

**METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)**

A joint meeting of the Indian River County (IRC) Metropolitan Planning Organization Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) was held at 2:00 PM on Tuesday, September 24, 2024, conducted and hosted in County Administration Building “B”, Room B1-501, 1800 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida.

Note: Audio and video recordings of the meeting can be found at

https://indianriver.gov/government/boards_and_committees/mpo_bicycle_advisory_committee/agendas_minutes.php

BPAC Members in Attendance:

Vice Chair, Chris McCarthy, Sebastian Representative
Hal Lambert, City of Vero Beach Representative
Robert Loring, City of Fellsmere Representative
Nancy Auwaerter, (alternate), Indian River Shores Representative
Solana Morris, BCC Appointee
Jane Garcia, (alternate), Town of Orchid Representative

BPAC Members Absent:

Chair, Frank Blaisdell, Indian River Shores Representative (excused)

Staff in Attendance:

Brian Freeman, MPO Staff Director
Jim Mann, MPO Senior Planner
Patti Johnson, MPO Staff Assistant III & Recording Secretary
Nancy Bunt, Acting IRC Planning & Development Services Director

Others in Attendance:

FDOT: Mike Melendez

BWIRC: Megan Bradford

Others in Attendance via TEAMS:

Patel & Greene: Kelly Farabee

Call to Order

BPAC Vice Chair McCarthy, called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM. It was noted that an in-person quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes of the BPAC-CAC Joint Meeting of June 4, 2024.

Action Required

BPAC Vice Chair McCarthy asked if there were any additions or corrections to the BPAC-CAC joint meeting minutes of June 4, 2024.

Ms. Auwaerter requested clarification on page 4, third paragraph under Consideration of the 2024 Priority Projects Report, that the minutes read:

The weekday hours of operation for GoLine are now until 9:00 pm and Saturday extended hours are about to go into effect.

ON MOTION by Mr. Loring, SECONDED by Mr. Lambert, the members voted (6-0) to approve the June 4, 2024, Metropolitan Planning Organization BPAC-CAC joint meeting minutes, as amended.

Consideration of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.

Action Required

Mr. Freeman opened this item by providing a summary of the process so far and introduced Ms. Kelly Farabee, from Patel & Greene, who conducted this presentation and submitted the final report. A copy of this presentation is on file in the MPO office.

Mr. Lambert stated he is pleased overall with the plan. He and the bike community had compiled some suggestions and submitted it to Mr. Freeman. There were a couple of level of stress they felt should be ranked differently. For example, 16th Street, it is an LTS-2 and we feel it should be a LTS-4, like 12th Street and 8th Street. Mr. Freeman stated there are several factors that are incorporated in these rankings.

Mr. Freeman noted this is not a completed plan, but it is a work in progress.

Vice Chair McCarthy opened the floor for comments.

There being no further comments the item was open for motion

ON MOTION by Ms. Morris and SECONDED by Mr. Lambert, the members voted (6-0) to approve the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, as presented.

Review of the MPO Annual Certification Statement.

Action Required

Mr. Freeman explained the certification process and reviewed the findings from FDOT of the MPO Annual Certification. As it has in the past, FDOT identified a number of noteworthy practices undertaken by the MPO and found no deficiencies in this evaluation. Mr. Freeman noted the MPO has received the best possible score of 100%.

Vice Chair McCarthy opened the floor for comments

There being no comments the item was open for motion.

ON MOTION by Ms. Auwaerter and SECONDED by Ms. Morris, the members voted (6-0) to approve the MPO Annual Certification Statement, as presented.

Review of the Public Participation Plan Annual Evaluation for FY 2023/24.

No Action Required

Mr. Freeman remarked this is not so much of an evaluation, but an overview of the public involvement activities the MPO has participated in over the past year. This is a part of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), and it covers from July 1st through June 30th period.

During this period the MPO participated in the following events: Walk to School/Bike Days, bike safety community events and bike rodeos at seven elementary schools. Almost 1,000 helmets were distributed at these events. There was an update to the Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan update which had great community participation. The MPO Overview was read by more than 2,000 individuals.

This is an informational item and no action is required.

Status Report of MPO Advisory Committees.

No Action Required

Mr. Freeman reviewed his memorandum, dated September 16, 2024, included in the agenda packet and on file in the MPO Office. He also noted the next meeting dates for the MPO and its advisory committees.

Other Business

2025 MPO & MPO Advisory Committees Meeting Schedule.

Mr. Freeman presented the 2025 MPO & MPO Advisory Committees Meeting Schedule. As a cost saving measure there will be some TAC-CAC and TAC-CAC-BPAC joint meetings as the consultants will be presenting in person. Also, due to FDOT's project deadlines there are a few meetings that fall on days other than the usual meeting schedule.

Comments from the Public

There were none.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:44 PM.