

**HERNANDO/CITRUS
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)
Meeting Minutes – August 26, 2020**

The Hernando/Citrus Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) held a regular meeting on August 26, 2020, via Zoom. The meeting was advertised in the Tampa Bay Times and the Citrus Chronicle and the agenda was available online at: www.hernandocounty.us/hernandocitrusmpo.us.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dennis Henize, Citizen-at-Large, Hernando County
Jim Lipsey, Hernando County Schools
James McLean, Citizen-at-Large, Citrus County
Dennis Reiland, Citizen-at-Large, Citrus County
Scarlett Sharpe, Citizen-at-Large, Hernando County
Sergeant Kelly Brown, Hernando County Sheriff's Office
Chuck Dixon, Citrus County Schools
Steve Gouldman, City of Brooksville
Sherry Bechtel, City of Inverness
Alex Henry, Florida Department of Transportation, District 7

OTHERS PRESENT

Steve Diez, MPO Executive Director
Carlene Riecse, Transportation Planner III
Cayce Dagenhart, Transportation Planner II
Terri Saenz, Administrative Assistant III
Ben Berauer, Citizen

A. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairwoman Sharpe called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Introductions were made, a quorum was declared. **APPROVAL/MODIFICATION OF AGENDA**

Motion: Mr. Reiland made a motion to approve the Agenda. Mr. Henize seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

B. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 27, 2020

Motion: Mr. Henize made a motion to approve the May 27, 2020 minutes as presented. Mr. Reiland seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

C. CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Update from 6/11/20 and 7/9/2020 MPO Meetings

Mr. Diez advised no action was needed from the Board but the highlights from the June 11th meeting included the adoption and further implementation of the Complete Streets Policy. The installation of the new traffic signal at SR 200 and CR 491 in Citrus County is expected to be completed around December 2021/January 2022. The Board also approved an amendment to the FY 2020-2024 TIP for an updated construction phase to the Withlacoochee State Trail Project in Citrus County.

He further stated that at the July 9th meeting, the traffic signal at St. Andrews Boulevard in Hernando County should be completed by the end of this summer. Quarterly budget summaries that the MPO reviewed and discussion of the cash flow issue will be continued at the September MPO meeting. The TIP for FY 2021-2025 was adopted and the MPO authorized submittal to FDOT.

No comments or questions.

2. Florida Transportation Plan (FTP) update - FDOT.

Mr. Diez introduced that we have an FTP presentation by Alex Henry.

Mr. Henry presented the FTP Update and mentioned that it was for the entire State of Florida. He further discussed how FDOT is using the Committee, Boards and other's input to develop the plan. If we want to become involved, go to: www.floridatransportationplan.com. He will be sending a link for a survey to Mr. Diez for distribution to the members/attendees.

No comments or questions.

3. MPO Budget Information

Mr. Diez reported that the quarterly budget has not been released yet. The budget meeting is set for September 9, 2020 before the Hernando BOCC.

No comments or questions.

4. Executive Director Transition Plan

Mr. Diez mentioned he will be retiring on October 31, 2021 and a search for his replacement will be made both locally and statewide; it does not need to be advertised internally. There will be a ranking committee comprised of: one city representative from each of the 3 cities and one county representative each from both Citrus and Hernando. The advertisement will be around the April/May 2021 timeframe. The Hernando County Human Resources (HR) department will

conduct the hiring process per our staff services agreement. This will be discussed at the MPO September 10th meeting also.

Mr. Diez indicated that discussion occurred at the CAC meeting regarding feasibility of the option of retaining him as a consultant. That option would require more analysis..

5. West Central Florida MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee (CCC) Regional Priorities

Mr. Diez reported that in the agenda packet is the letter sent to FDOT Districts 1 and 7 outlining the ten (10) current priority projects on the multiuse trails and the 10 on the TRIP list. There were other projects identified; however only the top 10 were included on the list.

He noted that the Withlacoochee State Trail Extension to Pasco is number 5 and the Dunnellon Withlacoochee State Trail is at number 10.

6. Status of the Hernando County Transit Development Plan (TDP) Annual Progress Report (APR)

Mr. Diez identified that this report is required to be submitted annually. Hernando County is the transit provider and the TDP APR was approved at the BOCC meeting on August 11, 2020. The TDP APR was approved at the Hernando BOCC meeting on August 11, 2020.

Chairwoman Sharpe stated she actually read it and that it is important that we get transit service to the region.

No comments or questions.

7. Status of the Hernando County Transportation Impact Fee Study

Mr. Diez advised that last year the MPO Board approved a scope with one of our consultants, Tindale Oliver to provide an update of the roads impact fee study for Hernando County. The BOCC reviewed the study on August 11th and kept the rates at 22% of the fully calculated fee documented by the study. The MPO paid for the study and there is a link to the complete study in the agenda packet.

No Comments/Questions.

D. ACTION ITEMS

1. Roll Forward Projects – Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) FY 2021-2025

Mr. Diez mentioned that FDOT is asking the MPO next month to approve a roll forward of one project, having to do with US 41 (from SR 44 to south of Trail Bridge) which was not included in the prior FY.

Motion: Mr. Gouldman made a motion to approve. Mr. Reiland seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

E. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Ben Berauer spoke that he does not have any questions and this is his first attendance at a meeting. He especially favors the online meetings which makes it much easier for him to attend and plans on attending again.

F. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS /UPDATES

Mr. Henize commended MPO staff for making this meeting work so well. Mr. Lipley agreed.

G. MPO STAFF COMMENTS/UPDATES

Mr. Diez mentioned the next MPO meeting is September 10, 2020 and that we are thinking about cancelling the October 8th meeting unless FDOT has issues that need to be addressed. If that occurs the September committee meetings would be cancelled.

Ms. Riecss pointed out that the Governor's Executive Order expires on October 1st so any meetings subsequent to that will have to be in person so we have a quorum. The Governor's order was extended so we could have a quorum via ZOOM.

ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 4:18 p.m.

It was announced that the next BPAC meeting will be Wednesday, September 23, 2020, at 3:30 pm tentatively via ZOOM.