

DATE: Wednesday, September 16, 2020

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Telephone/Video Conference



MEETING ACCESS INFORMATION:
Instructions are attached

Commissioner Carol Whitmore, Chair

MEETING MINUTES

Chair Carol Whitmore called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Chair Whitmore explained the meeting was being recorded and will be available with other materials on the MPO's website at www.mympo.org.

Ms. Corinne Tucker, Staff, confirmed a quorum was present by calling the roll.

Members

Michelle Bradham-Cousar, FL Dept. of Education Voc. Rehab.
Brett Gottschalk, Agency for Persons with Disabilities
Dale Hanson, FDOT
Emily Hughart, Agency for Health Care Admin.
Kristina Melling, Dept. of Elders Affairs (AAA)
Elida Mujic, Dept. of Children & Families
Joe Stoddard, Economically Disadvantaged
Jeff Tarbell, Easter Seals
Lee Washington, Veterans Affair

Staff

Alvimarie Corales
Nanette Eubanks
Leigh Holt
Corinne Tucker

Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC)

Tammy Grinnell, MCAT
Jim Van Pelt, MCAT
Jonathan Roberson, MCAT
Benita Zarr, MCAT

Others

Sheri Powers, Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD)

Public Comment

No one from the public wished to speak. There were three ways for the public to provide input to the LCB members. No comments were received prior to the meeting. Any comments received after the meeting will be shared with the Board and included as part of the public record (None were received).

Action Items

- a. Approval of the May 13, 2020 Meeting Minutes
Mr. Brett Gottschalk entertained a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Mr. Joe Stoddard second the motion. Motion Carried Unanimously.
- b. Approval of Transportation Disadvantaged Trip and Equipment Grant (Capital) Application
Mr. Jonathan Roberson, MCAT, provided an overview of the Trip and Equipment Grant Application. Ms. Elida Mujic entertained a motion to approve the application. Mr. Lee Washington second the motion. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Reports and Presentations

a. 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

Leigh Holt, MPO, explained the 2045 LRTP will be presented to the MPO committees and Board in September, posted for a 30-day public comment period, and brought back to the committees and Board for final approval in October.

The purpose of the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is to develop future transportation facilities in Sarasota and Manatee Counties. The DRAFT LRTP considers the full complement of transportation modes – roads, bicycles, pedestrians, trails, transit, parking, railroads, and airports. The plan includes the funded projects currently in the FDOT Five-Year Work Program FY 2021-2025 and proposed projects for the next 20 years from 2026 to 2045. Project priorities in the 2045 LRTP are based on the latest available estimates and assumptions for population, land use, travel, employment, congestion, economic activity, and revenue.

Ms. Leigh Holt, MPO, provided highlights of the 2045 LRTP:

- The Plan is for 25 years and is updated every 5 years and contains a list of project priorities that must be cost feasible
- Legal requirements include national goals, federal planning factors, Florida Statutory mandates, FDOT emphasis areas, MPO vision, goals and objectives, and extensive community involvement. Documentation shows MPO goals and objective align with the Federal and State mandates. Public engagement includes over 2,000 online survey responses; 5 TransForums averaging 100 participants; 7 Tuesday Traffic Jam podcasts with over 3,000 online views; 14 community partners participated extensively.
- The MPO Board adopted Vision is to promote economic diversity, preserve environmental health, and create vibrant places. The Board also adopted the goals, the objectives and project priorities criteria.
- The Cost Feasible Plan identified needs from: the adopted 2040 Plan; FDOT 5 Year Work Program; MPO approved 2020 project priorities, adopted studies and plans, adopted vision, goals, and objectives; scoring with adopted priority criteria; community input; and town tour presentations to every jurisdiction except for the City of Bradenton.
- The FDOT Guidebook states MPOs use total funds estimated to meet needs for the Non-Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) construction and right-of-way (state roads/regionally significant local roads) and transit projects. The MPO has approximately \$2 billion for the next 25 years.
- The MPO Board agreed to continue the US 41 Multi Modal Emphasis Corridor (MMEC) program but several new corridors are being proposed for the MMEC program. \$300 million has been set aside for investments over the next 25 years that can be applied to projects in the MMEC.
- The corridors that have been identified are also targets for premium transit in the future, i.e. US 41 Study in FY 2020/21; Bradenton to Sarasota 20 minute headways; Manatee Ave.75th to Beaches; Cortez 30 minute headways; Sarasota to St. Armand's Circle; Fruitville Road corridor Study.
- Transforming Transit: Transit priority infrastructure; ATMS transit management; Van pools; On demand service; and Premium transit.
- FDOT Revenue Forecasting Guidebook for "Off System" roads MPOs are to use all estimated Transportation Management Area (TMA/SU) funds of \$270 million. There is also up to 10% of FDOT Non-Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) funds available, which could give us an additional \$118 million for projects on local roads. This idea has been presented to FDOT District One Staff and they have been supportive.
- The \$118 million has been placed in the Plan by adding lanes on existing roads to support growth; construction of new regional connectors that add capacity; try to use that 10% of state's other Arterial to match local dollars with FDOT funds.
- There is a series of gateways projects that Promote Economic Diversity that include roundabouts, significant intersection improvements, Complete Streets, or new facilities to improve traffic.
- For places to be vibrant the MPO has a large investment in TSMO (Transportation System Management and Operations). Top 40 congested corridors are eligible for investment fund through the Congestion Management Plan (CMP), there is \$75 million set aside for local projects that are identified in the TSMO Master Plan or CMP the local jurisdictions can apply for. Those do require the local jurisdictions to commit to maintenance and operations. \$200,000 has also been set aside annually for operations, per FDOT's request and will be used as matching funds.

- \$75 million has been set aside for safety over the next 25 years. Also, \$25 million has been set aside for walking, bicycling, trails, and transit.
- The first Draft of the LRTP and Cost Feasible Project Priorities was posted and distributed on September 10, 2020; it will be presented to the MPO Board at its September 21st meeting; the Final Draft will be posted and distributed for a 30 day public comment period on September 25, 2020; will seek MPO Board approval at its October 26, 2020 meeting.

To download and review Long Range Planning documents and watch Tuesday Traffic Jam Podcasts, visit <https://publicinput.com/W6275>.

b. Gulf Coast Safe Streets Summit (GCSSS)

Nancy Simpson, MPO, Ms. Nancy Simpson, MPO Staff, explained the Gulf Coast Safe Streets Summit (GCSSS) is a collaborative event for MPOs along the Gulf Coast. Last year's Summit gathered 112 individuals and 59 organizations. This year The Summit is being held the week of November 16th through 19th, 2020 with a modified format due to COVID-19. This Summit provides a regional approach to prioritize the Complete Streets and Vision Zero initiatives throughout the local jurisdictions along the Gulf Coast of Florida. For more information regarding the 2020 GCSSS please visit: <https://www.gulfcoastsafestreetssummit.org>.

c. Community Transportation Coordinator's (CTC) Report

Ms. Benita Zarr, MCAT, provided and update on the quarterly activities for MCAT from April 2020 to June 2020.

Chair Carol Whitmore suggested for quarterly calls to clients registering for service but are not using the service; spots are being held for people that may never use them. Mr. Jonathan Roberson stated Mr. Jim Van Pelt, MCAT, should be able to make the calls. An update will be provided at the next LCB meeting.

Mr. Jonathan Roberson and Mr. Jim Van Pelt, MCAT reported on the following:

- Fares continue to be free; MCAT does not feel it is the correct time to reinstate.
- Received notice that MCAT was approved for 3 new paratransit vehicles (5310 Grant).
- MCAT received 2 vehicles in late April and 1 in June.
- Vocational Rehab still working from their homes, which makes it difficult to assess the clients over the telephone.
- Received the very first referral from Career Suncoast and will be taking the trainee out tomorrow (9-17-2020) for their first ride.

Chair Carol Whitmore announced Target will be opening on 75th and Manatee Ave (old Kmart location) and expressed concern that a park and ride may no longer be an option for that location.

d. FDOT Report

Ms. Dale Hanson, FDOT, reported on the following:

- Notification of Grant Awards for 5310 and 5339 have been sent to all agencies.
- Public Transportation Grant Agreements will be sent to Agencies between October and March.
- FTA Section 5310, 5311, and 5339 a virtual workshop is scheduled for September 30, 2020, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The deadline for registration is Friday, September 25, 2020. Contact Melissa DeLeon if you have not received an invitation or if you have questions. (deleon@cutr.usf.edu or 813-300-1885). To register <https://cutr.adobeconnect.com/fdot-d1-workshop/event/registration.html>
- FTA Section 5310, 5311, and 5339 applications will be due Monday, December 14, 2020.
- Statewide - FFTA Annual Training Virtual Workshop is scheduled for October 6th through 9th, 2020. To register: <https://floridatransit.org/annual-conference>
- District One: Florida Small and Rural Transit Agency Bus Operator Training Program (Train the Trainer) is scheduled for September 15th, 22nd and 29th, 2020 and will be conducted virtually. Registration is full but FDOT will continue to offer more sessions.
- FDOT has been working with the consultants to conduct round 1 of the FDOT triennial review; to date, 29 of 30 agencies have been reviewed.

- Round 2 of the FDOT triennial reviews will start in November 2020 and will begin with agencies that receive only FTA Section 5310 funding with the larger agencies to follow. There are currently 30 agencies to review. Due to COVID-impacts, triennial reviews are currently being conducted virtually. We ask that our agencies plan for the whole day when scheduled.
- Mobility week will be held October 30 through November 6, 2020. Several virtual events along with a few in-person events will be available. Additional information to follow.

e. MPO Staff Report

Ms. Corinne Tucker, MPO, noted vacancies on the LCB for the following representatives: Citizens with Disabilities, Manatee County Health Department, and Senior Citizens. Members were encouraged to email Ms. Tucker if they know of anyone who could fill those vacancies.

Once Around the Table

Ms. Michelle Bradham-Cousar stated Vocational Rehabilitation is open by appointments in a hybrid situation.

Adjournment

Having no further business, Chair Carol Whitmore adjourned the Manatee LCB meeting at 11:05 a.m.