



CENTRAL FLORIDA  
**MPO**  
**ALLIANCE**

## Central Florida MPO Alliance Meeting Minutes

Friday, April 10, 2015

MetroPlan Orlando  
David L. Grovdahl Board Room  
315 East Robinson Street, Suite 355  
Orlando, Florida 32801

Chairman Stan McClain, presiding

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### MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Honorable Leslie Campione  
Honorable Ray Goodgame  
Honorable John Horan  
Honorable Scott Boyd  
Honorable Cheryl Grieb  
Honorable Stan McClain, **Chair**  
Honorable Leigh Matusick  
Honorable Kathy Meehan  
Honorable Rocky Randels

### REPRESENTING:

Lake-Sumter MPO  
Lake-Sumter MPO  
MetroPlan Orlando  
MetroPlan Orlando  
MetroPlan Orlando  
Ocala/Marion County TPO  
River to Sea TPO  
Space Coast TPO  
Space Coast TPO

### MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Honorable Sean Parks  
Honorable Kent Guinn  
Honorable Kathy Bryant  
Honorable Roy Tyler  
Honorable Jack Meyers  
Honorable Pat Huff  
Honorable Deb Denys  
Vacant  
Honorable Tres Holton

Lake-Sumter MPO  
Ocala/Marion County TPO  
Ocala/Marion County TPO  
Polk TPO  
Polk TPO  
Polk TPO  
River to Sea TPO  
River to Sea TPO  
Space Coast TPO

### OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms. Virginia Whittington  
Mr. Harry Barley  
Mr. Mike Woods  
Mr. Greg Slay  
Mr. Ronnie Blackshear  
Mr. Bob Kamm  
Ms. Lois Bollenback  
Secretary Noranne Downs  
Ms. Jennifer Stults  
Ms. Shannon Estep  
Ms. Deborah Tyrone

MetroPlan Orlando  
MetroPlan Orlando  
Lake-Sumter MPO  
Ocala/Marion County TPO  
Polk TPO  
Space Coast TPO  
River to Sea TPO  
FDOT - District V  
FDOT - District I  
Florida's Turnpike Enterprise  
FDOT - District V

Ms. Brenda Young  
Ms. Loreen Bobo  
Ms. Tawny Olore

FDOT - District V  
FDOT - District V  
FDOT - District V

A complete list of all others in attendance may be obtained upon request.

#### **I. Call to Order**

Chairman Stan McClain called the April 10, 2015 Central Florida MPO Alliance meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

#### **II. Introductions**

Chairman McClain invited all Alliance and audience members to introduce themselves.

#### **III. Chairman's Announcements**

Chairman McClain had no announcements

#### **IV. Reports**

Chairman McClain called attention to written delegation reports which had been provided for information only.

##### **a. Delegation Reports**

- Lake-Sumter MPO Report
- MetroPlan Orlando Report
- Ocala/Marion TPO Report
- Space Coast TPO Report
- River to Sea TPO Report

##### **b. FDOT District Reports**

Ms. Jennifer Stults, FDOT District I, reported that District I continues to work with District V on the Beyond the Ultimate I-4 project, a portion of which is in District I Polk County (US 27 to CR 532). All parts of the Central Polk Parkway, she reported, are in design and close to 30% plans with the exception of segments 7 and 8. Section 8 is in the PD&E phase and is part of the I-4 Beyond the Ultimate project. Ms. Stults told committee members that District I is rebuilding a number of overpasses in anticipation of future widening of I-4 and a CSX rail bridge will be going to design phase this year. A resurfacing project is underway, she noted, on I-4 in Polk County. The section of US 27 from Barry Road to US 192 is being completed including a bridge at US 192. She told CFMPOA members that once completed, US 27 will be six lanes

from SR 60 to the Lake County line. Ms. Stults reported that construction is ongoing for the Poinciana Parkway, which intersects with US 17-92 in Polk County. In addition, she informed committee members that Avon Park was designated a new urban area and has become a new rural region TPO, in conjunction with other rural areas, that were not a part of any M/TPO. The new TPO has been approved by the Governor, has completed their interlocal agreement and a formation meeting is scheduled for April 29<sup>th</sup>.

Secretary Noranne Downs, FDOT District V, reported that all jurisdictions represented have great projects underway in their region. She reiterated the collaborative efforts with District I on the I-4 Beyond the Ultimate project, including where the interchange for the project needs to be. District V, District I and the Osceola Expressway Authority (OCX) had three different ideas on where the interchange should be located, however, District V and District I are tying in with OCX on one idea to submit to Federal Highway Administration. Secretary Downs noted that design work is underway for the SR 472 interchange as part of the Beyond the Ultimate project in Volusia County. She noted the I-4 Ultimate project timeline of six-years for completion and the good safety plan initiated by I-4 Mobility Partners for the corridor. Safety classes are being required for anyone who wants to go onto the corridor during construction. The classes are being held at the project office in Maitland and are open to anyone who would like to attend. I-4 Mobility Partners, she commented, has already conducted the classes for reporters. Secretary Downs told CFMPOA members that SunRail Phases I, II and III are moving along and Ms. Tawny Olore would provide an update on the three phases later in the agenda. She reported that a TIGER grant would be submitted for Phase II North funding and congestion management funds might be an additional funding option. The Wekiva Parkway, she informed committee members, is on schedule and the first section should be opening shortly, with a projected completion date for the entire parkway in 2021. Secretary Downs also noted that the I-4 Ultimate project is slated for completion in 2021. Commissioner Horan asked Secretary Downs provide comment on the recently opened SR 436/US 17-92 flyover. Secretary Downs told committee members that the flyover project was completed six-months ahead of schedule and would provide great access during the I-4 construction. Commissioner Horan called attention to the SR 436/US 17-92 intersection being the second or third worst intersection in the state for congestion. He noted that the flyover was built with the longest single I-beam span in the state.

Ms. Shannon Estep, Florida's Turnpike Enterprise, reported that they recently met with MetroPlan Orlando staff to discuss upcoming projects in the area. She told CFMPOA members that turnpike mainline was going to be widened from US 192 to the Beachline Expressway with express lanes being added. The section from US 192 to the Osceola Parkway, she noted, was slated for 2019 and the section from Osceola Parkway to the Beachline Expressway was slated for 2016. Widening was also scheduled for the Beachline Expressway from mile-marker 0-4 in 2015 and from mile-marker 4-8 in 2016. In addition, Ms. Estep reported that the Seminole Expressway was also slated for widening and the addition of express lanes, from SR 426 (Aloma Avenue) to SR 434. Mr. Bob Kamm called attention to the widening of the Beachline

planned in Brevard County, noting that FTE is proceeding with the project. He requested that FTE staff provide the Space Coast TPO with updated information on the project. Ms. Estep responded that FTE staff will meet with the TPO staff to provide more detailed information on the project. Secretary Downs added that District V staff will also meet with Space Coast TPO staff to coordinate with all the agencies involved on the project.

Mr. Harry Barley informed CFMPOA members that Congressman Mica will be holding an event regarding the I-4 Beyond the Ultimate project at MetroPlan Orlando. The event will be held Monday, April 27, 8:30 a.m. in the MetroPlan Orlando board room. Congressman Mica has indicated that he would like to help facilitate the project and has ideas on opportunities that might be available.

**V. Public Comments on Action Items**

None

**VI. Action Items - deferred to later in the meeting**

Ms. Virginia Whittington told CFMPOA members that approval of the minutes was being deferred to later in the agenda due to lack of a quorum. In addition, she noted that item VII,B was being moved to item VIII,B (Other Business) for information purposes only. The CFMPOA Project Priority List needed additional work and would be brought back for action at a later date.

**VII. Other Business**

**a. Regional Transit and Rail Plan**

At the January meeting, Ms. Huiwei Shen, Florida Department of Transportation, summarized the findings and recommendations from the work of the East Central Florida Corridor Task Force. This was the first pilot project to be completed as part of FDOT's New Corridors program.

As a follow up, Ms. Brenda Young, FDOT District 5 led a discussion relating to Task Force Recommendation #5 'To develop a regional passenger rail and transit system plan' as it relates to the statewide perspective for regional passenger connectivity. This discussion resulted in action by the Alliance. A copy of the proposed action plan was provided. A copy of the full report was available to be downloaded by clicking the following link: [ECFCTF Final Report](#). Ms. Young reviewed why FDOT was looking at regional connectivity, where the state and local planning processes were currently and where they would want to be in the future, and the next steps towards regional connectivity. She explained the benefits of connectivity and that a future vision plan was needed to analyze future needs and determine who might be responsible for

fulfilling those needs. Ms. Young told CFMPOA members that the task force recommendations were guided by the “how shall we grow” principles. The goal is to develop a regional transit system plan and identify and set priorities for long-term transit through regional consensus. She told committee members that the task force recommended that the CFMPOA and FDOT take the lead on this trail blazing effort due to CFMPOA’s success with regional projects. Discussion ensued regarding the correlation between economic development and investment in transportation infrastructure, and the lack of additional local transit options and a funding policy. Mr. Bob Kamm suggested drafting a resolution stating CFMPOA interest in developing a Central Florida mobility plan with FDOT. Commissioner Boyd requested that staff put together a resolution regarding CFMPOA moving forward on a regional mobility plan. Additional discussion ensued regarding funding issues and possible options to fund a mobility plan. Consensus was that a plan needed to be developed first in order to have something concrete to show the needs for a funding request. Chairman McClain suggested the resolution speak to moving forward with a regional connectivity discussion and looking at responsible funding sources for the connections identified. Staff will work with the CFMPOA directors on a resolution and a plan that can be discussed at the next CFMPOA meeting. Mr. Kamm asked that Ms. Young’s presentation be made available to help with the process.

**b. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes - taken out of order**

Action was requested for approval of the January 16, 2015 Central Florida MPO Alliance meeting minutes.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Scott Boyd moved approval of the January 16, 2015 meeting minutes. Mayor Pro-Tem Leigh Matusick seconded the motion; which carried unanimously.

**c. CFMPOA Priority Project List - deferred**

Ms. Deborah Tyrone, FDOT, provided a project update on the continued efforts to “close the gaps” in the Coast-to-Coast Connector project. Ms. Tyrone detailed current funding for Coast-to-Coast trail projects which included \$14.1 million in FY 2014/15 for CFMPOA partner projects and a total of \$27.6 million for District V Coast-to-Coast trail projects. She told committee members that \$6.6 million in additional funding is needed in future years. Mr. Bob Kamm called attention to a trail preview event Space Coast TPO will be hosting May 2<sup>nd</sup> that was sponsored by Florida Today. Mayor Pro-Tem Goodgame informed committee members that a bridge was recently built in Clermont using Core 10 steel that requires no maintenance. Ms. Tyrone noted that Florida Greenways and Trails Foundation provides regular updates on trails, including the Coast-to-Coast trail.

Due to revisions that are needed to the CFMPOA priority project list, action is being deferred.

## VIII. Presentations/Discussion

### a. I-4 Ultimate Project Update

Ms. Loreen Bobo, FDOT, presented an update on the I-4 Ultimate Project including an overview of how the project will be implemented and activities underway to maintain traffic flow during the construction period. Ms. Bobo provided a brief history of the I-4 Ultimate project and an example of a typical roadway section of the project. She told CFMPOA members that there will be planned access to the express lanes and the goal is to maintain 50 mph traffic speed in those lanes. General use lanes, she noted, will benefit with increased speed as well from cars choosing to use the express lanes. Ms. Bobo told committee members that FDOT will be collecting the express lane tolls and tolling will be all electronic. She reported that aesthetics are an important part of the design for the project. Preliminary work on the project is currently underway, she informed CFMPOA members. Ms. Bobo detailed the phases of the project, maintenance of traffic accommodations and the type of traffic patterns that will be utilized. She called attention to the I-4 Ultimate website, [I-4Ultimate.com](http://I-4Ultimate.com), where additional information along with alerts and updates could be found. Ms. Bobo also provided the dedicated phone number for the project which is 1-844-858-4636.

### b. SunRail Update

Ms. Tawny Olore, FDOT, presented an update on the SunRail project including a status report on SunRail Phase II North and South. Ms. Olore reviewed current SunRail Phase I service that was implemented in May 2014 including ridership numbers, rider trends and on-time performance, which was over 98%. She told CFMPOA members that additional evening service was added December 22, 2014 and Friday nights had the highest ridership for the additional evening service. Ms. Olore reported that marketing efforts are ongoing especially in light of the upcoming I-4 construction, and partnerships have been established with downtown Orlando venues and the Chamber of Commerce. She noted that they continue to work on last mile connectivity with LYNX and Votran. Ms. Olore called attention to a SunRail first anniversary celebration which is planned for May 1<sup>st</sup> and the successes and challenges that SunRail has experienced during the first year of operation.

Ms. Olore also provided a brief update on SunRail Phase II North and South and the Phase III connection to Orlando International Airport, which is in preliminary plans. Mayor Pro-Tem Leigh Matusick asked for a timeline for SunRail Phase II North. Ms. Olore responded that FDOT is applying for a TIGER grant to fund Phase II North and those grants are typically awarded in the fall. She reported that the project is at 30% design and will be going to 60% design and subsequently to design-build with completion projected for the end of 2017. Mr. Bob Kamm inquired about quiet zone grant funding available. He noted that the Space Coast TPO would like the quiet zone grant program to continue, due to the planned All Aboard Florida project in their area. Ms. Olore told CFMPOA members that letters of support are

needed for the TIGER grant application and the letters can be coordinated through Mr. Harry Barley at MetroPlan Orlando.

## IX. Information Items

### a. 2015 Legislative Session update

Ms. Virginia Whittington provided a brief update on the CFMPOA legislative priorities for 2015. In response to Mr. Kamm's question about quiet zones, she reported that \$10 million in funding had been allocated to quiet zone grants last session and \$3.5 million of that had been awarded to the Central Florida region. She noted that \$4 million in quiet zone funding remains and there will be a second round for the grant application process to award those funds. Local jurisdictions may apply for the additional quiet zone funding. Ms. Whittington told committee members that another \$10 million has been allocated pending approval by the legislature during the 2015 session.

In terms of legislative priorities, Ms. Whittington reported that a number of bicycle and pedestrian safety bills had been filed designed to protect bicyclists and other vulnerable users and one addressing hazardous walking conditions for school-age children. There also were a number of bills filed regarding banning the use of hand held devices that would strengthen the current law. \$10 million in funding had been allocated to the Coast-to-Coast trail project, she informed committee members, and an additional \$25 million in Amendment One funds is being sought. Ms. Whittington called attention to the fact that both the House and the Senate had held for transportation funding harmless thus far. She noted that the health care discussion was ongoing. A bill, introduced by Senator Brandes, included language on a Vehicle Miles Traveled study, however, that language had been stricken from a House companion. There are multiple bills regarding Regional Planning Councils, she told CFMPOA members, which as of now had sought to merge or eliminate some planning councils. Some CFMPOA members noted that they have requested to be reassigned to a different Regional Planning Council. Mayor Pro-Tem Matusick asked staff if they could provide the bill numbers cited. Ms. Whittington responded that she could provide those bill numbers.

- b. Letter from Acting Administrator Therese McMillan dated March 16, 2015.
- c. *"Beyond Traffic: Trends and Choices,"* a paper by U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx, February 2015, can be accessed at this link: [http://www.dot.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/docs/Draft\\_Beyond\\_Traffic\\_Framework.pdf](http://www.dot.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/docs/Draft_Beyond_Traffic_Framework.pdf); *the Blue Paper for this report is available at* <http://www.dot.gov/beyond-traffic/beyond-traffic-blue-paper>.
- d. *"Needed: A Fresh Approach to Funding America's Infrastructure,"* Innovation NewsBriefs, February 2015. The report is available at:

<http://www.infrastructureusa.org/needed-a-fresh-approach-to-funding-americas-infrastructure>

- e. "Macroeconomic Analysis of Florida's Transportation Investments," Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). This is an update to the 2009 macroeconomic analysis report prepared through analyzing the long-term economic benefits of the FDOT Work Program, specifically the Work Program for fiscal years 2014 to 2018. This study estimates that every dollar invested in transportation results in a return of \$4.40 in user and economic benefits to Florida's residents and businesses. The report is available at: <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/planning/Policy/economic/macroimpacts0115.pdf>.

X. Member Comments

Mayor Pro-Tem Matusick told committee members that DeLandapalooza was taking place the upcoming weekend.

XI. Public Comments

None

XII. Next meeting - Friday, July 10, 2015 at 10:00 a.m., location TBD.

XIII. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m. Respectfully transcribed by Cathy Goldfarb, Deputy Clerk, MetroPlan Orlando.

Central Florida MPO Alliance

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Hon. Stan McClain, Chairman

Attest:

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Cathy Goldfarb, Deputy Clerk

*Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, states that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by a board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at a meeting or hearing, he will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.*