



MPO
Newsletter/Action Sheet
June 11, 2014

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Jim Kennedy called the meeting to order.

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Commissioner Bujalski conducted the invocation and led the Pledge for the MPO.

III. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Brian Smith, BPAC Chairman and Member of the Florida Trails and Greenways Foundation, announced that the Coast to Coast Trail received \$15.5 million in funding, with a portion to be used to fund the gap located in Pinellas County. He thanked the Pinellas County Legislative Delegation and the Governor for approving the funds. Mr. Smith also reported the Legislature passed Senate Bill 2514 that allows FDOT to use transportation trust funds for trails; and, in addition, legislation passed that allows FDOT to plan, design, and construct trails.

MPO staff agreed to email the bill to the MPO members.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

The MPO approved the consent agenda, which included the May 14, 2014 MPO meeting minutes; invoices from Tindale-Oliver and Associates and Laughlin & Associates, the FDOT Joint Participation Agreement for PL funds, and the Transportation Disadvantaged Planning Grant Agreement along MPO Resolution #14-4 authorizing the Interim Director to execute the agreement.

V. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

A. Proposed Amendment to the FY 2013/14 – 2017/18 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Following a public hearing, the MPO approved an amendment to the TIP adding Section 5310 funds for several agencies by roll call vote.

B. Adoption of the FY 2014/15 – 2018/19 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Following a public hearing, the MPO adopted the TIP by roll call vote. In response to member comments FDOT agreed to provide follow-up information regarding the Skyway Bridge repair and the schedule for the resurfacing project on S.R. 580 in Dunedin between Bass Boulevard and Pinehurst Road. Commissioner Bujalski agreed to have city staff provide Dunedin's concerns about the project to FDOT. In response to questions about 62nd Avenue from 49th Street to U.S. 19, MPO staff agreed to provide an update since the County's Work Program will not come before the MPO for review until fall.

VI. PRESENTATION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Transit Access Study Presentation

Upon a request by FDOT, this item was deferred until the July MPO meeting, at which time there will be an MPO and FDOT presentation.

B. Transportation Alternatives Program Update

1. TA Project Priorities List

The MPO approved the TCC recommendation to allow local governments to modify and substitute their Transportation Alternatives (TA) Priority List Projects and allow local governments to submit new projects, which will be added to the bottom of the TA Priority List.

2. Use of TA Funds for Security Cameras

Following the City of St. Petersburg staff presentation regarding enhancements and proposed strategies to increase safety for the Pinellas Trail users within the City limits, a St. Petersburg Police Department representative reviewed information regarding security cameras (similar to those used in the City of Bradenton) and other safety measures along the Pinellas Trail. A field trip to review Bradenton's cameras has tentatively been scheduled for July 7 at 2:00 p.m. at the Bradenton Police Department. FDOT reported that security cameras meet the eligibility requirements for safety-related infrastructure as part of the Transportation Alternatives program and indicated they would be willing to work with the MPO staff to develop a project; however, the first step would be to include the project on the Transportation Alternatives Priority List. Following discussion, the MPO voted to support the use of security cameras in St. Petersburg as part of a pilot program and to encourage the County's partnership with the City on this initiative.

The MPO requested an update be placed on next month's agenda along with a report on the July 8 Pinellas Trail Security Task Force meeting.

C. Modification to the 2035 MPO Long Range Transportation Plan

The MPO approved the modification to the 2035 LRTP to add language regarding the replacement of major County bridge structures, including the Beckett, Dunedin Causeway and San Martin Bridges.

Regarding a request to look at options to fund improvements to the intersection at Belcher Road and Gulf-to-Bay Boulevard, MPO staff committed to work with the County staff regarding the project. A follow-up report to the MPO will be provided.

D. FY 2014/15 Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP) Update

The MPO approved the FY 2014/15 TDSP Update.

E. Committee Recommendation – BPAC and TCC Recommendation Regarding Installation of a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon at the Intersection of Alternate U.S. 19 and Delaware Avenue in Palm Harbor

MPO staff reported that FDOT has agreed to issue a permit to the County for the installation of a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) at the intersection of Alternate U.S. 19 and Delaware Avenue in Palm Harbor to facilitate safer access for students attending Palm Harbor University High School. The MPO then approved the BPAC and TCC recommendation supporting the installation of a RRFB.

VII. REPORTS/UPDATE

A. Report on June 6 Tampa Bay TMA Leadership Group Meeting

MPO staff provided a brief summary of the recent Tampa Bay TMA Leadership Group meeting and indicated the Regional Priority List will be on next month's agenda for the MPO's endorsement.

B. PSTA Activities Report

The MPO received a report on PSTA activities, noting the various organizations that have indicated their support/endorsement for Greenlight Pinellas.

C. Committee Appointments

The MPO approved the appointment of Katie See representing City of Clearwater Planning Department on the Technical Coordinating Committee.

VIII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Cancellation of August MPO Meeting

By a majority vote through an email poll, it was determined the August MPO meeting would be cancelled.

B. 2040 LRTP Stakeholder and Public Outreach Report

A chart for the 2040 LRTP stakeholder and public outreach was included in the agenda packet.

C. June 13, 2014 CCC Meeting and Joint Meeting With the Central Florida MPO Alliance

Staff announced that a CCC meeting and a joint meeting of the CCC with the Central Florida MPO Alliance is scheduled for Friday, June 13, 2014.

D. Other

It was announced that the City of St. Petersburg is still working with FDOT on the language concerning liability included in the Interlocal Agreement.