

DATE: Wednesday, September 16, 2020 **TIME:** 1:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Telephone/Video Conference



MEETING ACCESS INFORMATION:
Instructions are attached

Vice Chair, Mr. Darrell Butler, Veterans Affairs

MEETING MINUTES

Vice Chair Darrell Butler called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Vice Chair Butler explained the meeting was being recorded and will be available with other materials on the MPO's website at www.mymppo.org.

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

Members

Darrell Butler, Veterans Affairs, Vice Chair
Mike Day, Department of Children and Families
Cynthia Congdon, Children at Risk
Joe Doss, CareerSource Suncoast
Brett Gottschalk, Agency for Persons with Disabilities
Dale Hanson, FDOT
Emily Hughart, Agency for Health Care Admin.
Arthur Lerman, Elderly Citizens
Diane Cominotti, Alternate for Micki Ryan, Public Education
Jeff Tarbell, Easter Seals SW Florida
Ken Waters, Economically Disadvantaged
Jeremy Whatmough, Citizen Advocate

Staff

Alvimarie Corales
Nanette Eubanks
Leigh Holt
Nancy Simpson
Corinne Tucker

Community Transportation

Coordinator (CTC)

Benjamin Pearl, SCAT

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. Joe Doss entertained a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Mr. Brett Gottschalk second the motion. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Reports and Presentations

- a. Community Transportation Coordinator's (CTC) Report
Mr. Benjamin Pearl, SCAT, provided an update on the quarterly activities for SCAT from April 2020 to June 2020. Also provided an overview of what SCAT is considering for future improvements to improve services, more information may be found by visiting www.scgov.net/scat.

Mr. Joe Doss asked the cost to the rider for mobility on demand. Mr. Benjamin Pearl answered the cost is yet to be determined, but SCAT is looking to keep the cost similar to riding a regular bus or paratransit, in the \$2.50 to \$4.00 range. Ms. Corinne Tucker asked if SCAT is planning on raising the costs for on demand service higher than what the Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) trips would be, is there a way to differentiate or will SCAT propose to increase the cost for TD trips as well. Mr. Benjamin Pearl responded those are some of the things that are to be determined; there has been discussion of when SCAT provides on demand service that is not necessarily a TD ride, SCAT may lose some reimbursement from the TD program.

b. 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan

Ms. 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 objective, and extensive community involvement. Documentation shows MPO goals and objective align with the Federal and State mandates. Public involvement and engagement include 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's adopted Vision is to promote economic diversity, preserve environmental health, and create vibrant places. The Board has 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 objective; 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 has 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.
- Will start with 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 FDPT's Congestion Management Plan (CMP), there is \$75 million set aside for local projects that are identified in the TSMO Master Plan or CMP that local jurisdictions can apply for. Those do require for 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 a 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>.

Mr. Joe Doss asked during the process and outside of COVID, what were some of the challenges that were uncovered with moving forward with public transportation. Ms. Leigh Holt responded that the MPO has performed several studies which indicate transit is more important than ever and the LRTP contains more transit projects than it ever has before.

c. 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>.

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 - FPTA 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.

c. MPO Staff Report

Ms. Corinne Tucker, MPO, noted vacancies on the LCB for the following representatives: Citizens with Disabilities, Citizen Advocate User, and Agency for Elder Affairs. Members were encouraged to email Ms. Tucker if they know of anyone who could fill those vacancies.

Once Around the Table

- Mr. Joe Doss announced a grant is in place through CareerSource Suncoast that will pay staff for up to 3 months of work COVID related for sanitizing of surfaces. Also, due to the pandemic, CareerSource is working virtually but anyone requiring their services can call 941-358-4200 to schedule an appointment.
- Mr. Brett Gottschalk stated the Governor's recent order has eased a lot of restrictions on visitors and individuals coming out of the group home facilities.
- Vice Chair Darrell Butler stated Bay Pines has been closed except for people in treatment of catastrophic illness and that is why ridership is down, but reopened to all in August, therefore there should be an increase in ridership.

Adjournment

Having no further business, Vice Chair Darrell Butler adjourned the Sarasota LCB meeting at 1:57 p.m.