



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

**Thursday, July 25, 2024**

**MINUTES**

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) held a regular meeting on Thursday, July 25, 2024, at the Hernando County Building Training Facility, 1661 Blaise Drive, Brooksville, Florida. The meeting was noticed on the Hernando County, Citrus County, and Hernando/Citrus MPO websites.

**TAC MEMBERS PRESENT**

Scott Herring, Chair, Hernando County Department of Public Works  
Walt Eastmond, Vice Chair, County Engineer, Citrus County Public Works Department  
Eric Landon, Citrus County Planning Department  
Omar DePablo, Hernando County Planning Department  
Darlene Lollie, Hernando County Transit  
Chuck Dixon, Citrus County School District  
Joanne Granger, Citrus County Transit  
David Peters, City of Brooksville  
Chris Shoemaker, City of Inverness  
Valerie Pianta, Non-Voting Member, Hernando County Airport  
Todd Regan, Non-Voting Member, Citrus County Aviation Section  
Suzanne Ziegler, Non-Voting Advisor, Florida Department of Transportation, District 7

**TAC MEMBERS ABSENT**

Jenette Collins, Growth Management Director, City of Crystal River  
James Lipsey, Hernando County School District

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Bob Esposito, MPO Executive Director  
Mary Elwin, MPO Coordinator  
Joy Turner, MPO Administrative Assistant III  
Marc Ispass, Deputy Project Manager, MPO General Planning Consultant, Kimley-Horn & Associates

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

- Chair Herring called the meeting to order at 9:00 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.

**APPROVAL/MODIFICATION OF AGENDA**

**Motion:** A motion was made by Vice Chair Eastmond to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Granger and the motion passed 9-0.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MINUTES – May 23, 2024**

**Motion:** A motion was made by Vice Chair Eastmond to approve the Minutes of the May 23, 2024, meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dixon and the motion passed 9-0.

*[It was noted for the record that a quorum was declared, and Ms. Elwin noted for the record that the public notice for the meeting was posted in accordance with the adopted Public Participation Plan.]*

## PRESENTATION

### Presentation by the MPO's General Planning Consultant, Kimley-Horn & Associates, of the Needs Assessment for the 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and Review of the 2050 LRTP Draft Cost Feasible Plan

Mr. Esposito introduced Marc Ispass, Deputy Project Manager, MPO General Planning Consultant with Kimley-Horn & Associates. Mr. Ispass made a presentation on the Needs Assessment for the 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and provided priority ranking sheets to the committee members for projects in Hernando County and Citrus County. Mr. Ispass invited the committee members to rank their top three projects and return the sheets to him. Comments from the TAC included:

- Vice Chair Eastmond asked if projects have received funding, should the project be ranked? Chair Herring confirmed that until projects were funded through construction, the project should remain on the list and be ranked.
- Vice Chair Eastmond mentioned that in Citrus County, US 19 (SR 55)/US98 from Cardinal Street to W Green Acres Street is complete (four lanes). Mr. Ispass confirmed the priority ranking sheet listed the project activity as widening from two to four lanes versus widening from four to six lanes as reflected on the List of Priority Projects (LOPP).
- Chair Herring relayed that the Hernando County priority ranking sheet should reflect widening US 41 (SR 45) from Spring Hill Drive to Powell Road from four to six lanes versus two to four.
- Mr. Esposito emphasized that county roads are not the state's responsibility; however, the state is more likely to partner with counties that can partially fund projects. Mr. Landon asked if there are guidelines on how much funding counties should provide when seeking assistance from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). Mr. Esposito relayed that counties should plan for fifty percent but projects with no county funds would be difficult to prioritize.
- Chair Herring shared that the Hernando County Board of County Commission will hold the second public hearing to increase impact fees on Tuesday, July 30, 2024.
- Mr. Landon asked the committee members if information was available outlining the differences between mobility fees, concurrency fees, and impact fees that he could share with the Citrus County Board of County Commissions. Ms. Elwin relayed that typical mobility fees are a one-time fee that developers pay to the local municipality to help cover the costs of infrastructure and public services related to growth. The mobility fee is intended to mitigate the impact of new development on a city's transportation system. Impact fees are assessed when permits are issued. Mr. Herring mentioned that the June 13, 2023, Hernando County Board of County Commission agenda packet contained a memo from the Hernando County Attorney outlining the differences between mobility fees versus impact fees (agenda item #12171). Mr. Landon was also encouraged to contact the Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR).
- Mr. Herring requested the interchange at Centralia and the Sun Coast Parkway be added to the list and included as a priority project in the 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Mr. Herring also emphasized the Hernando County FY2025-FY2034 Transit Development Plan (TDP) should be incorporated into the 2050 LRTP.

## ACTION ITEM

### Review and Recommendation on the 2025 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Esposito reviewed the schedule noting that Ms. Turner had suggested that the rotation of meetings be reflected as to how they are likely to occur given a review of the past two years of meetings. The proposed schedule was more equitable to all the members for traveling purposes between the counties.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Vice Chair Eastmond to recommend the MPO Board approve the 2025 Meeting Schedule. The motion was seconded by Ms. Granger and the motion passed 9-0.

## CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no citizen comments.

## COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Granger indicated the Citrus County Transit Development Plan (TDP) would be adopted in March 2026 and inquired if updates to the TDP would be included in the 2050 or 2055 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Mr. Ispass indicated appendices to the 2050 LRTP could be added within 90

days of adoption without triggering an amendment. Ms. Elwin stated that if the TDP changes are substantial, the 2050 LRTP would be amended.

### **MPO STAFF UPDATES**

Mr. Esposito shared the following updates:

- 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Public Workshops on August 5, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. in Brooksville and at 5:00 p.m. in Inverness. The workshops can be attended in person or virtually.

### **ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, August 29, 2024, beginning at 9:00 a.m., in the Lecanto Government Building, 3600 W Sovereign Path, Room 166, Lecanto, Florida.

***Motion:*** A motion was made by Vice Chair Eastmond to adjourn the meeting.

Chair Herring adjourned the meeting at 9:36 a.m.