



COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Wednesday, October 23, 2024

LOCATION: MetroPlan Orlando
David L. Grovdahl Board Room
250 South Orange Avenue, Suite 200
Orlando, Florida 32801

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

Chair Dan Stephens presided.

Members in attendance were:

Mr. Jeffrey Boebinger, City of Altamonte Springs
Mr. Benjamin Bossley, MetroPlan Appointee
Mr. Jeffrey Campbell, MetroPlan Appointee
Mr. Daniel J. López, Osceola County
Ms. Theresa Mott, City of Apopka
Mr. R.J. Mueller, MetroPlan Appointee (Virtual)
Mr. Thomas O'Hanlon, Seminole County
Mr. Brindley Pieters, Seminole County
Mr. Jeff Piggrem, MetroPlan Appointee
Ms. Judy Pizzo, MetroPlan Appointee
Ms. Marissa Salas, MetroPlan Appointee
Dr. Dan Stephens, MetroPlan Appointee
Ms. Venise White, MetroPlan Appointee
Mr. Chris Willenbring, Seminole County

Others in attendance were:

Ms. Amy Beckmann, FDOT
Mr. Brad Friel, GOAA
Mr. Chris Deloatche, GOAA
Mr. Brendan Guess, reThink Your Commute
Ms. Jo Santiago-Mercer, reThink Your Commute
Mr. Gary Huttman, MetroPlan Orlando

Members not in attendance were:

Mr. Nadeem Battla, Osceola County
Mr. Mark Bolton, MetroPlan Appointee
(Non-voting)
Mr. Joseph Caesar, Orange County Appointee
Mr. Bryant Coleman, City of Kissimmee
Ms. Nilisa Council, MetroPlan Appointee
Mr. Joel Davis, City of St. Cloud
Ms. Sarah Elbadri, City of Sanford
Ms. Janette Frevola, Orange County Appointee
Mr. Victor Gonzalez Galeano, Orange County
Appointee
Ms. Ashley Guss, MetroPlan Appointee
Ms. Misty Heath, City of Orlando
Mr. Vincent Pereira, MetroPlan Appointee
Dr. Casmere Shaw, Osceola County
Mr. David Sibila, MetroPlan Appointee
Ms. Theo Webster, MetroPlan Appointee
Vacant, MetroPlan Orlando Appointee
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Vacant, MetroPlan Orlando Appointee

Ms. Virginia Whittington, MetroPlan Orlando
Mr. Alex Trauger, MetroPlan Orlando
Ms. Taylor Laurent, MetroPlan Orlando
Ms. Mary Ann Horne, MetroPlan Orlando
Mr. Eric Hill, MetroPlan Orlando
Ms. Lara Bouck, MetroPlan Orlando
Mr. Mighk Wilson, MetroPlan Orlando
Mr. Slade Downs, MetroPlan Orlando
Mr. Jason Sartorio, MetroPlan Orlando
Ms. Lisa Smith, MetroPlan Orlando
Ms. Rachel Frederick, MetroPlan Orlando

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dan Stephens called the Community Advisory Committee meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. The Chair welcomed everyone and confirmed that this meeting is fully in-person, so all committee members are asked to be physically present in the Boardroom.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Jeffrey Boebinger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Chair Stephens detailed public comment procedures. At the September 11 MetroPlan Orlando Board meeting, Chair Stephens informed the Board of the Committees' continued interest in safety, related to the Regional Vision Zero Central Florida Plan and our passion to get to zero deaths before the target year of 2050. He also relayed the concerns that the region is lagging behind in EV charging infrastructure and encouraged support of the MetroPlan Orlando EV Readiness Study.

The Chairman recognized Ms. Virginia Whittington, Director of Regional Partnerships who announced the departure of Ms. Cynthia Lambert from MetroPlan Orlando. She thanked her for her years of service and dedication, confirmed that MetroPlan was able to recruit from within and congratulated Ms. Mary Ann Horne as the new Public Information Manager.

IV. AGENDA REVIEW

Ms. Mary Ann Horne welcomed members in the room and members of the public attending online. She stated that currently 15 members are needed in the room to conduct votes and reminded members the importance to RSVP to meeting invites.

Ms. Horne highlighted key dates for people's calendars as follows:

- EV Readiness Study Workshop #3 'Charging Infrastructure Siting' – October 28, 2 p.m. at MetroPlan Orlando
- EV Readiness Study Workshop #4 'Grant Applications & Funding Opportunities' - November 12, 2 p.m. via Zoom
- FDOT Mobility Week – October 25 to November 2 to include:
 - Bike 5 Cities – October 26, MetroPlan Orlando team will be at the Casselberry station
 - The Blind Experience – October 30 at Orlando Police Department

Ms. Horne stated that the November 13 MetroPlan Orlando Board meeting has been canceled and all business from that agenda will be covered at the December 11 meeting.

She also acknowledged one change from the printed agenda, with Ms. Jo Santiago being the presenter of the reThink Your Commute presentation.

Mr. Mighk Wilson presented the Safety Moment with October being Pedestrian Safety Month. He noted that the number of fatal crashes in the Central Florida region is down 28% in the first 6 months of this year compared to prior years and continued to break down the crash factors at crosswalks. Mr. Wilson gave safety recommendations to both motorists and pedestrians. He concluded by giving a brief Vision Zero Planning update.

V. AGENCY REPORTS - FDOT

Ms. Amy Beckmann, FDOT, shared details regarding the recovery and repair after Hurricane Milton and Hurricane Helene. Ms. Beckman stated that as of a few days ago, over 800 cubic yards of debris has been collected in Orange County, 700 cubic yards in Osceola and approximately 460 cubic yards in Seminole. She also reminded members of Mobility week and will forward a list of events after the meeting.

Ms. Beckman stated in the December committee meetings she will be sharing details of the Work Program, including the Public Meeting which is being held the first week of December.

Chair Stephens commented on the new retention pond on SR 408 near Pine Hills and was grateful for the additional drainage in that area which must have helped avoid flooding during recent storms.

Members discussed the question of why the region is now so susceptible to wash outs and flooding during storms, the impact of recent storms on SunRail and lessons learned on traffic signal resiliency. Also raised was what future plans could be adopted for the areas that suffered wash outs during the storms and the impact of climate change on the region. New battery technology was suggested as backup at major intersections. Chairman Stephens commended UCF Emergency Management Program.

VI. CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Ms. Rachel Frederick conducted the attendance roll call, and confirmed we did not have a quorum.

Due to the lack of quorum at this time, Chair Stephens asked we firstly begin with item IX. A. presentation.

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

Ms. Taylor Laurent began with recent public engagement updates and reports. She noted the technical analysis work they have been undertaking and are in the process of completing a final review of the 2050 needs list with each local agency.

Ms. Taylor gave an overview of the recent technical workshop that was held on October 17, 2024, a recording of which will be posted on the website soon. She also detailed the project prioritization process, goal weighting and evaluation criteria by mode and ended by confirming the timeline of the project with adoption of the plan by December 2025.

Discussions included the impact of technology on an aging population, giving them greater mobility for longer; the recently announced downtown redevelopment and its relationship with transportation planning; and also, a reference to an algorithm that was used in a past Bike/Ped advisory committee prioritization list.

IX. B. Presentation on Regional Traffic Signal Retiming Program

Ms. Lara Bouck presented on the before and after of the annual signal retiming for fiscal year 2022-23. Ms. Bouck noted why the signal timing program is carried out and that 24 corridors and 1 independent intersection were retimed across the region. She shared which data source is used and the process of determining which signals are retimed and the performance metrics used. The project results and benefit cost summary were highlighted.

Ms. Bouck noted that signal retiming is a balancing act of competing priorities. She noted the change in travel speeds and findings of a distracted driving analysis that was completed. A distracted driving memorandum can be found on the MetroPlan Orlando website.

Discussions included the definition of a distracted driver in a self-driving car and if this retiming can continue at weekends and not just weekdays. Other comments included the number of permissive left turn lights being reduced, the primary goals of the program, and speed management through traffic signals.

At this point, we still did not have a quorum present, and the Chairman returned to item V. II.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ACTION ITEMS

No comments

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of CAC Meeting Minutes: August 28, 2024

Seeking consensus was requested, as with no quorum present approval could not be requested. Those present did not have any comments or questions regarding the minutes. Approval will be requested at the next CAC meeting.

B. FDOT Amendment to FY 2025 – 2029 TIP

Mr. Jason Sartorio presented on the FY 2024/25 – FY 2028/29 TIP amendments to include the following item(s):

- FM #447602-1: Buenaventura Blvd. Traffic Signals from Florida Pkwy. To E. Osceola Pkwy.
- GOAA-PFL0014938: MCO Multimodal Connections Program – GOAA is pursuing a federal TIFIA loan for \$2,180,000,000 (loan and match). Project included in TIP proactively for purposes of planning consistency. Inclusion in TIP and STIP required prior to awarding credit assistance.

Mr. Sartorio explained the second request was unusual, as in order to receive the loan it must first be in the TIP.

A discussion ensued requesting clarification of multimodal inclusion in the GOAA amendment. Members noted their frustration at using federal money to 'do the same as always' and not incorporating plans for multimodal transportation.

With no quorum present approval could not be requested, however will be at the next CAC meeting in December.

C. Title VI Non-Discrimination Plan and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan

Ms. Mary Ann Horne presented an update to the Title VI and LEP plan. Ms. Horne shared the reasons for the plan and how they currently endeavor to reach all communities in their communication of the plan and also hearing their needs. She also detailed how MetroPlan Orlando engages with people who speak languages other than English and the resources available to them.

Ms. Horne noted that the plan refers to Transportation Underserved Communities (TUCs) and identified those areas in the region.

A member requested that Lynx present at a future meeting and brought attention to the poor condition of many bus stops. Also noted was the need to improve the transportation to underserved areas where people needing to commute to work at the airport live. Ms. Horne referred to the Transportation for All plan that they are looking to incorporate into the MTP plan with the aim of having transportation access for all.

With no quorum present approval could not be requested, however will be at the next CAC meeting in December.

D. Draft CY 2025 MetroPlan Orlando Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule

Ms. Horne presented the draft meeting schedule for the calendar year 2025.

With no quorum present approval could not be requested, however will be at the next CAC meeting in December.

E. Appointment of Officer Selection Subcommittee

The Chair requested volunteers to be part of the Selection Subcommittee. Ms. Maria Salas, Mr. Chris Willenbring and Mr. Jeffrey Campbell were confirmed as the subcommittee, as is the privilege of the Chair. Ms. Horne explained the process that will now move forward as the subcommittee meets to consider any nominations for CAC leadership in 2025.

Having already heard items IX.A and IX. B, the meeting now moved to item IX. C.

IX. PRESENTATIONS & STATUS REPORTS

C. Bicycle Safety and Related Topics

Due to time constraints, it was agreed that this presentation be postponed to a future meeting.

D. reThink Your Commute Program

Ms. Jo Santiago, Passenger Operations Supervisor and Project Manager of reThink Your Commute Program presented. She outlined the purpose of the program, to encourage those in single occupancy vehicles into alternative modes of transportation. Ms. Santiago shared their commuter outreach, the partnerships they have with employers & TPO/MPOs and the benefits the program and collaboration brings.

As FDOT does fund the program, Ms. Santiago shared the return on investment, noted the Strategic Plan they have for the future and also the marketing and social media campaigns they undertake.

Member discussions included the Cycling Savvy program, the need to plan to incorporate electric passenger vehicles into the program, and the need for extended transit services at the weekends and over 24 hours. The Chair noted the service offered in Kissimmee called Freebee, whereby a Tesla will meet you at the Kissimmee SunRail station and give you a free ride within city limits.

X. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. **FDOT Monthly Construction Status Report** – The latest FDOT Monthly Construction Status Report for the MetroPlan Orlando area was enclosed.
- B. **Highlights from September 11, 2024, MetroPlan Orlando Board Meeting** – A series of highlights and notable actions from the most recent MetroPlan Orlando Board Meeting.
- C. **Air Quality Report** – The latest air quality report for the MetroPlan Orlando area was enclosed.
- D. **LYNX Press Releases** – A press release from LYNX was included.
- E. **2050 MTP Status Update** – Information was provided outlining the most recent updates and progress on the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan.
- F. **American Cancer Society Road Recruitment Flyer** – An informational flyer from the American Cancer Society was included.
- G. **TIP Modification Letter** – A letter explaining modifications to the FY 2024/25 – 2028/29 TIP was included.
- H. **Distracted Driving Handout** – An infographic detailing the growing problem of distracted driving.

XI. UPCOMING MEETINGS OF INTEREST

A list of selected upcoming meetings to be held at MetroPlan Orlando's office. For more information and a full list of upcoming meetings, visit the [MetroPlan Orlando Calendar](#).

- A. MetroPlan Orlando Board – September 11, 2024
- A. **Community Advisory Committee (CAC) – December 4, 2024**
- B. TSM&O Advisory Committee – October 25, 2024, and December 6, 2024
- C. Technical Advisory Committee – October 25, 2024, and December 6, 2024
- D. Municipal Advisory Committee – November 7, 2024, and December 5, 2024
- E. Transportation Disadvantage Local Coordinating Board (TDLCB) Public Meeting – November 14, 2024
- F. LYNX Board (at LYNX Central Station) – October 24, 2024, and December 12, 2024
- G. SunRail/CFCRC Board (at LYNX Central Station) – October 24, 2024, and November 14, 2024
- H. MetroPlan Orlando Board – December 11, 2024 (November 13 meeting – cancelled)

XII. MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Judy Pizzo urged people to vote.

Mr. Jeffrey Campbell extended congratulations to Ms. Mary Ann Horne on her new position and thanked MetroPlan Orlando staff for their work.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS (GENERAL)

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11.37 a.m.

Respectfully transcribed and submitted by Ms. Rachel Frederick, MetroPlan Orlando.

Approved this 4th day of December 2024.

Rachel Frederick
Ms. Rachel Frederick,
Board Services Coordinator

Nilisa Council
Dr. Dan Stephens, Chairman
Nilisa Council on behalf of

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 it is based.