

MPO
Newsletter/Action Sheet
June 10, 2015

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kennedy called the meeting to order.

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

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

III. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Deborah Lekenta, Neighborly Care Network, came forward to ask PSTA to allow children and teens to ride the bus for free during the summer months in order to access locations that provide free meals for children 18 and under. She noted this is a collaborative effort that she wanted to make the MPO aware of. She described a similar successful program that is being implemented in Lakeland. She provided the Board members with flyers containing background information about the proposal. The MPO asked that she get with Brad Miller as CEO of PSTA and attend the June 28 PSTA Board meeting with her request.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

The MPO approved the consent agenda, which included the May 13, 2015 MPO meeting minutes; invoices from Tindale-Oliver and Associates and the June risk allocation; printing of the traffic count map; MPO resolution for the Transportation Disadvantaged Planning Grant; MPO Continuity of Operations Plan; and the appointment of Deborah Malone as an At Large representative on the CAC, Valerie Brookens as Largo's technical representative and Christine McLachlan as the alternate on the BPAC. In addition, the MPO approved the appointment of Richard Hartman as the CUTR alternate on the BPAC and Joseph DiDomenico as a Person With Disabilities representative on the Local Coordinating Board as included in the member folders.

V. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

A. Adoption of the FY 2014/15 – FY 2018/19 Transportation Improvement Program

Following an MPO staff presentation and public hearing, the MPO adopted the TIP by roll call vote. Upon request by the Board, the MPO staff agreed to provide information regarding the completion schedule for Ulmerton Road projects.

B. Transportation Improvement Program Priority Lists

Following the MPO staff presentation and public hearing, the MPO approved the local Transportation Alternatives (TA) Priority List, the TMA-TA Priority List, the Surface Transportation Program (STP) Priority List and the CMP Priority List for non-state roads. Based on comment by Brad Miller, PSTA CEO, the MPO staff indicated the Board will hold a half-day workshop on September 21, which will include discussion of the MPO's STP funding policies.

VI. PRESENTATION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

A. Committee Recommendations (Action)

1. BPAC and TCC – Crosswalks on Gulf Boulevard in City of Indian Rocks Beach

The MPO took action to approve the TCC recommendation, which was to support the original County pedestrian/bicycle safety study that was based on Traffic Engineering Manual (TEM) criteria. Only the crosswalk locations recommended in the County study will be marked at this time, however, the County will conduct a follow-up evaluation to determine if additional improvements are needed.

2. Amendment to the BPAC Bylaws

The MPO approved the amended BPAC bylaws.

B. Local Coordinating Board Recommendations (Action)

1. TBARTA Letter

The MPO approved the letter and its transmittal to TBARTA requesting that the TBARTA Master Plan address regional transportation disadvantaged and paratransit issues.

2. Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan

The MPO approved the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

VII. REPORTS/UPDATES

A. PSTA Activities Report

Brad Miller, PSTA CEO, reported that the PSTA Board approved its new strategic plan at the last meeting that calls for PSTA to work with the MPO and its new Executive Director to develop a multimodal funding plan, looking internally first for funding. Mr. Miller noted that PSTA is recruiting their first federal lobbyist. He reported on the recent joint PSTA and HART Executive meeting that was felt to be productive and positive. There will be a follow-up joint PSTA HART Executive meeting in the fall. In addition, it was reported PSTA and HART are moving forward with ideas to work more closely together.

B. Director's Report

The MPO Director indicated there will be a grand opening for the Courtney Campbell Causeway Trail June 22 at 9:30 a.m. and that Clearwater is in the process of developing a press release that the MPO staff will send to the MPO Board.

The Director reported that the County submitted the TIGER grant application for the Pinellas Trail Loop last Friday.

Councilmember Hock-DiPolito and Councilmember Rice reported on their trip to Washington, DC, to meet with U.S. DOT representatives and congressional members regarding the Pinellas Trail Loop TIGER grant application. Councilmember Hock-DiPolito noted that a template for a support letter for the application can be found on the MPO's website and encouraged everyone to submit a letter of support.

VIII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Cancellation of August MPO Meeting

It was announced the August MPO meeting is cancelled and that the November MPO meeting falls on November 11, which is Veterans Day. MPO and PPC staff will make a determination as to whether the November meeting can be cancelled or rescheduled once we get closer to that date.

B. Chairs Coordinating Committee Meeting of May 15, 2015

A summary of the CCC meeting was included in the agenda packet. It was reported the CCC took action to add the Courtney Campbell Causeway pedestrian overpass to the Multi-Use Trail Priority List. It was also indicated that the Pinellas MPO provided a copy to the other MPOs in the CCC region of Senator Nelson's letter that supports bicycle and pedestrian safety.

C. Tampa Bay TMA Meeting of June 5, 2015

A summary of the TMA meeting was included in the members' folders.

D. Committee Vacancies

There are vacancies on the CAC and BPAC.

E. Correspondence

F. Other

The MPO members who attended the recent MPOAC Weekend Institute provided a summary report of the benefits.