



Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting
Marion County – Library Headquarters, Meeting Room B
2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, FL 34470
3:30 PM

MINUTES

Members Present:

Noel Cooper
Ji Li (*Steven Neal attended as an alternate arrived at 3:31pm*)
Kia Powell
Loretta Shaffer
Eric Smith
Tracy Straub (*Steven Cohoon attended as an alternate*)
Mickey Thomason
Bob Titterington
Chuck Varadin (*arrived at 3:34pm*)

Members Not Present:

Dave Herlihy
Ji Li
Chad Ward

Others Present:

Rob Balmes, Ocala Marion TPO
Sara Brown, Ocala Marion TPO
Shakayla Irby, Ocala Marion TPO
Liz Mitchell, Ocala Marion TPO
Jeff Shrum, City of Ocala
Michelle Shearer

Item 1. Call to Order

Chairman Eric Smith called the meeting to order at 3:30pm.

Item 2. Roll Call

Secretary Shakayla Irby called the roll and a quorum was present.

Item 3. Proof of Publication

Secretary Shakayla Irby stated the meeting had been published online to the TPO's website, as well as the City of Ocala, Belleview, Marion County, and Dunnellon's websites on April 2, 2024. The meeting had also been published to the TPOs Facebook and Twitter pages.

Item 4. Consent Agenda

Mr. Thomason made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Shaffer seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 5a. Commitment to Zero Safety Action Plan Project List

Mr. Balmes presented to the committee and said that on November 29, 2022, the TPO Board adopted the Commitment to Zero Safety Action Plan. The Action Plan outlines a framework and strategies for achieving the long-term goal of zero fatalities and serious injuries to the transportation system of Marion County.

Based upon a Notice of Funding Opportunity by the U.S. Department of Transportation on February 21, 2024 for the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant program, the TPO proposed to update the Action Plan Project List.

On March 14, the TPO made a formal project addition request to local government partners.

In accordance with the agreed-upon process for listing and ranking projects in 2023, TPO staff have added an additional project from Marion County: C.R. 464 (Maricamp Road) from Baseline Road to SE 108th Terrace Road, to a revised list. These projects were ranked based on four primary criteria established and approved in 2023:

- Location on the Commitment to Zero High Injury Network (HIN)
- Five-year history of fatalities and serious injuries (2018-2022)
- Location in a 2045 LRTP Equity Area
- 2023 LOPP Ranking

Mr. Cooper had asked for clarification as to whether a project that was in a study phase should be added to the project list or only projects in the construction phase.

Mr. Balmes clarified that the list included projects in both the construction and study phases.

He mentioned that the list was geared toward the Safe Streets and Roads for All federal grant. The List of Priority Projects (LOPP) was more focused on FDOT funding opportunities for Federal and State.

Mr. Cooper asked that SW 27th Avenue at SW 19th Avenue Road be added to the list as a study.

Ms. Shaffer made a motion to approve the Commitment to Zero Safety Action Plan Project List with recommendations. Mr. Thomason seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 6a. Draft Fiscal Years (FY) 2024/25 to 2025/26 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Mr. Balmes presented and said the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is a federally required two-year document that serves as the TPO's working budget.

Every two years, the TPO develops a draft UPWP document. The draft Fiscal Years 2024/25 to 2025/26 UPWP covers the next two-year period from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026. The UPWP is required as a basis and condition for receiving federal funding assistance from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

Mr. Balmes provided a presentation of the draft version of the FY 2024/25 to 2025/26 UPWP. As part of the development of the UPWP, a 30-day public review process from March 14 to April 12, 2024. Some of the notable highlights of the Draft UPWP were as follows:

- The TPO and Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) continue to participate in a Consolidated Planning Grant (CPG), which combines FHWA PL and FTA 5305d funding into one program.
- The state, through the FDOT, provides the local cash match requirement to the federal CPG grant by applying toll revenue credits (soft-match).
- The FHWA and FTA, through the U.S. Department of Transportation, maintain eight federal planning emphasis areas (PEAs) to be integrated into TPO tasks and planning activities (same as last UPWP).
- The state, through FDOT, maintains four statewide emphasis areas, including safety, equity, resilience and emerging mobility (same as last UPWP).

Item 6b. Quarterly Transportation Safety Report

Ms. Sara Brown provided a presentation to the committee and said at the February 27, 2024 TPO Board Meeting, TPO Staff presented the 2024 Performance Management Safety Targets (PM1) that reported on 2023 data up until November 30, 2023.

TPO Board Members asked TPO staff to present at the March 26, 2024 TPO Board Meeting an update to the 2024 Performance Management Safety Targets (PM1). The Board also asked to see a breakdown by month of the fatalities and serious injuries. Based on feedback from the TPO Board, TPO Staff created a Quarterly Safety Report reporting on data through December 31, 2023.

The safety report is provided on pages 6-7 of this set of minutes for reference.

Mr. Neal had inquired if the statistics presented included both the City of Ocala, Marion County, and Highway Patrol, to which Ms. Brown responded, yes.

Item 7. Comments by FDOT

Ms. Kia Powell provided the construction report and reminded the committee that they could visit www.cflroads.com for additional information. She reported seven lane closures reported in the area.

Ms. Powell also gave the following updates:

- S.R. 492 bridge improvements were starting April 11th and road closures could be expected around April 13th.
- FDOT started producing monthly newsletters that highlighted various events and activities taking place throughout the district. These newsletters are provided on a monthly basis.

Item 8. Comments by TPO Staff

Mr. Balmes gave the following comments:

- The TPO and consultant team Kimley-Horn and Associates would be formally kicking-off the 2050 LRTP project to the public on April 23 at 2 pm at the County Commission Auditorium. On March 22, 2024, the 2050 LRTP Steering Committee convened its first meeting to begin the process of discussing the project and offering technical advice and feedback to the TPO and Kimley-Horn and Associates. Based on the current project schedule, the first 2050 LRTP Community Open House will be in September 2024.
- On an annual basis, the TPO worked in collaboration with the cities of Belleview, Dunnellon, Ocala, and Marion County to develop and submit a List of Priority Projects (LOPP) to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). This process was undertaken to identify the highest priority projects to receive consideration for federal and state funding through the FDOT Work Program over the next five years. The upcoming cycle would be for state fiscal years (FY) 2026 to 2030. The schedule for the 2024 LOPP process included two rounds of reviews through the committee and TPO Board process as follows:
 - May 14 – Draft 2024 LOPP for CAC and TAC discussion and review
 - May 28 – Draft 2024 LOPP for TPO Board review
 - June 11 – CAC and TAC 2024 LOPP recommendations to TPO Board
 - June 25 – TPO Board 2024 LOPP adoption
 - June 28 – TPO staff submission of 2024 LOPP to FDOT
- The USDOT Greenhouse Gas Rule for declining tailpipe emission target requirements for DOT's and MPO/TPO's had been vacated in federal court in Texas and Kentucky. FDOT and the TPO/MPO's in Florida and the nation are no longer required to submit targets and conduct reporting.

Item 9. Comments by TAC Members

There were no comments by TAC members.

Item 10. Public Comment

Steven Cohoon, Marion County Engineer mentioned that Marion County was in the process of hiring a professional services contractor to pursue Safe Streets for All funding. He emphasized that part of this endeavor would involve ensuring that County projects were included on the Commitment to Zero Safety Action Plan Project list. Mr. Cohoon also mentioned that they were seeking funding for the C.R. 464 project and expressed the hope that any additional projects added to the list would be separated in a manner that would not adversely affect the county's needs.

Item 11. Adjournment

Chairman Smith adjourned the meeting at 3:53pm.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Shakayla Irby, TPO Administrative Assistant



An Action Plan >>> for Safer Streets in Ocala Marion

FY24 Q3 Quarterly Safety Report

Update on the Safety Performance Measures

On February 27, 2024, TPO staff gave a presentation on the 2024 Performance Management Safety Targets. Since that meeting, crash records have been updated for the last two full years.

The previously reported fatalities for 2022 have decreased from 115 fatalities to 112 fatalities. Three fatalities have been updated to non-traffic fatalities which are not counted towards the total fatalities.

The table below shows the crash data breakdown for 2019 to 2023 for each of the safety performance measures.

Safety Performance Measure	2019-2023	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Annual Total Crashes	48,402	9,558	8,435	9,983	10,113	10,313
Annual Total Crash Rate (Per 100 million VMT)	207.31	203.36	187.86	218.45	212.46	213.65
Annual Fatalities	499	90	105	93	112	99
Annual Fatality Rate (Per 100 million VMT)	2.14	1.91	2.34	2.04	2.35	2.05
Annual Serious Injuries	1,917	435	302	265	487	428
Annual Serious Injury Rate (Per 100 million VMT)	8.21	9.26	6.73	5.80	10.23	8.87
# of Pedestrian Fatalities	90	20	22	18	17	13
Pedestrian Fatality Rate (Per 100 million VMT)	0.39	0.43	0.49	0.39	0.36	0.27
# of Pedestrian Serious Injuries	120	32	17	22	20	29
Pedestrian Serious Injury Rate (Per 100 million VMT)	0.51	0.68	0.38	0.48	0.42	0.60
# of Bicycle Fatalities	15	1	2	3	5	4
Bicycle Fatality Rate (Per 100 million VMT)	0.06	0.02	0.04	0.07	0.11	0.08
# of Bicycle Serious Injuries	52	9	12	8	14	9
Bicycle Serious Injuries (Per 100 million VMT)	0.22	0.19	0.27	0.18	0.29	0.19

The 2023 Safety Performance Measures were reported as of November 30, 2023 back in February. The TPO reported that we met all the targets in 2023 as of November 2023. With the updated crash data, the Ocala Marion TPO met 4 out of the 5 targets for 2023. The chart below shows the results as of March 13, 2024.

Safety Performance Measure	2023 Targets	2023 Results	Target Met?
#1 - Fatalities	101	99	Yes
#2 - Fatalities per 100 Million VMT	2.14	2.05	Yes
#3 - Serious Injuries	417	428	No
#4 - Serious Injuries per 100 Million VMT	8.87	8.87	Yes
#5 - Number of Non-Motorized (bicycle, pedestrian) Fatalities and Serious Injuries	56	55*	Yes

*Signal 4 reports 57 pedestrian and bicycle fatalities and serious injuries. Upon further review this data does include 2 non-pedestrian and bicyclists serious injuries to occupants of a vehicle that were involved in the crash.

2023 Monthly Fatality and Serious Injury Crash Breakdown

In 2023, there were 99 fatalities and 428 serious injuries reported as of March 13, 2024. The graph below displays the breakdown of fatalities and serious injuries by month during 2023. April had the most fatalities and serious injuries combined while August had the least.

