

# ORANGE/ OSCEOLA/ SEMINOLE COUNTIES JOINT TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD MEETING

DATE: Thursday, August 14, 2025

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

LOCATION: MetroPlan Orlando

250 South Orange Avenue, Suite 200

Orlando, FL 32801

# Commissioner Mayra Uribe, Presiding

#### Members in attendance were:

Ms. Marilyn Baldwin, representing the Disabled

Ms. Neika Berry, Citizen Advocate (Non-system User)

Ms. Charlotte Campbell representing the Elderly

Ms. Tashara Cooper, At-Large Alternate

Ms. Betsy Delano, representing the Medical Community

Ms. Sharon Jennings for Ms. Jeannette Estes, Agency for Persons with Disabilities

Mr. Rob Gilts for Ms. Wendy Ford, Osceola Council on Aging

Ms. Jamie Ledgerwood, FDOT

Mr. Bob Melia, Citizen Advocate (System User)

Mr. Luis Nieves-Ruiz, SunRail CAC

Mr. Wayne Olson, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Mr. Calvin Smith, AHCA

Commissioner Mayra Uribe, Orange County

Mr. Adam Zubritsky, OCPS

# Members not in attendance:

Mayor Pat Bates, Seminole County, Chairperson

Mayor Jackie Espinosa, Osceola County

Ms. Janeé Olds, Career Source CF

Ms. Yvette Reyes, Economically Disadvantaged

Ms. Cena Underwood, At-Large Alternate

Ms. Alnita Whitt, Veterans

Vacant, State Coordinating Council of Early Childhood

Vacant, EMS

Vacant, For-Profit Operator

#### Staff in Attendance

Mr. Gary Huttmann, MetroPlan Orlando

Ms. Virginia Whittington, MetroPlan Orlando

Ms. Mary Ann Horne, MetroPlan Orlando

Ms. Taylor Laurent, MetroPlan Orlando

Ms. Leilani Vaiaoga, MetroPlan Orlando

Ms. Lisa Smith, MetroPlan Orlando

Ms. Rachel Frederick, MetroPlan Orlando

#### Others in Attendance

Mr. Dave Burrowes, ACCESS LYNX

Ms. Selita Stubbs, ACCESS LYNX

Mr. Benjamin Gonzalez, ACCESS LYNX

Mr. Lendy Castillo. ACCESS LYNX

Mr. Mohammed Gad, ACCESS LYNX

Mr. Joey Hogan, TransDev

A complete list of other attendees may be obtained upon request.

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of the Chair, Vice-Chair and immediate past Chair, Mr. Wayne Olson (QATF Chair), called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and welcomed members.

#### II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Bob Melia led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### III. CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Olson reminded members of the importance of attending in person and how members of the public can participate in person or virtually.

#### IV. AGENDA REVIEW & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Virginia Whittington expressed her appreciation to Mr. Olson for stepping in to chair the meeting, noting that such action is permitted under the bylaws in such circumstances. Ms. Whittington stated there are no changes to the agenda.

Mr. Mighk Wilson presented the Safety Moment on Distracted Driving. He shared statistics that four out of ten fatal and serious crashes involve a distracted driver. Mr. Wilson detailed Florida's Wireless Use Law, which was implemented in 2019. He shared earlier in the year, a bill had been moving through Florida's Senate (SB 1348) that would 'revise penalties for the use of a wireless communications device while operating a motor vehicle' however the House companion did not

advance. Mr. Wilson also shared a video from the US Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration which can be seen here: <a href="Phone Personalities">Phone Personalities</a> 1:30

Mr. Bob Melia noted the high number of drivers he witnesses using their phones every day during his commutes.

# V. CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Ms. Rachel Frederick confirmed a quorum was present.

#### VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ACTION ITEMS

None.

Mr. Wayne Olson reported the meeting highlights from the June 12, Quality Assurance Task Force, with there being no action items. There were three updates presented and the next QATF meeting is October 28th, 2025, when members will provide feedback and recommendations on the CTC rating scale.

[Commissioner Uribe presided over the remainder of the meeting]

#### VII. ACTION ITEMS

# A. Approval of the June 12, 2025 TDLCB Meeting Minutes

Approval of the June 12, 2025 TDLCB Meeting Minutes was requested.

MOTION: Mr. Luis Nieves-Ruiz moved approval of the June 12, 2025 meeting minutes.

Ms. Marilyn Baldwin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

#### VIII. PRESENTATIONS & STATUS REPORTS

# A. Status Update: 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

Ms. Taylor Laurent provided a status update on the development of the 2050 MTP. She called attention to an interactive dashboard now available on the MetroPlan Orlando website. The dashboard can be used to view transportation project needs and the cost feasible plan to help identify which projects will be prioritized.

Ms. Laurent explained the various 'buckets' of funding used for the cost feasible plan development and how those funds are allocated. She confirmed the 2050 MTP recommended funding policy received the consensus of the MetroPlan Orlando board and its committees. She outlined the next steps with the presentation of the 2050 MTP for review at the September 29 public meeting.

Member comments included discussion about the dashboard and the need to ensure it is accessible to all.

Referencing her role as Chair of the MPOAC, Commissioner Uribe shared there is an upcoming MPOAC Institute which gives a deeper understanding of the transportation planning, funding and decision-making processes, that would be beneficial to members. She encouraged members to attend with the next Institute taking place on Friday, October 10, 2025 in West Palm Beach.

Commissioner Uribe requested a motion for a member of the TDLCB Board to attend the MPOAC Institute on October 10 in West Palm Beach. Mr. Bob Melia expressed his interest in attending.

**MOTION:** Ms. Marilyn Baldwin moved the motion for a member to attend the MPOAC Institute as noted. Mr. Luis-Nieves seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Whittington stated that she would contact the MPOAC and coordinate with Mr. Melia if this is something that could be done.

# B. ACCESS LYNX/Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) Update

Mr. Lendy Castillo and Ms. Selita Stubbs of Access LYNX presented the latest update. Ms. Stubbs introduced Mr. David Burrowes (Chief Operating Officer – LYNX) who was present in the audience.

Mr. Castillo shared that trip demand has increased 7% year to date in comparison to the same period in 2024, with 343,400 trips from January to June in 2025. He analyzed the trips by purpose, identifying employment and dialysis as the primary reasons for travel, with the average on time performance at 91% year to date. He continued highlighting customer service activity statistics with 55,097 calls answered in June.

Ms. Selita Stubbs reported on the shortfall between the actual costs of total monthly trips and the transportation disadvantaged funding received from the Commission for Transportation. She explained the difference is paid by Orange, Osceola and Seminole county taxpayers. Ms. Stubbs highlighted to members the need to work with insurance companies who offer medical trips, but patients either are not aware of this or choose to book twice and use the ride that turns up first.

Members discussed Medicare Advantage patients who receive a limited amount of rides with no co-pays, but then need assistance transitioning to Medicaid rides. Ms. Betsy Delano noted these are called 'dually eligible' patients and they need assistance navigating this change. Ms. Baldwin raised concerns about ending telehealth and so increasing the demand for rides. Ms. Whittington noted previously accessible data that helped Access LYNX coordinate rides efficiently is no longer available to them. Chair Uribe explored ways to improve the process and Ms. Whittington advised that the matter will be added to the next QATF agenda for discussion.

Member Ms. Neika Berry complimented the LYNX team on the increase in the average speed of call answering, from 5:08 minutes in May to 3:51 minutes in June.

# C. Mobility Matters: Understanding ADA and Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) Eligibility

Ms. Virginia Whittington provided an overview of the Americans with Disabilities Act, highlighting its provisions related to accessible paratransit services for individuals who are unable to use fixed-route transit due to a disability. She noted the types of eligibility and that while the service is federally mandated, ADA paratransit is not federally funded and relies on local funding partners.

In contrast, Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) is a state funded program and is considered a last-resort option. Ms. Whittington outlined the eligibility and noted the fares for riders. She detailed the eligibility process for each program via Access LYNX and confirmed those riders with permanent disabilities are granted three-years eligibility before they need to re-certify. In both cases (ADA or TD), determination of eligibility takes 21-days and requires a functional assessment and application signed by a licensed medical professional. Eligibility for clients with urgent medical cases, such as dialysis, can be expedited.

Ms. Baldwin reminded members of the option to donate to the TD Trust Fund when renewing car tags and that those funds are returned to the county of origin. Further funding discussions ensued.

#### IX. GENERAL INFORMATION

Chair Uribe called attention to the following general information items found in the agenda packet.

- A. Planning Grant Report
- B. Report of Operator Payments

#### X. UPCOMING MEETINGS OF INTEREST

- A. MetroPlan Orlando Board Meeting Wednesday, September 10, 2025; 9:00 a.m.
- B. FPTA/CTD Annual Conference & Expo September 2-4, 2025, Clearwater, FL
- C. 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Public Meeting September 29, 2025; 5:00P-7:00P, Orange County Multicultural Center, 7149 West Colonial Dr., Orlando
- D. Quality Assurance Task Force Meeting Tuesday, October 28, 2025; 10:00 a.m.
- E. Annual Transportation Disadvantaged Public Workshop Thursday, November 13, 2025; 10:00 a.m.; Location TBD

#### XI. MEMBER COMMENTS

Member Bob Melia discussed a call he had received from a patient who was stranded when the family accessible vehicle broke down and it took four hours to find a service who could accommodate a chair user to get them home. With there being no same day service from Access

LYNX, he inquired if there is an option members know would be a safety net in this emergency situation.

Ms. Marilyn Baldwin expressed concerns that Brightline might not be accessible for individuals with disabilities. Members requested that a presentation be scheduled at an upcoming meeting.

Mr. Luis Nieves-Ruiz introduced an intern student who had accompanied him today.

Ms. Jamie Kersey-Ledgerwood - FDOT, announced today was her last meeting, and Ms. Jo Santiago-Mercer would be replacing her.

## XII. PUBLIC COMMENTS (GENERAL)

None.

#### XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Uribe thanked everyone for attending.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Respectfully transcribed and submitted by Ms. Rachel Frederick.

Approved this 13th day of November 2025.

Mayor Pat Bates, Chairperson

Rachel Frederick

**Board Services Coordinator** 

As required by Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, MetroPlan Orlando hereby notifies all interested parties that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by MetroPlan Orlando with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made to include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.