

**MPO**  
**Newsletter/Action Sheet**  
**January 13, 2016**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Kennedy called the meeting to order.

**II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

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

**III. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

There were no citizens who came forward to be heard.

**IV. PRESENTATION TO OUTGOING CAC MEMBERS – Kasey Cursey, Robert Detweiler, Michael Welch**

The MPO recognized Michael Welch, Robert Detweiler, and Kasey Cursey for their service on the CAC.

**V. CONSENT AGENDA**

The MPO approved the consent agenda, which included the December 9, 2015 meeting minutes and appointment of Camille Stupar as a St. Petersburg representative on the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee.

**VI. PRESENTATION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Regional Premium Transit Study Process – Presentation**

Ming Gao, FDOT, provided an overview of the steps and process required to meet federal and state eligibility requirements for transit grants.

**B. Complete Streets – Presentation**

Becky Afonso, Executive Director of the Florida Bicycle Association, a member of the State's Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Council and a member of the MPO's Bicycle Pedestrian and Citizens Advisory Committees, provided a "Complete Streets" presentation and an update on statewide bicycle and pedestrian initiatives. She noted that there are several bills pending in the legislature that are bicycle, pedestrian and safety related, one relating to texting while driving in a school zone and another that makes texting while driving a primary offense. Ms. Afonso agreed to provide follow-up information concerning the proposed legislation.

**C. Proposed Amendment of Countywide Impact Fee Ordinance**

**1. Mobility Plan Amendments – Information**

MPO staff provided information on the mobility plan amendments.

**2. Impact Fee District Map Amendments – Action**

Following an MPO staff review, the Board recommended approval of the map amendments to the Countywide Impact Fee Ordinance to the Board of County Commissioners,

**D. Downtown Clearwater to Clearwater Beach Bus Rapid Transit – Update**

Following an MPO staff review of the recommendations from the 2010 Downtown Clearwater to Clearwater Beach BRT Study, the Board noted the Importance of this project and the need to advance it. MPO staff agreed to work with the other stakeholders (e.g. City of Clearwater, FDOT, PSTA and the private sector) to see if there is a way to move it forward in the near term. Staff also agreed to check with the Federal Transit Administration to see if private sector funding can be use as a part of the local match for a Very Small Starts project. Staff also will provide follow-up information concerning the assumptions about parking needed to support the project.

**E. PSTA – Update**

Mayor Bujalski, on behalf of the PSTA, provided an update on recent PSTA activities, noting the PSTA board has an updated legislative priority list. PSTA is discussing a PSTA Strategic Communications Plan and the Central Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Action Plan. PSTA thanked FDOT for funding the Central Avenue BRT Project Development so they can now focus on the corridor from Clearwater Beach to the Tampa International Airport. Brad Miller and PSTA Chairman Darden Rice met with key leaders to talk about express bus projects. The joint PSTA/MPO meeting will be held January 22 at PSTA and PSTA wants to make sure there is a clear vision as to how projects become priorities.

**VII. PPC/MPO JOINT ITEMS FOR APPROVAL**

**A. Board Operating Procedures – Action**

The Board approved the PPC/MPO board operating procedures.

**B. MPO/PPC/PSTA Joint Meeting – Confirmation of Agenda**

The Board approved the agenda for the joint MPO/PPC/PSTA meeting.

**VIII. REPORTS/UPDATES**

**A. Executive Director Report**

The MPO Executive Director provided information on items of interest to the MPO, noting a brochure for the 2016 MPOAC Weekend Institute was included in the members' folders. He asked board members to let staff know if anyone is interested in attending. He reported that a working group was formed to look at funding options for the completion of the Pinellas Trail Loop. He noted that the group wishes to pursue a "Vision Zero" initiative for Gulf Boulevard and U.S. 19. Mr. Blanton noted that many communities are using the Vision Zero approach as an initiative to reduce fatal and serious injury crashes involving vulnerable road users. He reported that he and Commissioner Cookie Kennedy have been invited to speak at the FDOT Safety Summit on January 20. Finally, he reported that a debriefing on the TIGER grant was held with Howard Hill of U.S. DOT.

MPO staff provided information on the debriefing of the Pinellas Trail Loop application for the TIGER grant. The MPO will have a future agenda item to discuss whether it should continue to pursue the Pinellas Trail Loop completion in the next round for the TIGER grant or pursue another project. The agenda item will include what other projects have a higher likelihood of success in competing for the TIGER grants and how the Pinellas Trail Loop can be completed if TIGER grant funds aren't pursued. MPO staff will reach out to local government and agency partners to bring back information to the MPO.

**IX. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**A. Committee Vacancies**

The MPO noted the vacancies on the Citizens and Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committees and asked anyone interested in serving to let staff or an MPO member know.

**B. Correspondence**

**C. Other**