

**Minutes of the Florida MPO Advisory Council  
Governing Board Meeting  
January 24, 2013**

**Governing Board Members in Attendance:**

Mayor Richard J. Kaplan, Broward MPO, Chair  
Deputy Mayor Susan Haynie, Palm Beach MPO, Vice-Chair  
Commissioner Tom Bausch, Martin MPO  
Councilmember Jim Bennett, Sarasota/Manatee MPO  
Commissioner Nat Birdsong, Polk TPO  
Vice-Mayor Lara Bradburn, Hernando County MPO  
Commissioner Thomas Hawkins, Gainesville MTPO  
Kathryn Hensley, St. Lucie TPO and School Board  
Commissioner James Herston, Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO  
Commissioner Trudie Infantini, Space Coast TPO  
Mayor Walter T. Kelley, Bay County TPO  
Councilmember Thomas Leonardo, Lee County MPO  
Councilmember Delores Madison, Capital Region TPA  
Mayor Jim Richards, Lake-Sumter MPO  
Commissioner Leigh Matusick, Volusia TPO  
Commissioner Gene Valentino, Florida-Alabama TPO  
Councilmember James Wood, Okaloosa-Walton TPO

**Others in Attendance:**

Howard Glassman, MPOAC Executive Director  
Brigitte Messina, MPOAC Assistant  
Paul Gougelman, MPOAC General Counsel  
Jeff Kramer, USF/CUTR  
Karen Seggerman, USF/CUTR  
Karen Brunelle, FHWA  
Bob Romig, FDOT  
Kathy Neill, FDOT  
Doug McLeod, FDOT  
Jennifer Stults, FDOT District 1  
Juan Flores, FDOT  
Susan Sadighi, FDOT District 5  
Dick Glaze, Glaze Associates  
Mary Bo Robinson, Florida-Alabama, Okaloosa-Walton and Bay County TPOs  
Peter Buchwald, St. Lucie TPO  
Lucie Ayer, Collier MPO  
Harold Barley, MetroPlan Orlando  
Tom Deardorff, Polk TPO  
Dennis Dix, Hernando County MPO  
T.J. Fish, Lake-Sumter MPO  
Bob Herrington, Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO  
Michael Howe, Sarasota/Manatee MPO  
Bob Kamm, Space Coast TPO

**Others in Attendance continued:**

Marlie Sanderson, Gainesville MTPO

Greg Stuart, Broward MPO

Randy Whitfield, Palm Beach MPO

David Bottomley, MetroPlan Orlando

Angela Morlok, Palm Beach MPO

Marci Larson, North Florida TPO

Charlie Williams, GEC

Matthew Herston, Herston Engineering

Mary Beth Washnock, Florida-Alabama, Okaloosa-Walton, and Bay County TPOs

Brian Youpetoff, WFRPC

1. Call to Order

Mayor Richard J. Kaplan, Broward MPO, Chair called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. The Chair welcomed all in attendance. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions were made.

Mayor Kaplan congratulated Deputy Mayor Susan Haynie, Vice-Chair, Palm Beach MPO, who has been honored by the South Florida Chapter of Women in Transportation as its "Woman of the Year." The Chair noted that Ms. Kathy Neill, Director of the FDOT Office of Policy Planning, is retiring from FDOT this month. Finally, the Chair acknowledged that this is the last MPOAC meeting for Mr. Randy Whitfield, Palm Beach MPO Staff Director.

2. Approval of Minutes

Councilmember James Wood, Okaloosa-Walton TPO, made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2012 meeting. Deputy Mayor Susan Haynie seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Howard Glassman, MPOAC Executive Director, provided a status report on the MPOAC budget. He noted that approximately 46% of the annual budget has been spent and he thanked MPOs for their contributions for legislative advocacy activities.

He then directed attention to the MPOAC Draft 2013 Legislative Priorities and Policy Positions and thanked the MPOAC Policy and Technical Subcommittee for their work on the draft. He noted that the policies were grouped into three areas: Transportation Finance & Funding; Transportation Planning & Programming; and Transportation Safety & Efficiency. Highlighting certain areas of the Policy Positions, Mr. Glassman noted that several of the policy recommendations were aligned with the recommendations of the MPOAC Transportation Revenue Study completed in 2012, including interim recommendations designed to restore the purchasing power of Florida's transportation dollar and a long-term recommendation of moving from a traditional fuel tax to a more sustainable mileage-based user fee (one that does not rely on the use of GPS tracking).

The Interim recommendations include expanding the Charter County and Regional Transportation System Surtax to allow municipalities over 150,000 in population (or the largest municipality in a county) and all counties located in MPO areas to enact up to a one cent local option surtax. He further noted that the Staff Directors recommended the addition of “by referendum” to the surtax policy for clarification. Other priorities for the 2013 legislative session include restoring funding for the Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) and reducing distracted driving by regulating the use of wireless communication devices. A pedestrian safety policy has been added based on conversations regarding the topic at the last two MPOAC meetings.

Councilman Thomas Leonardo, Lee County MPO, asked how the shortfall is determined. Mr. Glassman explained that CUTR performs a review of each MPO long range transportation plan and takes the shortfall from each plan (needs plan–cost affordable plan) to calculate a statewide shortfall. Current numbers used were obtained from 2030 LRTPS. He stressed the importance of determining true need as opposed to a wish list of projects. Councilman James Wood posed a number of questions regarding the Mileage-Based User Fee. Mr. Glassman suggested that many of his questions would be answered by the proposed study.

Mr. Michael Howe, Sarasota/Manatee MPO, asked Mr. Glassman to review the activities to date regarding implementation of the Transportation Revenue Study. Mr. Glassman stated that the study was presented to the Florida Senate Transportation Subcommittee on January 17<sup>th</sup> and was well-received.

Mr. Glassman also met with Representative Daniel Davis of Jacksonville who chairs the House Subcommittee on Transportation and Highway Safety to request an opportunity to appear before the Subcommittee; however, he has not yet heard back. He also met with Representative Ed Hooper, District 67, who serves on the House Transportation Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee to request an appearance before that Subcommittee; again, no response has been received. He may have an opportunity to present the study to the House of Representatives in February.

Mr. Glassman noted that the five interim recommendations will not be easy to achieve. For example regarding the Charter County Surtax, the counties are not all in favor of allowing cities to go to referendum and that while the MPOAC has the support of the League of Cities it does not have the support of the Florida Association of Counties. He thanked Deputy Mayor Haynie for her presentation to the League of Cities subcommittee. The Revenue Study shows the value of indexing the gas tax over time with the Consumer Price Index (CPI); however, it’s difficult to gain acceptance due to the silent nature of the tax.

Mr. Glassman believes the Senate presentation went well and that there is an appreciation among the members regarding the transportation revenue issue and the need to transition away from the traditional gas tax. MPOAC staff is working with the Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR) to develop an informational brochure containing the highlights of the revenue study that will be useful in conveying the pertinent details to legislators, elected officials, and the public. The brochure will be made available to all MPOs once completed and posted to the MPOAC website.

Commissioner Thomas Hawkins, Gainesville MTPO, asked if increasing the number of limited access roads that could be tolled was being considered. Mr. Glassman indicated that tolling was not included as one of the six MPOAC study recommendations because there was so much state legislation adopted in regard to that issue last year. Commissioner Hawkins further asked if the MPOAC has a federal legislative agenda. Mayor Kaplan mentioned that there is currently tolling on interstates in Florida in the form of managed lanes. In response to additional questions regarding the Mileage-Based User Fee, Mayor Kaplan reiterated that the proposed study would identify which approach will work best for Florida.

Vice-Mayor Lara Bradburn, Hernando County MPO, expressed concern that the Mileage-Based User Fee is being supported above the other proposals in the top six recommendations. Mr. Glassman and Mayor Kaplan noted that all recommendations were being supported and stated in terms of interim and long-term recommendations. Further discussion ensued. Mr. Bob Romig, FDOT State Transportation Development Administrator, shared information on decreasing gas tax that was previously shared with the Senate Finance Committee. Mayor Kaplan asked staff to determine if smart card technology is required by MAP-21 and, if so, to ensure that it is presented as such to legislators.

Deputy Mayor Haynie moved to amend the Surtax bullet on page 2 of the MPOAC Draft 2013 Legislative Priorities and Policy Positions with the term "by referendum." The motion was seconded by Mayor Jim Richards, Lake-Sumter MPO, and passed unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Haynie moved to approve the MPOAC Draft 2013 Legislative Priorities and Policy Positions, as amended. The motion was seconded by Mayor Richards. The motion passed with 15 voting in favor and 2 against: Vice-Mayor Lara Bradburn and Commissioner Trudie Infantini, Space Coast TPO.

Mr. Glassman then discussed the Draft Financial Guidelines for MPO 2040 Long Range Plans. He stated the importance of the statewide shortfall and the increased difficulty in obtaining that number from MPO LRTPs. Each MPO is asked to include an estimate of unfunded needs costs in base year dollars in the LRTP. Mr. Glassman noted a change recommended by the Staff Directors that the recommended Base and Horizon Years (FY 2013/2014 and FY 2039/2040, respectively) are for financial reporting purposes only and do not impact individual MPO selection of alternative Base and Horizon Years for socioeconomic, modeling and other purposes. He also pointed out that operations and maintenance costs will be reported by FDOT on a District level. In addition, the last band of estimating is recommended as a ten year band rather than a five year band. He thanked Dick Glaze of Glaze Associates and Jeff Kramer with the Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR) for their work on the document.

Mayor Walter Kelley, Bay County TPO, moved approval of the Financial Guidelines for MPO 2040 Long Range Plans. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wood. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Glassman stated that a summary report is now available from the MPOAC-FDOT Regional Cooperation & Governance Workshop that discusses how MPOs may improve regional cooperation.

He also reminded everyone that notices have gone out in the mail regarding the MPO Weekend Institute Training on April 12 -14, 2013 at the Rosen Plaza Hotel in Orlando and May 17 - 19, 2013 at the Renaissance Tampa Hotel. Registration may be accomplished online or through the mail.

#### 4. Election of Officers

Mr. Paul Gougelman, MPOAC General Counsel, introduced the election of officers - a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for the MPOAC Governing Board, to begin terms of service on July 25, 2013. He noted that the sign-in sheets indicate that there are 17 voting members present. He further noted that 25 of the 26 MPOs in Florida were represented at the Staff Director's meeting and did not recall another meeting where representation was so high.

He inquired of Chair Mayor Kaplan whether he would be willing to serve again as Chair if so nominated. He indicated that he would be willing. Mr. Gougelman opened nominations.

Commissioner Nat Birdsong, Polk TPO, nominated Mayor Kaplan as Chair. Mr. Gougelman requested a motion to close the nominations and elect Mayor Kaplan by unanimous acclamation. Commissioner Gene Valentino, Florida-Alabama TPO, motioned and Deputy Mayor Haynie seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gougelman inquired of Vice-Chair, Deputy Mayor Haynie whether she would be willing to serve again as Vice-Chair if so nominated. She indicated that she would be willing.

Mayor Walter Kelley nominated Deputy Mayor Haynie as Vice-Chair; Councilman Thomas Leonardo seconded. Mr. Gougelman requested a motion to close the nominations and elect Deputy Mayor Susan Haynie by unanimous acclamation. Commissioner Birdsong made the motion and Councilman James Wood seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### 5. Agency Reports

##### a. FDOT Agency Report

Ms. Kathy Neill, FDOT, provided an update of FDOT. Guiding principles for the future corridors initiative have been drafted based on the Florida Transportation Plan (FTP) and other collaborative processes and will be made available to the MPOs for review and comment. Work has also been initiated on two future corridor concept reports. One will look at the Tampa Bay and Central Florida super-region. The second will look at I-75 north of Tampa Bay particularly from the Wildwood to Gainesville area that tends to be congested impeding the movement of people and freight. The draft reports are expected next month and FDOT staff is available to come before individual MPOs upon request. The concept reports will be followed by more detailed evaluations which will propose solutions to the mobility and connectivity needs identified in the respective corridors.

Ms. Neill reminded MPOs that the two new urbanized areas in Florida must be associated with an MPO by the end of March (one year after the information was made available). She noted that it doesn't have to be a new MPO. In addition, the voting membership of each MPO must be reviewed in accordance with the urbanized area boundaries of the 2010 census. Letters in regard to urbanized boundary

changes resulting from the census went out to local officials in November, seeking response by February 1, 2013.

The FDOT has presented an overview to several committees regarding its legislative package for the 2013 session of the Florida Legislature. Proposed legislation includes changes to MPO membership providing for an exemption to the 19-member cap (up to 25 members) when an MPO boundary expands to include a new urbanized area or when two or more MPOs merge.

Proposed legislation includes language creating the Regional Toll Authority Act. This would allow any 2 or more contiguous counties, with the approval of the legislature, to form a regional toll authority to plan and fund regionally significant transportation facilities that would be built, operated, and maintained by the Department. Three new toll authorities are proposed – the Northwest Regional Toll Authority that would cover Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties, the Okaloosa Bay Regional Toll Authority that would cover Okaloosa, Walton, and Bay Counties, and the Sun Coast Regional Toll Authority that would cover Citrus, Levy, Marion, and Alachua Counties. The proposed legislation would also transfer authority of the Mid-Bay Bridge to the Okaloosa Bay Regional Toll Authority.

Proposed legislation expands the responsibilities of the Florida Transportation Commission to include oversight of the Mid-Bay Bridge and provide staff support to the Florida Statewide Passenger Rail Commission. Also included is the creation of the Strategic Airport Investment Initiative that would allow the Department to fund projects meeting specified criteria. Provisions for Space Florida funding include \$15 million annually for Spaceport, a waiver of the 50% match requirement if certain criteria are met, and \$5 million for the Spaceport Investment Program. Other proposed changes include broadening the statutory requirements for intercity bus service, authorization of sponsorship recognition on state right of way, and a requirement for local governments to plan for noise mitigation through compatible land uses abutting limited access facilities.

The Department is preparing the Policy Element of the Freight Mobility and Trade Plan based on feedback received to date. The current schedule includes development of a draft strategy in February, presentation at a business forum in March, a comment period in April and May, and Plan adoption on July 1, 2013. Development of the Investment Element would follow with anticipated completion in 2014. Mr. Juan Flores, FDOT State Freight and Logistics Administrator, announced that there will be an Intermodal Logistics Forum in Fort Lauderdale on February 20th and 21st. In response to a question about what the MPO role in freight planning would be as a result of Panama Canal expansion, Mr. Flores indicated that the regional freight plans included in MPO LRTPs have been helpful in the development of the state freight plan. Discussion ensued regarding freight issues. Mr. Glassman will work with Mr. Flores regarding a presentation on freight. Members asked that any presentation on the Panama Canal and freight should include how each community can participate.

Ms. Neill agreed to get back with Councilman Wood regarding his question about the delay in dredging the east pass. In response to a question about the arbitrary cap on MPO Board members, Ms. Neill responded that there is no restriction in federal law, only state law.

## b. FHWA Agency Report

Ms. Karen Brunelle, Director, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Office of Project Development, provided updates regarding FHWA activities. Florida office organizational changes include Mr. David Hawk as the Acting Division Administrator.

The FHWA has held several listening sessions, including with FDOT, regarding the performance measurement requirements of MAP-21. The fact sheet on performance management can be found on the FHWA website ([www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21)). Rulemaking will be conducted for three areas: safety, infrastructure, and other performance measures. Topic areas include pavement condition on the Interstate System and the remainder of the NHS, performance of the Interstate System and the remainder of the NHS, bridge condition on the NHS, fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads, traffic congestion, on-road mobile source emissions, and freight movement on the Interstate System.

The rulemaking is expected to take the full 18 months and will culminate in one effective date tentatively in Spring 2015. At that time the clock starts for the states to set their performance targets and subsequently, the end of 2016 before MPO targets are set. Therefore, it is not anticipated that MPOs will set targets during the current LRTP update cycle. MPOs are encouraged to look at the fact sheet and include pertinent information in the LRTP so any additional information can be provided through a modification rather than a full amendment.

Ms. Brunelle thanked everyone for their comments and input in regard to the LRTP Expectations Letter which will be used to clarify issues for LRTP updates, certification reviews, and any changes submitted for review. The office is planning to develop a process to look at existing corrective actions in an effort to close them out prior to the next certification review. The process would involve the MPO writing a letter and providing documentation as to how they addressed the corrective action and FHWA would provide a written response. MPOs with outstanding corrective actions will be contacted by an FHWA planner.

## 6. Clean Cities Coalitions in Florida

Ms. Marci Larson, Public Affairs Manager, North Florida TPO, presented on the Clean Cities Coalitions in Florida. Two brochures were distributed to attendees: the North Florida Clean Cities Coalition Wrap-up 2012 and the U.S. Department of Energy March 2012 Newsletter.

Clean Cities is a 20-year public-private voluntary partnership sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy for the transportation sector encouraging fuel alternatives and hybrids to reduce dependence on foreign oil. With over 90 coalitions nationwide, Clean Cities draws stakeholders from local, state and federal agencies; public health and transportation departments; commercial fleets; transit agencies; automobile manufacturers; car dealers; fuel and equipment suppliers; public utilities and non-profit organizations.

Florida has two designated Clean Cities Coalitions: Gold Coast/SE Florida and Central Florida. Two other coalitions are working toward designation and include North Florida Clean Cities, organized in 2009, and

Tampa Bay Clean Cities, organized in mid-2012. Discussion ensued regarding CNG and the potential for taxing it.

## 7. Mobility Performance Measures

Mr. Doug McLeod, FDOT Manager, Mobility Performance Measures, presented on the FDOT Mobility Performance Measures Program and possible MAP-21 requirements. Mobility performance measures are essential to evaluating how the transportation system is doing. Four dimension of measures should be used including quantity – how much is being moved?; quality – how well is it being moved?; accessibility- is it getting where it needs to go?; and capacity- how much of the system is used up? The dimensions are applicable to all modes. FDOT has been a leader in applying mobility measures and is now focusing on developing measures for all modes: bike, ped, transit, aviation and ports, including reaching out to all appropriate agencies including MPOs.

At this point, the Department has drafted statewide mobility measures. Mr. McLeod commented on the excellent work in this area by Southeast Florida as well as the congestion management processes within each MPO. FDOT Performance Measure resources are available at [www.dot.state.fl.us/planning/statistics/mobilitymeasures](http://www.dot.state.fl.us/planning/statistics/mobilitymeasures). Another resource to be consulted when developing mobility measures is NCHRP 8-36: Assessing Alternative Methods for Measuring Regional Mobility in Metropolitan Regions completed in February 2012 which uses the four dimensions from Florida's performance measures, but focuses more on trip-based rather than facility-based performance.

Mr. McLeod reviewed the MAP 21 National Goal Areas for the Federal Aid Highway Program: safety, infrastructure condition, congestion reduction, system reliability, freight movement and economic vitality, environmental sustainability, and reducing project delivery delays. He reiterated that the USDOT will set the performance measures and that the states and MPOs will set targets for each measure. Each MPO will likely have different targets. He also noted that federal legislation includes consequences for states, but not MPOs, that do not meet performance targets.

Although the USDOT has not yet set performance measures, Mr. McLeod is guessing that the measures will certainly focus on delay and travel time reliability, particularly where freight is concerned. These are the areas MPOs that want to move forward should consider focusing on. FDOT will be measuring the targets on a state level and they will be able to break it down to a regional and MPO level. They plan to be able to provide this information to MPOs that want it. FDOT is looking to collaborate with MPOs on developing performance measures to meet MAP-21 requirements.

In response to a question regarding the scope of the system to be monitored, Mr. McLeod indicated that the emphasis is on the interstate system in terms of freight and that the federal government will focus on the National Highway System (NHS) as defined in MAP-21. However, it may be useful to go beyond the NHS. Although FDOT will have statewide targets, each MPO will be required to have targets as well.

Discussion ensued regarding performance-based planning, how targets are established and met, and how it will relate to federally-funded infrastructure improvements.

## 8. Communications

Attendees were directed to the agenda packet to review a variety of communications that were provided. Mr. Glassman noted the invitation from the Florida Chamber Foundation to participate in a stakeholder's meeting at their 2013 Transportation and Logistics Summit which will be held in February.

## 9. Member Comments

Commissioner Valentino stated that NW Regional TPO held a symposium last week with FDOT, elected officials, local staff, and the public in attendance to discuss transportation issues in their area. It was so successful that they plan to hold one again next year after the legislative session.

Mr. Michael Howe noted that the Staff Directors' re-elected Mary Bo Robinson, Florida-Alabama, Okaloosa-Walton and Bay County TPOs, as Chair and Peter Buchwald, St. Lucie TPO, as Vice-Chair.

Mr. Glassman congratulated Paul Gougelman who is getting married on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

## 10. Public Comments

No public comments were made.

The next meeting will be held on April 25th in Tallahassee and will be a joint meeting of the Staff Directors' Advisory Committee and the MPOAC Governing Board.

## 11. The meeting was adjourned at 5:56 p.m.