects since the 1990's, the projects were spread around and were normally smaller.
- FDOT recognized the goal of many in our region to develop and enhance regional trails which, by their size, are more costly.

- It therefore created a similar program to TRIP in order to compete for a larger amount of funds.
- Similar to TRIP, the trail must be on a regional system and the project must be prioritized with a regional partner.
- Unlike TRIP, this program does not require a 50% local funding match to receive the funds.

MPO Staff met via telephone conference on March 20, 2015 with the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO Staff to discuss, confer, and negotiate prioritized merged lists for TRIP and RTAP. A separate phone conference will occur with the Polk TPO in June of 2015. Commissioner Bustle stated Ranking #2, US 41 Sidewalks in Charlotte County on the RTAP list (Attachment #2) should reflect Item "a" only. Ms. McGue stated the list will be revised to reflect same.

Commissioner Bustle: I move approval of the lists with the noted change.

Mayor Groover Bryant: I second the motion.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. FDOT District One Fair Share Report

Ms. Laura Lockwood, FDOT Liaison Administrator, presented an overview of FDOT's allocation of formula funds to MPOs in FDOT District One.

3. Town of Longboat Key Regional Barrier Island to Mainland Mobility Analysis

Town of Longboat Key Town Manager David Bullock stated the Town is seeking support from the FDOT and Sarasota/Manatee MPO in conducting a comprehensive analysis of seasonal congestion relief on the barrier islands-to-mainland routes:

- The Town of Longboat Key has been monitoring seasonal traffic congestion for several years and it continues to get worse.
- The Town is requesting that a regional barrier island-to-mainland mobility analysis be conducted to identify both small and large system improvements that will help address the seasonal congestion.
- Things to address might include a careful look at traffic light timing during season, pedestrian controls, turn lane operation, etc.
- Also the routes on and off the islands are mostly FDOT roads with County and some City roads intersecting with these main routes, which should be considered.
- Solicited the Board's assistance in seeking funding for a regional analysis of options to alleviate traffic congestion.

Commissioner Bustle asked if Congestion Management System (CMS) funding could be utilized in funding this type of analysis. Mr. Howe responded the MPO restricted the use of CMS Program for funding studies several years ago.

Commissioner Yates questioned if this analysis/study would be specific to the Town of Longboat Key. Mr. Bullock responded it would not; the congestion issue affects the entire barrier island.

Discussion ensued regarding what funding sources may be available through the jurisdictions and the FDOT for funding this type of analysis. Mayor Groover Bryant suggested bringing this item back in June with additional information in seeking out funding sources.

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2 Commissioner Daly expressed his support and the need of finding a funding solution to address
3 this regional issue.
4

5 Commissioner Hines agreed there is a need for the study. He stated the Town of Longboat
6 Key's situation is not unique and asked if the Town has reached out to other communities with
7 similar issues to look at their solution. Mr. Bullock responded yes, but it is beyond the Town's
8 capacity to come up with a solution without imposing on neighbors (other jurisdictions on the
9 island).
10

11 Secretary Hattaway stated FDOT has heard, consistently throughout the District this year,
12 concerns from all the barrier islands up and down the entire coast, therefore realizes the need for
13 this type of study. He suggested, based on the request, for FDOT Staff to work with the local
14 jurisdictions and counties in putting together a scope and an estimate of what the fee will be and
15 to bring back same so the MPO so the Board will have more information in order to make a
16 decision.
17

18 Commissioner Benac stated the issue of bridges has to be part of the discussion and asked Mr.
19 Howe to provide the Board Members with a copy of the Town of Longboat Key Bridge
20 Analysis, studies that were conducted in the 1980s and 1990s for the consideration of possible
21 new bridges. She also noted there is growth planned along the 53rd corridor and asked if it is
22 reasonable to ask for a new bridge there?
23

24 Vice Mayor Chapman stated there is not any more room for cars on the barrier islands, therefore
25 discussions should include anticipating alternatives.
26

27 Secretary Hattaway stated FDOT could have something in place going into the next season to
28 present to the Board.
29

30 Commissioner Bustle: I move to request the District Secretary to work with the staff of the
31 MPO Members to develop a scope, study, and an estimate of what
32 the fee will be to be brought back to the MPO Board.
33

34 Commissioner Baugh: I second the motion.
35

36 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
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39 **XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**
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41 1. Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority (TBARTA)
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43 Commissioner Benac reported on the following:
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- 45 - TBARTA's Board meeting was held on April 24, 2015; Mr. Mike Merrill,
46 Hillsborough County Administrator, provided a presentation regarding their next
47 effort "Go Hillsborough."
48

49 Mr. Ray Chiamonte, TBARTA Executive Director, reported on the following:
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- 51 - Reminded the Members the TBARTA Town Call meeting for Manatee and Sarasota
52 is tonight and usually last an hour.
- 53 - The Town Call is an effort to get citizen involvement on regional projects.
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2 **XII. MEMBER COMMENTS**
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- 4 ~ Commissioner Robinson explained TIGER Grant applications are due June 5, 2015; Sarasota
5 County is applying for a TIGER Grant for River Road and has received letters of support
6 from State and Federal Legislatures as well as the Chambers.

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8 Commissioner Robinson: I move to request the Sarasota/Manatee MPO write a letter
9 of support for the River Road TIGER Grant application and
10 also request the same from the Charlotte County-Punta
11 Gorda MPO.

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13 Commissioner Yates: I second the motion.

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15 MOTION CARRIED (1 opposed)

- 16
17 ~ Vice Mayor Moore thanked Mr. Howe and Mr. Hutchinson for meeting with her at the City
18 of North Port for MPO Orientation.

19
20 Vice Mayor Moore asked what the status of the Legacy Trail is. Mr. Howe answered the
21 Legacy Trail has been on the MPO's Priority List for many years and will research the
22 project for any immediate progress. She asked, if the construction is to be done in segments,
23 is it possible to build it from South to North rather than from North to South. Mr. Howe
24 responded everything is on the table as far as construction and phasing.

- 25
26 ~ Commissioner Bustle noted that for some time a citizen has addressed the Board regarding
27 the lighting along University Parkway. Manatee County Transportation was asked to
28 evaluate the corridor from a safety stand point to determine if there is a need for lighting
29 along University Parkway. Mr. Sage Kamiya, Manatee County Staff, looked at that corridor
30 using FDOT criteria with the conclusion it is not a safety issue. Commissioner Bustle
31 expressed concern from a bicycle and pedestrian standpoint. He stated the Board should
32 step up to these lighting issues and do something about it.

33
34 Mr. Howe pointed out when this issue was last discussed (approximately a year ago) there
35 was a motion to check with the FDOT and ask local jurisdictions to consider some type of
36 study, which came back negative. One direction to take was to look for funding sources
37 locally or FDOT Safety Funds, if permissible.

38
39 Secretary Hattaway clarified the safety funding being referenced is Highway Safety
40 Improvement Program (HSIP) funding and the results of the study did not meet the
41 eligibility requirements for this type of funding.

42
43 Chair Bennett suggested bringing this item back as a future agenda item.

44
45 Mr. Hutchinson noted the Board had previously approved a motion for the two counties
46 (Sarasota and Manatee Counties) to evaluate establishing a lighting district.

47
48 Discussion ensued regarding fatalities along the University Parkway and acquiring funding
49 for lighting along the Parkway. Secretary Hattaway explained HSIP funds are Federal
50 funds and the criteria established to use those funds are specific. He explained this corridor
51 is a local road and the Counties have the freedom to do what they are felt led to do but
52 FDOT cannot spend State funds off system on this corridor.

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54 Ms. Vicki, Nighswander, Citizen, stressed the importance of considering crash data in the planning process.

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XIII. NEXT MEETING DATE

The MPO Board will not meet in May; the next meeting will be held June 22, 2015, at the Holiday Inn, 8009 15th Street East, Sarasota, Florida 34243.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Bennett adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m.