



MPO
Newsletter/Action Sheet
March 9, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kennedy called the meeting to order.

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Councilmember Hock-DiPolito conducted services for the MPO.

III. PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE TO OUTGOING BOARD MEMBER – KEVIN PICCARRETO

Deputy Mayor Piccarreto was recognized for his service on the Board.

IV. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were no citizens who came forward to be heard.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

The MPO approved the consent agenda, which included the February 10, 2016 meeting minutes, Title VI Program, crash data management system contract with Tindale-Oliver, committee appointments of Aaron Lounsberry as the AHCA representative on the LCB, Kristina Tranel one of PSTA's alternates (in addition to Heather Sobush) on the BPAC, Edward Ameen as a Mid-County/Pinellas Park representative on the CAC, and Caroline Lanford as the representative and Scott Swearingen as the alternate on the TCC; and MPO Resolution #16-1 deobligating UPWP funding.

VI. PRESENTATION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

A. Draft FY 2016/17 – 2017/18 Unified Planning Work Program – Transmittal Action

Following a brief staff presentation, the MPO approved the draft UPWP for transmittal to state and federal review agencies.

B. FY 2014/15 MPO Audit Report – Acceptance

The MPO accepted the FY 2014/15 MPO Audit Report for transmittal to appropriate entities.

C. Proclamation Recognizing March as Florida Bicycle Month – Action

The MPO approved the proclamation recognizing March as Florida Bicycle Month.

D. St. Petersburg Resolution Concerning I-275 Improvements – Action

The MPO took action to accept and support St. Petersburg's resolution with the understanding that there be further discussions of funding I-275 improvements during the prioritization process for the Surface Transportation Program (STP) that will be on the September MPO agenda for action.

E. Confirm Tampa Bay TMA Leadership Group Purpose and Organization Statement – Action

The MPO approved the modified Tampa Bay TMA Leadership Group Purpose and Organization Statement that clarifies its role as advisory to the individual MPOs.

F. Support of PSTA/HART Application for the Regional Fare Collection Project for TIGER Funding – Action

Following a PSTA staff summary of the application, the MPO took action to support the PSTA/HART application for TIGER funding and to authorize staff to draft a letter that can be used as a model for other local governments that take similar action of support.

G. Clearwater's Resolution Concerning Funding to Update the 2010 Transit Alternative Study – Information

The MPO staff provided a brief summary of the Clearwater resolution concerning the 2010 transit alternative study, indicating MPO staff is working on a Scope of Service to define the effort. A board member asked that options to alleviate congestion on Alternate 19 also be included.

H. Current Waterborne Transportation Plans and Operations – Update

The MPO staff provided a brief update of current waterborne transportation plans and operations. The MPO staff noted that a modification to the MPO's Long Range Transportation Plan to address waterborne transportation will be brought back to the MPO for action. Following discussion about the role of the MPO and public agencies in providing for waterborne transportation, the board provided direction to MPO staff to evaluate waterborne operations to help facilitate a countywide framework to guide local governments in planning suitable waterborne facilities and designing for a seamless approach to align services and transportation networks. The board asked staff to get in touch with the State P3 organization to present updated language to the board as part of a primer on structuring effective public-private partnerships.

I. Committee Recommendations

1. Full Membership for TBARTA CAC Ex-Officio Representatives – Action

The MPO took action to encourage TBARTA to increase the TBARTA CAC membership to allow the current ex-officio members to be voting members and recommended that this change be included in next year's TBARTA's legislative package.

2. Downtown to Beach Park and Ride Transit Options Proposal – Action

The MPO supported and endorsed the CAC recommendation that endorses the proposed downtown to beach park and ride transit options project.

J. Regional Trails – Update

The MPO took action to support the regional trails and the inclusion of the Pinellas Trail Loop as one of the projects to be funded with the SUNTrail funding.

K. PSTA – Update

Mayor Bujalski as the PSTA representative provided an update on PSTA-related activities, noting PSTA received positive results from a customer satisfaction survey and PSTA continues to be part of a bench marking group based on their volume and low costs. PSTA began a direct connect service utilizing taxi companies and Uber for north county and Pinellas Park service. PSTA approved the work order for the Central Avenue BRT and is moving forward with the technical assistance work. Several PSTA board members and staff will be meeting with Congressional Delegation members and Federal Transit Administration next week to discuss the regional fare box project, funding for buses and bus facilities, and the Central Avenue BRT project. PSTA continues to seek funding for service between Clearwater Beach and the Tampa International Airport. PSTA will hold a workshop on May 6 from 9:00 a.m. to noon to discuss advancement of transportation initiatives. PSTA is looking at changes to the Jolley Trolley so that it runs 7 days a week.

The Board thanked PSTA for moving the hub system in Williams Park to a grid system for downtown St. Petersburg and FDOT for allowing a bus stop on Gandy Boulevard to help with getting employees to and from work during construction. Whit announced that they have begun holding regular monthly meetings with PSTA and FDOT staff and will keep the board updated on those meetings.

I. REPORTS/UPDATES

A. Legislative Update

A brief updated legislative report was provided.

B. Director's Report

The MPO Executive Director provided a brief update on the three SPOTlight emphasis area initiatives, as well as an update on a meeting he had with the Chambers of Commerce, local governments, businesses, etc., and the complementary efforts to further the three emphasis area initiatives (including other resources). Staff is working on presentation videos, as well as presentation activities in coordination with FDOT concerning safety along Gulf Boulevard that is looking at improving continuity for pedestrian measures for that corridor. The letter to FDOT asking them to delay the design phase for the next intersections on U.S. 19 is included in the agenda packet and staff is waiting on a response from FDOT. The listening sessions have been scheduled for April 11 for U.S. 19, 8:00-10:00 a.m., at the St. Petersburg College Clearwater Campus (Room ES104) and 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the St. Petersburg College St. Petersburg Allstate Campus (DeSoto Room), May 16 for the Gateway area, 8:00-10:00 a.m., at the Pinellas Park Performing Arts Centers, and May 3 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. for beach access. Whit indicated he will provide a list of the invitees to the board members.

II. PPC/MPO JOINT ITEMS FOR APPROVAL/INFORMATION

A. General Planning Consultant Selection – Action

Following a brief summary of the activities to date, the MPO approved the staff recommended GPC firms, rate structure, and contract, and authorized the Executive Director to negotiate and execute contracts with the selected firms.

III. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Committee Vacancies

There is a vacancy on the BPAC for the beach area and anyone interested in serving may contact staff or the board representative.

Whit announced that staff developed an application procedure for the Citizens Advisory Committee to make it a formal process that could also be utilized for nontechnical BPAC members.

B. Correspondence

The updated fatalities map is included in the agenda packet for information.

C. Other

There was no other business.