



TPO Board Meeting

Marion County Commission Auditorium and via WebEx
601 SE 25th Avenue, Ocala, FL 34471
November 24, 2020
4:00 PM

MINUTES

Members Present:

Councilman Ire Bethea
Commissioner Kathy Bryant
Commissioner Ronald Livsey
Councilman Brent Malever
Commissioner Craig Curry
Councilman Jay Musleh
Commissioner Michelle Stone
Commissioner Carl Zalak

Members Not Present:

Commissioner Jeff Gold
Councilman Justin Grabelle
Mayor Kent Guinn
Councilwoman Valerie Hanchar

Others Present:

Rob Balmes, TPO
Derrick Harris, TPO
Shakayla Irby, TPO
Liz Mitchell, TPO
Anton Schauerte, TPO
Anna Taylor, FDOT

Item 1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Vice-Chairman Brent Malever called the meeting to order at 4:02pm.

Item 2. Roll Call

Shakayla Irby, Administrative Assistant called the roll and a quorum was present.

Item 3. Proof of Publication

Shakayla Irby, Administrative Assistant stated the meeting was published online at the TPO website and the City of Ocala, Belleview and Dunnellon and Marion County meeting calendars on November 17, 2020. The meeting was also published to the TPO's Facebook and Twitter pages.

Item 4a. 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan – Adoption Document

Mr. Derrick Harris presented and said that the TPO had been working diligently on the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) since May of 2019. TPO staff, in partnership with consulting team Kittelson & Associates, had completed a DRAFT of the LRTP.

The LRTP was the foundational planning document that guided the TPO in all its projects, plans, and priorities for the future. It showed a list of all the TPO's goals and objectives, including which revenues would be utilized to fund the projects listed in the LRTP.

The LRTP had been presented at a duly noticed public hearing on October 27, 2020. Additionally, the LRTP was presented and recommended for approval by the TPO's Citizen and Technical Advisory Committee's on November 10, 2020. Lastly, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) had reviewed and offered feedback on the LRTP. Their comments and findings were minimal and mostly suggestions.

Mr. Musleh made a motion to approve the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan-Adoption Document. Ms. Stone seconded, a roll-call vote was called and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 4b. Joint Planning Agreement with Lake~Sumter MPO

Mr. Balmes presented and the Ocala/Marion County TPO and Lake~Sumter MPO were the metropolitan planning organizations established by federal regulations and state statutes to carry out the required transportation planning activities in Marion, Lake and Sumter Counties respectively.

For more than a decade the three counties had experienced significant growth. Based on the results of the 2010 Census, both TPO/MPO's were identified as sharing and serving the Lady-Lakes/Villages Urbanized Area. Due to the overlapping service area, along with anticipated continued growth of the Villages, a Joint Metropolitan Planning Agreement was recommended to formalize future planning and coordination.

Additionally, per federal regulations (CFR 450.312; CFR 450.314), TPO/MPOs that share an urbanized area are expected to develop written agreements to outline the coordination of transportation planning activities. Based on past conversations with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), a Joint Planning Agreement was also suggested as a document to guide future collaboration.

The Planning Agreement presented to the TPO board outlined the obligations and responsibilities of both parties that would be coordinated. The agreement included the Regional Transportation Model, Long Range Transportation Plan, Joint Regional Priorities, and Joint Regional Public Involvement, Website coordination, performance measures, Transportation Improvement Program and Unified Planning Work Program.

It should be noted the TPO had coordinated for many years with the Lake~Sumter MPO regarding all core planning activities. The Agreement simply formalized the working relationship and would continue to support future collaboration, especially post 2020 Census when the urbanized areas of all three counties were expected to change.

Mr. Bethea made a motion to approve the Joint Planning Agreement with Lake~Sumter MPO. Ms. Stone seconded, a roll-call vote was called and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 4c. Chair and Vice Chair Election

Per TPO Board Bylaws, the TPO Board members elect a Chair and Vice-Chair to serve a one year term at the last board meeting of the calendar year. In 2020, the current officers were:

- Chair, Marion County Commissioner Jeff Gold
- Vice-Chair, City of Ocala Councilman Brent Malever

The newly elected officers would begin their terms as Chair and Vice-Chair on January 1, 2021.

Ms. Bryant made a motion to nominate Ms. Stone to be the Chair and Mr. Bethea to be the Vice-Chair. Mr. Zalak seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 4d. Appointments to the Florida Metropolitan Planning

On an annual basis, the TPO Board reviewed and selected delegates to the Florida MPOAC. Action was required to appoint one Governing Board delegate and one alternate for 2021. The current 2020 delegate and alternate are as follows.

MPOAC (1 member, 1 alternate, 1 TPO Director)

Governing Board Member: Marion County Commissioner David Moore (*outgoing*)

Alternate Member: City of Dunnellon Councilwoman Valerie Hanchar

The MPOAC was a statewide transportation planning and policy organization devoted to serving the 27 MPO/TPO's in Florida. The MPOAC consisted of a Governing Board, with one representative and one alternate from all MPO/TPO's. The MPOAC had a Staff Directors' Advisory Committee, which was represented by the TPO Director. In 2021, the MPOAC Governing Board would meet quarterly in Orlando.

Mr. Zalak made a motion to nominate Mr. Curry as the member to the MPOAC and

Ms. Hanchar to be the Alternate. Mr. Musleh seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

4e. Appointments to the Central Florida MPO Alliance

On an annual basis, the TPO Board reviewed and selected delegates to the Central Florida MPO Alliance. Action was required to appoint delegates for 2021. The current 2020 delegates and alternate were as follows.

Central Florida MPO Alliance (2 members, 1 alternate, 1 TPO Director)

*Member: Marion County Commissioner Michelle Stone

Member: Marion County Commissioner David Moore (*outgoing*)

Alternate Member: Marion County Commissioner Jeff Gold

*Commissioner Stone will again serve as Vice-Chair in 2021

The Central Florida MPO Alliance was a coalition of six MPO/TPO's within the larger Central Florida region. The Alliance was served by a Policy Board of 18 members, three each from the MPO/TPO's, including two TPO Board members and the TPO Director. In 2021, the Alliance would meet quarterly in Orlando.

Ms. Bryant made a motion to nominate Ms. Stone and Mr. Bethea as members to the CFMPOAC and for Mr. Curry to be the Alternate. Mr. Zalak seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 4f. 2021 TPO Board Meeting Schedule

Per the TPO Board bylaws, regular board meetings should be held at least quarterly. Based on a review of anticipated business items and key deadlines, a total of eight board meetings are proposed for 2021. The proposed meeting schedule was provided to the board.

Ms. Stone made a motion to approve the 2021 TPO Board Meeting Schedule with the removal of the November 2021 meeting. Ms. Bryant seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 5a. Draft Public Participation Plan (PPP) Update

Mr. Anton Schauerte presented and said due to the importance of the transportation system, in addition to the decisions that impacted it, the Ocala Marion TPO strived to engage the public in the transportation planning process to the greatest extent possible. One method the TPO used to engage the public was through the development of its Public Participation Plan (PPP). Overall, the purpose of the PPP was to highlight the specific opportunities available for the public to comment on planned transportation improvements. In the past, the document was referred to as the Public Involvement Plan (PIP).

The document had been updated from the previously approved Public Involvement Plan (PIP), which was adopted by the TPO Board on July 11, 2018. The PPP was required to be updated every three (3) years. Some of the key updates were as follows:

- Change of document name from **Public Involvement Plan (PIP)** to **Public Participation Plan (PPP)**
- Addition of text to inform reader where more information regarding the various TPO Boards and Committees and their meeting dates can be found
- Addition of text regarding the TPO website, the TPO's online map portal (currently under

development), e-mail communication, TPO online feedback form, social media platforms, virtual meetings, TPO fact sheets, and the TPO Annual Report (currently under development)

- Addition of text explaining the process for amending the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Text that had been highlighted in yellow in the DRAFT PPP represents proposed additions from the 2018 PIP. Similarly, text that had been highlighted *and* crossed-out represents proposed deletions from the 2018 PIP.

A legal notice stating the DRAFT PPP was open for public comment would be placed in the Ocala Star Banner on November 4, 2020 and would run through December 19, 2020.

TPO staff would be presenting the proposed changes to the document to the TPO Board at the November 24th meeting and at the January 26th meeting, TPO staff would present the comments that had been received and would also request approval of the document at that time.

Item 5b. TPO Program Activities, 2021

Mr. Rob Balmes presented a summary document of major programs and activities for the year 2021 for informational purposes of the board to ensure full board awareness when reviews and approvals would be required. The summary also included deadlines for submission to the Florida Department of Transportation.

Item 6. Consent Agenda

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

Item 7. Comments by FDOT

Ms. Anna Taylor with FDOT provided the board with an updated construction report. She also announced that the FDOT Work Program Public hearing (WPPH) week would be held online at D5wpph.com from January 11th – 15th, 2021. There would also be an in person Open House held on Thursday, January 14, 2021, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at FDOT, District Five, 719 South Woodland Boulevard, DeLand, Florida 32720 in Cypress A & B Conference Rooms.

Item 8. Comments by TPO Staff

Mr. Rob Balmes provided a staffing updated to the board notifying them on Mr. Derrick Harris' departure from the Ocala Marion TPO as he had taken a Director position in his hometown.

No news on the TPO Audit.

2021 would be the 40th Anniversary of the TPO and would be brainstorming with Staff to elevate the TPO in the community.

The Annual Report would be provided to the board in January 2021.

There would be some adjustments to the 5305(d) grant with a twenty percent impact to the grant.

Ms. Stone asked if the twenty percent cut the 5305(d) grant would impact any projects.

Mr. Balmes said that staff would be looking at the budget to see if any impacts and would report

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Approved –

back the board with any adjustments.

Item 9. Comments by TPO Members

Board members offered a Happy Thanksgiving to everyone. There were no additional comments.

Item 10. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Item 11. Adjournment

Vice-Chairman Malever adjourned the meeting at 4:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Shakayla Irby, Administrative Assistant