



# Sarasota/Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization

## October 26, 2020 MPO Governing Board Meeting

**DATE:** Monday, October 26, 2020

**TIME:** 9:30 a.m.

**LOCATION:** Bradenton Area Convention Center  
One Haben Boulevard  
Palmetto, Florida 34221

	<u>Wireless Access Available</u>
	Open WiFi
	No Password Required

MPO Chair, Mayor Shirley Groover Bryant, City of Palmetto

### MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 26, 2020

Chair Shirley Groover Bryant, City of Palmetto, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Councilmember Marianne Barnebey, City of Bradenton, provided the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Nanette Eubanks, Clerk to the Board confirmed a quorum was present.

#### PRESENT

Island Transportation Planning Organization (ITPO: Anna Maria, Holmes Beach & Bradenton Beach)  
Mayor John Chappie

City of Bradenton  
Councilmember Marianne Barnebey  
Councilmember Bill Sanders

Manatee County  
Commissioner Vanessa Baugh  
Commissioner Betsy Benac  
Commissioner Misty Servia

City of North Port  
Commissioner Vanessa Carusone  
Commissioner Pete Emrich

Town of Longboat Key  
Commissioner Jack Daly

City of Palmetto  
Mayor Shirley Groover Bryant

City of Sarasota  
Mayor Liz Alpert  
Commissioner Willie Shaw  
Commissioner Alan Maio

Sarasota County  
Commissioner Mike Moran  
Commissioner Nancy Detert

City of Venice  
Vice Mayor Chuck Newsom

FDOT District One Non-Voting Advisor  
Secretary L.K. Nandam

ABSENT  
Sarasota-Manatee Airport Authority  
Commissioner Carlos Beruff

MPO Staff  
Ryan Brown, Principal Planner  
Sue Clapsaddle, Fiscal/Administrative Manager  
Alvimarie Corales Cuadrado, Principal Planner  
Nanette Eubanks, Clerk to the Board  
Leigh Holt, Planning Manager  
David Hutchinson, Executive Director  
Corinne Tucker, Multi Modal Planner  
Rachel McClain, Fiscal Technician

Others  
Wayne Gaither, FDOT  
Jennifer Marshall, FDOT

**3. Public Comment** (Items not on the agenda)  
No comments from the public were received.

#### 4. Reports

- a. Public Transportation Task Force, PTTF Chair, Mayor John Chappie, ITPO-City of Bradenton Beach reported on the October 26, 2020 meeting:
- MCAT's comprehensive approach to COVID-19 is to provide masks on every MCAT bus, protective Bio-shield for each operator, bus cleaners sanitize common touch areas when the bus arrives at a MCAT Terminal, major transfer point and fleet facility along with daily ionizing of MCAT's facilities and vehicles. MCAT has hosted two very successful mask give away events at its Operations Facility.
  - Regarding capital projects MCAT has purchased new Paratransit vehicles and buses. Also, during the heart of COVID-19 when MCAT had the least amount of need for service, MCAT was able to get its downtown station refurbish project started and completed.
  - Ridership is down due to COVID-19: Fixed Route Ridership decreased 19.4%; Paratransit ridership decreased 31.4% but MCAT's Fixed Route and Paratransit ridership are on the rebound.
  - March and April 2020 service was reduced, and free fares were implemented due to the COVID-19 pandemic; Partial service restoration occurred throughout the Summer of 2020; full restoration of service (except for the Beach Express) kicked off on August 29, 2020.
  - Free fares continue; MCAT feels it is not the right time to reinstitute fares.
  - Continued roll out and testing of MCAT's on board Digital Infotainment System.
  - Submitted a grant to FDOT that would increase service of Route 99 to 20 minutes, from downtown to downtown.
  - SCAT's COVID-19 emergency response was to implement temporary fare free on all SCAT services; instituted rear door boarding on fixed route; front door for ramp use; suspended some fixed routes; offered emergency demand response in certain areas; buses cleaned multiple times during the day. SCAT has not redeployed to pre-COVID-19 service levels due to ridership decline and bus operator availability.
  - Siesta Key Breeze: ridership declined as SCAT suspended route in March due to COVID-19 beach closures remains lower than months in prior years since June 16<sup>th</sup> restart.
  - Sarasota Mobility Network Design: Sarasota Mobility Optimization: Restructure route network for productivity; inefficient routes eliminated; looking to establish Mobility in Demand (MOD) zones; focus on ridership, cost effectiveness and on supporting work trips, tourism, activity centers and access to mobility; proposed route changes and MOD zones.
  - On Demand Mobility Strategy: Mobility on demand zones; on request service (using a phone app or by calling Call Center; point-to-point service within a MOD service zone; connections to SCAT bus at Mobility Hubs for trips beyond the zone; and mobility for all, serves public and TD/ADA trips, a cost savings potential.
  - The public is invited to provide feedback regarding how they use SCAT's public transit network and services for SCAT to develop recommendations about the future of public transit in Sarasota County. More information may be found by going to [www.scgov.net/scat](http://www.scgov.net/scat).
  - FDOT received a total of 40 applications for FTA Section 5310, 5311, and 5339 grants. Recommendation letters have been sent out to all agencies along with notification of grant awards for both the 5310 and 5339.
  - Finishing up the first round of Tri Annual reviews. This past August MCAT had their Tri Annual review and Pines of Sarasota will have their Tri Annual review in October of this year
- b. Florida Department of Transportation, FDOT Secretary L.K. Nandam and Mr. Jesten Abraham reported on the following:
- Currently there is a 30% reduction in Revenue and the challenge is how to balance the budget; there are going to be adjustments across the program.
  - Mobility Week will be held from October 30<sup>th</sup> to November 6<sup>th</sup> with virtual and in person events. More information may be found by visiting [www.mobilityweekfl.com](http://www.mobilityweekfl.com).
  - A hybrid public hearing regarding the US 41 Design Project will be held November 17, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. at the Bayshore Gardens Community Clubhouse located at 6919 26<sup>th</sup> Street West, Bradenton.



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- A virtual public hearing regarding US 41 improvements in Sarasota County, being constructed in two phases, from Beneva Road to Caribbean Drive and from Caribbean Drive to Stickney Point Road, on November 20, 2020. To register for the US 41 Improvements project hybrid public hearings by visiting [www.swflroads.com](http://www.swflroads.com).

Ms. Jennifer Marshall, FDOT, provided an update of the Sarasota/Manatee Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Studies Status:

- SR 70 from Lorraine Road to CR 675-concurrent with design.
- US 41 at Myrtle and Martin Luther King-anticipated completion by December 2020.
- SR 789 (Longboat Key) from North Shore Road to Coquina Park entrance-data collection and agency coordination on-going. Public kick off meeting tentatively scheduled for Spring 2021.
- SR 789 (little Ringling) from Bird Key to Sarasota Harbor West- Data collection, agency coordination, and preliminary alternative development on going.
- Bradenton Palmetto Connector-Data collection, preliminary traffic analysis, and agency coordination on going; public outreach activities to begin early 2021.
- DeSoto Bridge-currently programmed for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022/2023.
- Traffic Operations Improvements in Downtown Sarasota-Design survey and preliminary engineering activities on going.

c. MPO Executive Director, David Hutchinson, reported on the following:

- Thanked FDOT and Ms. Jennifer Marshall for the reports.
- Noted the 2021 Sarasota/Manatee Meeting Calendar was provided to the Members via email and in their packets.
- Recognized Ms. Rachel McClain for her 6 years of service with the MPO.
- Announced Ms. Leigh Holt will be retiring from the MPO and the January 2021 meeting will be her last MPO Board meeting.

d. MPO Chair, Mayor Shirley Groover Bryant, City of Palmetto, reported on the following:

- Recognized Commissioner Betsy Benac, Vice Mayor Chuck Newsome, and Commissioner Vanessa Carusone with appreciation for their service on the MPO Board.
- Encouraged participation in the Gulf Coast Safe Streets Summit (GCSSS) being hosted by the Sarasota/Manatee MPO being held the week of November 16<sup>th</sup> through 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020. 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>.
- Thanked Manatee County for the use of the Bradenton Area Convention Center.

### 5. Consent Agenda

The entire Consent Agenda was read aloud for the record and moved unless a Board Member removed an item for discussion.

Chair Shirley Groover Bryant asked for a motion and a second for the Consent Items.

Councilmember Bill Sanders: I move to approve the Consent Agenda items.

Commissioner Willie Shaw: I second the motion.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Consent items approved:

- Approved Sarasota/Manatee MPO Regular Board Meeting Minutes of September 21, 2020
- Approved 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Scope of Services and General Planning Consultant (GPC) Contract Extension
- Approved 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Phase 3 Scope of Services

- d. Approved General Planning Consultant (GPC) Contracts
- e. Approved Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Studies Scopes of Services
  - 1. Public Transportation Alternative Study Scope
  - 2. Fatality and Serious Injuries Reduction Plan Scope
  - 3. Resiliency and Vulnerability Assessment Plan Scope
- f. Approved I-4 Corridor Coalition Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- g. Approved Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Summary Table Amendment

**6. Action Items**

**a. Transform 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan**

Ms. Leigh Holt, MPO, noted the complete plan was presented to all MPO committees and the MPO Board in September and the committees of the MPO have recommended Board adoption of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Also, the LRTP was announced to the community during a press conference with broad television and print news coverage. The plan was posted on the MPO website at [www.mympo.org](http://www.mympo.org) for an official 30-day public comment period from September 25 to October 25, 2020. All public input will be incorporated into the plan. Some highlights include:

- FDOT's checklists have been completed and MPO Staff is confident that all the requirements have been met for the 25 year plan.
- Planning for 20 new residents per day for the next 25 years.
- Vision is to promote economic diversity, preserve environmental health, and create vibrant places.
- The LRTP expands the Multi Modal Emphasis Corridors (MMEC); there are 34 funded projects with an additional \$300 million additional investment set aside in boxed funds.
- FDOT Partnership Program: up to 10% of state Other Arterial (OR) funds for local roads; match local dollars with FDOT funds; \$118 million available for local projects (if there is a local match).
- Urban Core Priorities: 3 baseball stadium studies; 3 trail route studies; \$25 million additional investment for bicycle, pedestrian, trails, and transit.
- The LRTP total package is approximately \$2 billion: \$1.3 billion for individual projects; \$300 million for multi modal corridors; \$255 million for state roads; \$25 million for bicycle, pedestrian, trails, and transit; \$75 million for resiliency; \$70 million for technology/TSMO; and \$5 million for TSMO staffing/data.
- A video containing highlights of the LRTP process was played for the MPO Board.
- The complete plan, all reports, supporting documents, and appendices are available at [www.mympo.org](http://www.mympo.org).

Commissioner Misty Servia: I move to adopt the Transform 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan including all reports, supporting documents, and appendices; and any modifications received from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Agency (FTA), and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).

Commissioner Betsy Benac: I second the motion.

Commissioner Betsy Benac stated Ms. Leigh Holt and Staff did a great job and this was an excellent process the MPO went through with so much public involvement especially with young people. The work sessions were never boring and people were engaged, which is very important in our community, to be involved in the planning process. She stated the match project with the FDOT is a great opportunity to fund projects.

Secretary L.K. Nandam expressed agreement with Commissioner Betsy Benac's comments and thankfulness for the collaborative effort the FDOT has with MPO Staff in building this LRTP, a very well thought out plan and their partnership in implementing projects.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (by roll call vote).



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**b. 2021 Legislative Priorities**

Mr. Ryan Brown, MPO, stated Staff reviewed and updated the annual legislative priorities. Language related to preserving transportation funds solely for transportation projects was included due to fiscal uncertainty going forward.

Legislative Priorities will be presented at both Manatee and Sarasota Counties' Legislative Delegation Meetings. They will also be distributed to partner organizations including the counties, municipalities, League of Cities, chambers, EDCs, and others, for consideration as part of their legislative agendas.

The priorities may be brought back to the MPO Board for updates after transportation bills are filed and the Legislative Committee process begins.

Commissioner Vanessa Carusone noted that lack of internet/high speed access in her area is a big issue and asked if this could be mentioned/addressed in some way with the Legislative Priorities. Mr. David Hutchinson suggested a bullet be added to address broad band internet and is certainly something that has been recognized in the MPO's LRTP.

Commissioner Vanessa Carusone: I move to amend the MPO's State Legislative priorities to include a bullet for consideration for collaboration on infrastructure for broad band high speed access within PD&E Studies as well as any other expansions of transportation systems.

Commissioner Misty Servia: I second the motion.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**c. TIP Amendments**

Mr. Ryan Brown, MPO, provided an overview of the TIP amendments brought forward by the Florida Department of Transportation requesting changes to the following projects in Manatee and Sarasota Counties:

- FPN 445044-1 Manatee County, SR 684 from 86<sup>th</sup> Street to 26<sup>th</sup> Street West for resurfacing; a total of \$265,191 in year 2020, and \$1,242,821 in year 2021.
- FPN 447872-1 Sarasota County, SR 683 (US 301) from 12<sup>th</sup> Street to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way for a safety project; a total of \$42,850 in year 2021.
- FPN 447871-1 Sarasota County, SR 780 (Fruitville Road) at Beneva Road for a safety project; a total of \$515,000 in year 2021.
- FPN 448390-1 Manatee County, SR 45 (US 41) from 63<sup>rd</sup> to 53<sup>rd</sup> Avenue for a safety project; a total of \$489,500 in year 2021.
- FPN 439315-3 Sarasota/Manatee FY 2020/2021-2021/2022 UPWP for Transportation Planning; a total of \$1,005,701 in 2021 and \$1,105,701 in year 2022.

Chair Shirley Groover Bryant asked for a motion and a second for and TIP Amendments. She noted this item requires a roll call vote.

Councilmember Marianne Barnebey: I move to approve.

Commissioner Vanessa Carusone: I second the motion.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (by roll call vote)

**7. Presentations** (May Require Board Action)

a. Interim Safety Report

Ms. Corinne Tucker, MPO, explained Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) and Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act legislation require metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) to use outcome-based planning for five safety measures:

- Number of fatalities
- Rate of fatalities
- Number of serious injuries
- Rate of serious injuries
- Number of non-motorized fatalities and non-motorized serious injuries

The MPO adopted their first targets for the 2014-2018 five-year rolling average on January 22, 2018. These first targets were based on actual data from 2012 to 2016.

The second targets for 2015-2019 five-year rolling average were adopted on September 24, 2018 setting realistic, attainable safety performance targets based on historical statistics and projected trends.

The third targets for 2016-2020 five-year rolling average were adopted on January 27, 2020 setting realistic, attainable safety performance targets based on historical statistics and projected trends. With the 2020 data available through August, it is estimated that the actual numbers will be higher than originally projected and the MPO may not meet the adopted 2016-2020 safety targets.

Evaluating how each performance measure has trended, allows the MPO to make a more informed decision in establishing 2017-2020 targets as well as future year targets. This evaluation helps in identifying areas for focused attention to allocate resources and funding to make the transportation system safer.

Ms. Corinne Tucker noted the dates of the Gulf Coast Safe Streets Summit is November 16<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup>. more information may be found at [www.gulfcoastsafestreetssummit.org](http://www.gulfcoastsafestreetssummit.org).

b. 2021 Call for Projects

Mr. Ryan Brown, MPO, stated Florida Statute requires each MPO to develop a list of Project Priorities and to submit the list to FDOT. MPO member jurisdictions are being asked to update prior applications and to submit new projects for consideration on January 7, 2021 by 5:00 p.m.

Each application will be scored using the prioritization scoring methodology approved by the MPO Board and Committees in April 2017 and updated in 2020 to incorporate more effective measures and include new components and guidelines developed during the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) update.

The Draft MPO 2021 Project Priorities list will be taken to the MPO Board on February 22, 2021 for review and approval. The Final Project Priorities list will be transmitted to FDOT on March 15, 2021 to meet the State's deadline. These project priorities will be submitted for FDOT funding consideration when developing the next Tentative Five-Year Work Program (Fiscal Years 2021/2022 – 2025/2026).

The MPO recently updated the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and developed the Cost Feasible Plan. Jurisdictions may submit applications for projects included in the Cost Feasible Plan. These projects will be evaluated by the MPO for programming based on the financial demands of current projects in the pipeline and future revenue forecasts.



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**8. 2021 Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

Chair Shirley Groover Bryant opened the floor for nominations for 2021 MPO Chair, a representative from Sarasota County or its municipalities.

Commissioner Alan Maio: I nominate Commissioner Liz Alpert.

Commissioner Betsy Benac: I second the nomination.

Hearing no further nominations Chair Shirley Groover Bryant closed the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Liz Alpert won the nomination unanimously by roll call vote.

Chair Shirley Groover Bryant opened the floor for nominations for 2021 MPO Vice Chair, a representative from Manatee County or its municipalities.

Commissioner Alan Maio: I nominate Commissioner Vanessa Baugh.

Commissioner Betsy Benac: I nominate Commissioner Misty Servia.

Commissioner Vanessa Baugh and Misty Servia accepted the nominations.

Commissioner Vanessa Baugh won the nomination by an 8 to 6 roll call vote.

**8. Member Comments**

- Commissioner Betsy Benac stated it has been great serving 8 years on the MPO Board and that it is very important not only to plan but to ensure the resources are available.
- Commissioner Vanessa Carusone stated it was an honor serving on the MPO Board.
- Commissioner Jack Daly, expressed appreciation, on behalf of Longboat Key, for Sarasota County Area Transit and Manatee County Area Transit and both counties in working toward a unified bus service on Longboat Key.

**9. Adjournment**

Chair Shirley Groover Bryant adjourned the meeting at 11:27 a.m.



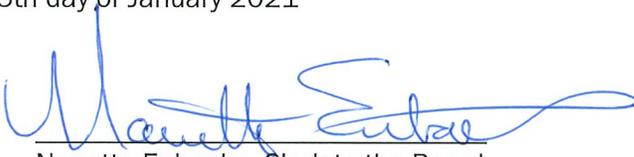
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NO STENOGRAPHIC RECORD BY A CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER WAS MADE OF THIS MEETING. ACCORDINGLY, ANY PERSON WHO MAY SEEK TO APPEAL ANY DECISIONS INVOLVING THE MATTER HEREIN WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE AT THIS MEETING UPON WHICH ANY APPEARS TO BE BASED.

BY:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Liz Alpert  
MPO Chair

State of *Florida*  
County of *Manatee*

Dated this 25th day of January 2021

ATTESTED  
BY:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nanette Eubanks, Clerk to the Board  
Notary Public State of Florida