



**CENTRAL FLORIDA
MPO
ALLIANCE**

**Central Florida MPO Alliance
Meeting Minutes**

Friday, October 8, 2021

MetroPlan Orlando

Chairman Roy Tyler, Polk TPO, presiding

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Honorable Roy Tyler
Honorable Jeremy Clark
Honorable Christine Moore
Honorable Ire Bethea, Sr.
Honorable Michelle Stone
Honorable Josh Blake
Honorable Barbara Girtman
Honorable Chris Cloudman
Honorable Rita Pritchett
Honorable Jim Robinson

REPRESENTING:

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

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Honorable Jay Zembower
Honorable Ricky Booth
Honorable Craig Estep
Honorable Dan Robuck
Honorable Brian Yates
Honorable Christine Power
Honorable Yvonne Minus

MetroPlan Orlando
MetroPlan Orlando
Lake-Sumter MPO
Lake-Sumter MPO
Polk TPO
River to Sea TPO
Space Coast TPO

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms. Virginia Whittington
Mr. Gary Huttman
Mr. Robert Balms
Ms. Georganna Gillette
Ms. Colleen Nicoulin
Mr. Mike Woods
Ms. Carol Scott
Ms. Anna Taylor
Ms. Loreen Bobo
Mr. Jack Adkins
Ms. Nicole Mills
Mr. Mike Cegelis
Mr. Eric Hill
Mr. Mighk Wilson

MetroPlan Orlando
MetroPlan Orlando
Ocala/Marion County TPO
Space Coast TPO
River to Sea TPO
Lake-Sumter MPO
Florida's Turnpike Enterprise
FDOT - District 5
FDOT - District 5
FDOT - District 5
FDOT - District 1
Brightline
MetroPlan Orlando
MetroPlan Orlando

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

I. Call to Order

Chairman Roy Tyler called the October 8, 2021, Central Florida MPO Alliance meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., and welcomed everyone.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Chris Cloudman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Chairman's Announcements

Chairman Tyler reviewed the public comment procedures for both in person and virtual comments.

IV. Alliance Roll Call

Ms. Lisa Smith conducted the roll call and confirmed an in-person quorum was present.

V. Public Comment on Agenda Items

None.

VI. Reports

Chairman Tyler called attention to written delegation reports which were provided for information only.

a. Delegation Reports

- Lake-Sumter MPO Report
- MetroPlan Orlando Report
- Space Coast TPO Report
- River to Sea TPO Report
- Polk TPO Report

b. FDOT District Reports

Mr. Jack Adkins, FDOT District 5, reported that FDOT's Work Program Public Hearing would be held the week of October 25-29 online and in-person on October 28th from 5:00 -7:00 p.m. He called attention to Mobility Week October 29th – November 5th. Mr. Adkins noted that October was Pedestrian Safety Month and FDOT continues to incorporate countermeasures, such as lowering operational speeds and the Orange Blossom Trail design project, to help mitigate safety issues. He told CFMPOA members that FDOT District 5 received \$350 million in stimulus funding that will be used to build the Work Program. Some of the projects receiving stimulus funding include interchange and capacity improvements on I-95, right-of-way on SR 50, and the Nassau Causeway bridge replacement.

Mr. Siaoqi Fine, FTE, reported that FTE is gearing up for Work Program season

Commissioner Moore asked if the \$350 million was allocated to District 5 only. Mr. Adkins indicated that it was

Ms. Nicole Mills, FDOT District 1, reported that District 1 had their first initial hearings for the I-4 Ultimate project the end of September. She told CFMPOA members that stimulus funding advanced the SR 27 interchange project and SIS funding was replaced for the right-of-way with construction slated for 2037. She noted that Work Program public hearings are coming up in the next couple of weeks. Ms. Mills added that District 1 has not heard back yet on the final approval for the freight request for the SR 33 widening project

VII. Action Items

a. Previous Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the July 9, 2021, Central Florida MPO Alliance meeting were provided.

MOTION: Commissioner Jeremy Clark moved approval of the July 9, 2021 meeting minutes. Commissioner Christine Moore seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

b. 2022 Proposed Meeting Schedule

The 2022 proposed meeting schedule was provided for information and discussion.

MOTION: Commissioner Michelle Stone moved approval of the 2022 proposed meeting schedule. Councilwoman Barbara Girtman seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

(NOTE: After the meeting, the February and June meeting dates were adjusted due to conflicts. A revised schedule was sent to the Alliance.)

c. 2022 CFMPOA Officers

At the last meeting in each calendar year, members of the Central Florida MPO Alliance select one of its members as Chairperson, another member as Vice-Chairperson, and a third member as Secretary. These three officers serve a term of one year until their successors are selected. The proposed slate of officers was Commissioner Michelle Stone, Chairwoman, Commissioner Christine Moore, Vice-Chair and Commissioner Josh Blake, Secretary.

MOTION: Councilman Ire Bethea moved approval of the proposed slate of officers. Commissioner Chris Cloudman seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously

VIII. Presentations

a. Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) Grant

Mr. Mike Woods, Lake Sumter MPO, gave a presentation on the Federal Land Access Program Grant. The grant allocated \$270 million nationwide with \$11.6 million allocated to Florida. Mr. Woods told committee members that he looked for Sun Trail projects would meet the criteria for the grant. He identified a gap project on the Heart of Florida Trail on SR 40 that was part of the Coast-to-Coast Trail. Mr. Woods reviewed who can apply for the grant noting that the application needed to be approved by Federal Land Management. He added that there needed to be a 20% match which could be a soft match or in kind. Mr. Woods reported that this was a work in progress and he would need approval from participating M/TPOs along with letters of support and the grant needed to be submitted by December 15th. Ms. Georganna Gillette noted that Brevard County had previously applied for the Federal Land Access Program Grant as well.

b. Project Update: SunTrax

Ms. Carol Scott, Florida's Turnpike Enterprise, provided an update on the SunTrax project. Ms. Scott noted that SunTrax was the only dedicated high speed testing facility. She reviewed the mission and vision and provided a video on the project. Ms. Scott provided a timeline for SunTrax showing Phase I completed in 2019 and Phase II anticipated to be completed in Summer of 2022. She told committee members that the facility helped facilitate the interoperability of SunPass with E-ZPass. Ms. Scott provided additional information on levels of automation, noting Florida is at level 4. She also discussed Florida legislation which allows for connected and autonomous vehicle testing. Discussion ensued regarding simulation for other users and security measures for public at the track.

c. Brightline Project Update

Mr. Mike Cegelis, Brightline, gave an update on the Brightline project. Mr. Cegelis told CFMPOA members that growing population provided density support for Brightline. He reported that service began in South Florida in 2018 with current stations in Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm and the route to follow the Florida East Coast Railroad route. Mr. Cegelis called attention to an environmentally positive 75% reduction in emissions and first mile/last mile connection solutions. He noted that expectations are to expand to Tampa, citing I-4 as the most dangerous highway. The Brightline service would connect South Florida and Orange County two of the densest areas in the state. He told committee members that Brightline is a \$2.7 investment and is 63% complete. The project has employed 1,300 workers reconstructed a number of bridges and provided safety enhancements at grade crossings. A vehicle maintenance facility and the Orlando station will be located at Orlando International Airport with construction slated for January 2022. The Tampa station is in the planning stage and is expected to follow the SR 417 route. He told CFMPOA members that a Mobility as a Service app will provide seamless door to door connection for riders. Mr. Cegelis provided contact information for anyone wanting additional information Christine.Kefauver@gobrightline.com. Discussion ensued regarding

alternate connection routes to Tampa, funding for alternate routes, dwell time at additional stations, app use, connection location in Tampa and last mile connection in Tampa, and potential connection to Jacksonville.

IX. Public Comments

Mr. Greg Scott, Polk County, commented that Lakeland is interested in a Bright Line station and wanted to know who to work with to see that the Orlando to Tampa extension is designed to allow for a future station in that location. Staff was asked to provide the information following the meeting.

X. Next meeting – February 4, 2022 (TBA)

XI. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

Respectfully transcribed by Cathy Goldfarb, Senior Board Services Coordinator, MetroPlan Orlando.

Central Florida MPO Alliance



Commissioner Michelle Stone, Chairwoman

Attest:



Cathy Goldfarb, Board Services Coordinator

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.