

## Participate in the Virtual MPO Barrier Island Traffic Steering Committee Meeting on August 24, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, SARASOTA/MANATEE, FL, August 21, 2020 – **NOTIFICATION IS GIVEN** that the **Barrier Island Traffic Steering Committee (BITS)** will meet at **09:30 a.m. on Monday, August 24, 2020**. Meeting materials and information regarding technology and access is posted on the MPO website at [www.mympo.org](http://www.mympo.org).

For the protection of the community, all Sarasota/Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) meetings will be available to the public online and by telephone to avoid convening more than ten people during the current COVID-19 State of Emergency from March 9 to October 1, 2020. Public access and public comment opportunities will be provided as permitted in [Executive Order 20-69](#) for local government meetings, allowing the use of communications media technology, such as telephonic and video conferencing.

There are four (4) ways for the public to participate:

1. Written comments will be accepted before, during, and after the meeting. All written comments will be included as part of the official public record of the meeting. Please email Rachel McClain, Fiscal Technician at [rachel@mympo.org](mailto:rachel@mympo.org) and include your name, email address, and phone number with your written comment.
2. The BITS meeting will be live streamed on Monday, August 24 at 09:30 a.m. The public can view the meeting and comment during the meeting using the comment box at <https://publicinput.com/O742>.
3. The public may call-in by phone and leave voice comments. Telephone Number 1-855-925-2801; Meeting code 8196.
4. For those wishing to address members of the BITS directly, you are requested to provide a written request in advance. Please email Rachel McClain, Fiscal Technician at [rachel@mympo.org](mailto:rachel@mympo.org) by 8:00 a.m. on Monday, August 24 for your comments to be distributed to BITS members prior to the meeting. Please provide the following information in the email:
  - a. Subject line (RE): PUBLIC COMMENT FOR AUGUST 24, 2020 VIRTUAL BITS MEETING
  - b. Please include the following information in the body of the email: 1) Name, email, and phone number; 2) The agenda item you wish to address; 3) A summary of your public comment (3000 character limit)
  - c. Following the receipt of the email, instructions will be sent on how to join the virtual meeting to speak once the Chair calls on you during the public comment period.

The MPO rules of procedure, decorum, and policy governing the public comment period, shall be followed and enforced in the same manner as if the meeting were held in person. During the public comment period, the Chair will ask the public to speak based on the written requests to speak in the order they are received.

Any person with a disability requiring assistance, auxiliary aids, and services for this meeting should notify the Sarasota/Manatee MPO at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting by calling (941)-359-5772.