
HERNANDO/CITRUS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)

Meeting Minutes – February 23, 2022

The Hernando/Citrus Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) held a regular meeting on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, at the Lecanto Government Building 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Room 166 Lecanto, Florida 34461. The meeting was advertised in the Hernando Sun Times and the Citrus Chronicle, and the agenda was available online at: www.hernandocountyus/hernandocitrusmpo.com.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jim McLean, Citrus County
Scarlett Sharpe, Hernando County
Sherry Bechtel, City of Inverness
Francine Nobles, Citrus County Parks and Recreation
Dennis Reiland, Citrus County
Dennis Henize, Hernando County
James Lipsey, Hernando County School District

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Carlene Riecss, Transportation Planner III
Cayce Dagenhart, Transportation Planner II
Robert Esposito, Executive Director
Roger Roscoe, Florida Department of Transportation

A. CALL TO ORDER

- Chairman McLean called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.
- Introductions were made.
- Proofs of publication of the Notice of Public meeting were entered into the record by Ms. Riecss.
- A quorum was declared.

B. DESIGNATION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR 2022

Motion: Ms. Sherry Bechtel nominated Ms. Scarlett Sharpe for the position of BPAC Chairperson for Calendar Year 2022. Mr. Dennis Reiland seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.

The meeting was turned over to Ms. Sharpe to continue.

Motion: Ms. Scarlett Sharpe nominated Mr. Jim McLean for the position of BPAC Vice-Chairman for Calendar Year 2022. Mr. Dennis Reiland seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.

C. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: Ms. Sherry Bechtel made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Dennis Reiland seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

D. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 8/25/2021

Motion: Mr. Jim McLean made a motion to approve the minutes from 8/25/2021 as presented. Mr. Dennis Reiland seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

E. CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Mr. James Lipsey arrived at the meeting

1. Introduction of the new Executive Director, Mr. Bob Esposito

Ms. Riecss introduced the new Hernando/Citrus MPO Executive Director Bob Esposito. Mr. Esposito invited the committee members to him a call if they had any questions or concerns.

2. 11/18/21 and 2/3/22 MPO meeting update and issues list

Ms. Riecss mentioned that the meeting summary from the MPOs November 18, 2021, and February 3, 2022, Meetings along with an updated issue list were in the agenda packet and welcomed any questions the committee may have had. No questions or comments were made.

3. Crash data and Safety Measure Update

Ms. Riecss explained that the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is required to establish performance targets for each of the measures identified in § 490.207(a). [23 CFR 490.209(c)] on an annual basis. Ms. Riecss continued listing the required safety performance measures as follows:

- Number of fatalities
- Rate of fatalities p/100 million Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)
- Number of serious injuries
- Rate of serious injuries p/100 million VMT
- Number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries

She provided a history of the performance measures, explaining that the MPO initially adopted the required safety performance measures on January 30, 2018, and subsequently in 2019, 2020 and 2021. The MPO recognized and adopted the FDOT long-term "Vision Zero" aspirational target for fatalities/serious injuries statewide. The MPO Board adopted the attached resolution at their February 3, 2022, meeting.

Ms. Reicss concluded the item, explaining that the data provided by the Safety Office's Crash Analysis Reporting (CAR) database as of December 14, 2021, was included in the agenda packet for committee information.

4. FY 2023 – FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program Draft Concepts/Timeline

Ms. Reicss informed the Board that MPOs are required to develop UPWPs to govern work programs for the expenditure of FHWA and FTA planning funds [23 CFR 450.308) (450.308) (b)]. The UPWP defines the work tasks of the MPOs annual transportation planning efforts with estimated budget costs and funding sources. It is created every two years and updated in the second year. She explained that based on the schedule, the MPO staff is developing a new UPWP for FY 2023-2024. A draft is due to the FDOT by March 15, 2022 and must be approved by the MPO by May 15, 2022.

She explained that MPO staff will be discussing program concepts with the committee at the next meeting

F. ACTION ITEMS

1. 2045 LRTP (LRTP) Amendment – to Include the Extension of Suncoast 2 from CR 486 to CR 495, and CR 495 to US 19

Ms. Reicss spoke about the approved 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan that depicts a future swath north of CR 486 to identify the potential location of the extension of the Suncoast Parkway. She explained the Florida Turnpike Enterprise has requested an amendment to the MPOs 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan. The amendment includes:

- A. Extension of the Suncoast Parkway from SR 486 to CR 495 into the Roadway Network Cost Feasible Interim Plan for Citrus County with associated tables and appendices. Based on the request, design will occur in FY 2022 (\$10,336,604), right of way acquisition in 2024-2026 (\$26,679,687), and construction in 2026 (\$176,570,982).
- B. Extension of the Suncoast Parkway from CR 495 to US 19 into the Roadway Network Unfunded Needs for Citrus County and associated tables and appendices. design in FY 2022/2023 (\$10,497,827), right of way acquisition in 2025-2027 (\$30,047.220), and construction (\$162,825,800) which is unfunded.

Ms. Reicss concluded with the staff recommendation that the BPAC recommend the MPO Board approve the FY 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment to include both sections listed above. The item was opened for public

comment. Hearing no questions or comment from the public, the Chair closed the public comment period and continued with the motion process.

Motion: Mr. Jim McLean made a motion to approve the 2045 LRTP amendment as presented. Mr. Dennis Henize seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

2. FY 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment – to include design funds for Extension of Suncoast 2

The Florida Turnpike Enterprise (FTE) has requested the MPO review and approve an amendment to the MPO's provided staff with a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment for FY 2022-2026.

The amendment adds design funding in FY 2022 for FM #442764-2 Suncoast II (SR 589) - CR 486 to CR 495 and FM # 442764-3 Suncoast II (SR 589) from CR 495 to US 19 into the MPO's Transportation Improvement Program consistent with FTE's Work Program.

Ms. Riecss concluded with the staff recommendation that the BPAC recommend the MPO Board approve the amendment to include the Suncoast 2 into the FY 2022-2026 TIP. The item was opened for public comment. Hearing none, the Chair closed the public comment period and continued with the motion process.

Motion: Mr. Dennis Reiland made a motion to approve the FY 2022-2026 TIP amendment as presented. Mr. Jim McLean seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

G. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

H. COMMITTEE/STAFF COMMENTS

Ms. Nobles let the committee know Citrus County Parks and Recreation will be in charge of maintenance for the Withlacoochee State Trail. They are getting final approval to have a ribbon cutting ceremony for this part of the trail; when they have a date certain, invitations will be sent out. Mr. Dennis Reiland interjected that the Friends of the Withlacoochee are trying to get the Dunnellon Connector named after Steve Diez. Mr. Reiland was concerned that the group had not been able to get any communication back from the legislative aids and asked if the MPO knew of anything that could be done to help. Mr. Esposito volunteered to get in contact with one of the aids, whom he knows from his time spent with FDOT, to get an answer for the Friends of the Withlacoochee.

*Mr. Esposito followed up after the meeting with Mr. McLean stating that Adele Hembree at Dr. Ralph Massullo's office said Dr. Massullo is ok with sponsoring a resolution for the Dunnellon Connector to be named in honor of Steve Diez. To accomplish this goal however, they would need to have a resolution from Citrus County first and it is too late to try and get it

into legislation for this current session. Adele suggests that the Friends should have the resolution signed and to them by October 2022 for next Session which will start in March of 2023.

I. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING – the meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the BICYCLE / PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC) will be held on Wednesday, March 23, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. at the Hernando County Building Division Training Room, 1661 Blaise Drive, Brooksville, FL

The meeting agenda and back-up materials are available online at:

www.hernandocounty.us/hernandocitrusmpo.