



TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) OF THE HERNANDO/CITRUS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

MINUTES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) held a regular meeting on Wednesday, May 24, 2023, at the Hernando County Building Training Facility, 1661 Blaise Drive, Brooksville, Florida. The meeting was advertised in the Hernando Sun and Citrus Chronicle newspapers and the agenda was available on the Hernando/Citrus MPO website.

TAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Walt Eastmond, Chair, Citrus County Public Works Department
Omar DePablo, Alternate, Hernando County Planning Department
Todd Crosby, Hernando County Department of Public Works
Dave Peters, City of Brooksville
Zachary Daniel, City of Inverness
Darlene Lollie, Hernando County Transit
Joanne Granger, Citrus County Transit

TAC MEMBERS ABSENT

Eric Landon, Citrus County Planning Department
Anthony Cavaliere, Hernando County School District
Chuck Dixon, Citrus County School District
Brian Hermann, City of Crystal River

OTHERS PRESENT

Robert Esposito, MPO Executive Director
Mary Elwin, MPO Coordinator
Joy Turner, MPO Administrative Assistant III
William Roll, Kimley-Horn General Planning Consultant
Suzanne Monk, Florida Department of Transportation, District 7, Government Liaison

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

- Chair Eastmond called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and led the Moment of Silence.
- The Pledge of Allegiance and the introductions of the Committee members and staff followed the Moment of Silence.
- A quorum was declared, and the affidavit of publication was read into the record.

APPROVAL/MODIFICATION OF AGENDA

Motion: A motion to approve the agenda was made by Ms. Granger and seconded by Mr. Daniel. The motion passed 7-0.

ELECTION OF THE COMMITTEE VICE CHAIR

Motion: A motion to elect Ms. Miller as Vice Chair for 2023 was made by Ms. Granger and seconded by Ms. Lollie. The motion passed 7-0.

REVIEW/APPROVAL MINUTES – MARCH 22, 2023

Motion: A motion to approve the Minutes was made by Ms. Granger and seconded by Mr. Peters. The motion passed 7-0.

REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE DRAFT FY 2024-FY 2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN (TIP)

Upon inquiry from the Chair on the status of Capital Improvement Programs in the TIP, Ms. Elwin noted that the Capital Improvement Plans reflected in the TIP are draft documents subject to approval by the jurisdictions since they typically are not approved until September during budget adoption.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Granger to recommend the Hernando/Citrus MPO Board adopt the draft FY 2024-FY 2028 Transportation Improvement Program with amendments to the List of Priority Projects (LOPP) as follows:

- switch the order of Items 8 and 10,
- add Item 6 (roundabout at Lake Lindsey Road),
- add a new Item 13 (roundabout at US 41 and North Citrus Springs Boulevard), and
- renumber subsequent Items 13-16 accordingly.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Crosby and the motion passed 7-0.

REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE ANNUAL DRAFT UPDATE OF THE LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS (LOPP)

Mr. Esposito reviewed the proposed changes to the Congestion Management (CM) LOPP annual draft update by noting the following:

- Citrus County's Croft Avenue (Item 3 in the 2023 LOPP) is a top project, but CR 491 (Item 7 in the 2023 LOPP) is a higher priority, and it is recommended to move Croft Avenue to Item 13 and move CR 491 to Item 5.
- Projects on the LOPP rotate between Citrus County and Hernando County. Funding is currently being used for Item 1, US 41 in Citrus County. Next available funding will be directed to Item 2, County Line Road in Hernando County.
- Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) may have a solution for Item 6 in the 2023 LOPP (US 41/SR 50A One-Way Pairs going through Brooksville) and suggested to move to Item 4 of the proposed LOPP.
- Item 6, a roundabout at US 41 at Lake Lindsey Road, was added per FDOT recommendation due to the number of serious accidents at that location. Mr. Crosby asked if more information could be provided on this project but was satisfied with the recommended location on the LOPP.
- Mr. Crosby inquired if Item 8, CR 485/Cobb Road from Yontz Road to US 98, was a resurfacing project. Mr. Esposito stated Item 8 is adding lanes and recommended a study be conducted to confirm if the project needed to extend all the way to US 98, especially with the availability of the Suncoast Parkway.
- A new Item 13, a roundabout at US 41 and North Citrus Springs Boulevard, is being added which will renumber Items 13-16 allowing for a total of 17 items on the proposed LOPP.

Mr. DePablo commented that extensive groundwork was planned at Quarry Preserve on US 98 (a Development of Regional Impact) and would need to be considered for any future roadwork in that area. The committee asked to swap the priorities in the list for Items 8 and 10. The TAC had no changes to the Transportation Alternatives (TA) LOPP.

There was Committee discussion on Cobb Road (Item 4, LOPP 2023). Mr. Roll commented that Cobb Road had been identified as an improvement to push traffic out of Brooksville but there are no funds available. Mr. Roll suggested focus should be placed on the portion of Cobb Road immediately north of US 50 at the 4-way intersection. Ms. Monk suggested to leave this item intact until a study could be performed and revisit any changes during the 2024 LOPP annual update.

Motion: A motion to recommend the Hernando/Citrus MPO Board approve the annual draft update of the List of Priority Projects (LOPP) with amendments to switch the order of Item 8 and 10, add Item 6 (roundabout at Lindsey Road), add Item 13 (roundabout at US 41 and North Citrus Springs Boulevard), and renumber Items 13-16 down one notch was made by Ms. Granger and seconded by Mr. Crosby. The motion passed 7-0.

REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE FY 2024 DRAFT ANNUAL UPDATE OF THE UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

Ms. Elwin noted the updates to Tasks 1-5 (underlines/strikethrough) were primarily to add the ability to use consulting services for these tasks. Ms. Granger asked whether the UPWP should be updated with 2023 census data. Mr. Roll and Ms. Monk shared the processes to update the Apportionment Plan and Urban Area Boundary Update will begin soon and once complete, the 2023 census data would be used for the next UPWP (FY 2025 – FY 2026).

Motion: A motion was made by Mr. DePablo to recommend the Hernando/Citrus MPO Board approve the FY 2024 draft annual update of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and the motion was seconded by Ms. Lollie. The motion passed 7-0.

PRESENTATION ON THE 2050 LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP) SCOPE A SOCIOECONOMIC FORECAST

William Roll, Kimley-Horn General Planning Consultant, is in the process of preparing the Socioeconomic Forecast study for the 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and reviewed a PowerPoint presentation on the status of data being analyzed to-date. Mr. DePablo noted it appeared that approved development is not reflected on some of the slides including a 5,200-unit subdivision called Sunrise. Mr. Roll stated that he was awaiting information from Michelle Miller to finalize the data/maps.

CITIZEN COMMENTS – There were no citizens present.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

- Chair Eastmond shared that the project to widen CR 491, from Audubon Park Path to Horace Allen Street, was out for bid.

HERNANDO/CITRUS MPO STAFF COMMENTS

- Mr. Esposito and Chair Eastmond expressed gratitude to FDOT for:
 - the additional \$2.3 million dollars for US 41 in Citrus County,
 - for adding in a traffic signal at Gospel Island and SR 44 during their resurfacing project,
 - for covering approximately \$100,000 for the rectangular rapid flashing beacon study at the Withlacoochee State Trail in Inverness. The City of Inverness would have originally been required to pay for the study, but FDOT offered to cover the costs.
 - the new proposed roundabout at US 41 and Lake Lindsey Road.
 - Towards the end of June, a solution to give Brooksville one-way pairs may come to fruition.
- The MPO is in its initial phases of creating the 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) which is the MPOs largest plan and is required to be finalized October 2024.
- The Vulnerability and Risk Assessment Study underway and is consistent with the federal planning emphasis areas in which the MPO must comply. The analysis is based on the exposure to three weather related risks, 1) storm surge associated with named storm events, 2) inland flooding resulting from 1% rain events, and 3) wildfire hazard potential. Mr. Esposito expressed his appreciation to the TAC for their attendance and participation for this important study. He noted that the attendance at the April 19, 2023, stakeholder meeting was 17 (of the 21 stakeholders). The attendance at the May 17, 2023, meeting was 21 (100% of the stakeholders). The team is anticipating a third meeting late August or September.

ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

Chair Eastmond adjourned the meeting at 10:19 a.m. The regular meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, June 21, 2023, beginning at 9:00 a.m., in the Lecanto Government Building, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Room 166, Lecanto, Florida.

[Subsequent to this meeting, the June 21, 2023, meeting was cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for July 26, 2023.]