METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

A meeting of the Indian River County (IRC) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) was held at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, October 29, 2025, in County Administration Building "B", First Floor Conference Room B1-501, 1800 27th Street, Vero Beach.

Note: Audio and video recordings of the meeting can be found at https://indianriver.gov/government/boards_and_committees/metropolitan_planning_organization_(mpo)/index.php

MPO Members in Attendance:

Chair, Mayor Bob McPartlan, City of Sebastian
Vice Chair, Bob Auwaerter, Vice Mayor, Indian River Shores
Commissioner Susan Adams, District 1
Commissioner Joseph E. Flescher, District 2
Commissioner Joe Earman, District 3
Commissioner Deryl Loar, District 4
Commissioner Laura Moss, District 5
Aaron Vos, Council Member, City of Vero Beach
Ben Baker, Council Member, City of Fellsmere
Ed Dodd, Council Member, City of Sebastian
David Dyer, IRC School Board
Daniel McEvoy, Town of Orchid (non-voting)

Members Absent:

Linda Moore, Vice Mayor, City of Vero Beach (excused)

Staff in Attendance:

Brian Freeman, MPO Staff Director
Mark Vietze, MPO Senior Planner
Patti Johnson, MPO Staff Assistant III/Recording Secretary
Ryan Sweeney, Acting Planning & Development Services Director
Nancy Bunt, Assistant County Administrator
Alex Laffey, County Engineering
Dan Hale, County Public Works

Others Present:

FDOT: James Hughes, Cesar Martinez, Tony Norat, James Brown, Mark Madgar, John Krane, Tom Turberville, Binod Basnet, Kris Kehres, Rana Keel, and Victoria Peters
Kimley-Horn & Associates: William Roll
Senior Resource Association: Karen Deigl & Chris Stephenson
City of Fellsmere: Armando Martinez & Kenny Evans

City of Vero Beach: John Carroll
WGI: Bill Evans
Vero Lake Estates: William McCaslin
Residents: Honey Minuse

Call to Order.

Chair McPartlan called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. It was noted that a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes of the MPO Meeting on August 13, 2025.
Action Required

Chair McPartlan asked if there were any additions or corrections to the MPO meeting minutes of August 13, 2025.

There being none, the item was open for motion.

> **ON MOTION by Mr. Dodd and SECONDED by Commissioner Moss, the members voted (9-0) to approve the minutes of the Metropolitan Planning Organization August 13, 2025, meeting as presented.**

Recognition of Senior Resource Association (SRA) Award.
No Action Required

Mr. Freeman recognized the Senior Resource Association, operator of GoLine, which was recognized by the Florida Public Transportation Association (FPTA) as being the System of the Year for 2025.

Ms. Deigl added, this is the third time they have received this award in the past ten years. As far as we can tell, no other transit system has received this award three times. Ms. Deigl further stated, it takes a village to run a good system, and the relationship with the MPO, the planning part of it, working with them is an outstanding relationship, as well as the support received from the MPO is appreciated. Our goal is to continue to be the best we can be, thank you.

Status Report of MPO Advisory Committees.
No Action Required

Commissioner Flescher entered @ 10:04am

Mr. Freeman reviewed his memorandum, dated October 21, 2025, included in the agenda packet and on file in the MPO Office.

<u>**Review of FDOT's Draft Tentative Five-Year Work Program for FY 2027-2031.**</u>
Action Required

Mr. Baker entered @ 10:11am

Mr. Freeman introduced Mr. John Krane, District 4 Director of Transportation. Mr. Freeman also noted the large number of FDOT staff in attendance for this presentation.

Mr. Krane remarked that District Secretary Steve Braun sends his regrets that he could not attend this meeting; these types of meetings are his favorite. Mr. Krane introduced all the FDOT staff in attendance. A power point presentation was shown, and a copy of this presentation is on file in the MPO office.

During the presentation, Mr. Krane covered project highlights which include SR 60 resurfacing and US 1 resurfacing from Davis Street to south of the Sebastion Inlet Bridge, which have been completed. Projects under construction are 17th Street Bridge (the east end), as well as the Oslo Road Interchange and Widening. Mr. Krane also summarized the MPO's priority projects as follows: 45th Street, from 58th Avenue to 43rd Avenue, CR 510 from 87th Street to 58th Avenue, and CR 510 from 58th Avenue to US 1, 82nd Avenue from 26th Street to 69th Street and from 69th Street to CR 510, US 1 Intersection at Aviation Blvd., Aviation Blvd. from 43rd Avenue to US 1, and US 1 from 53rd Street to CR 510. The other funded projects include CR 512 from Willow Street to I-95 which is funded through the Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) and 41st Street sidewalk from 32nd Avenue to US #1 which is funded through the Transportation Alternative (TA) Program.

Ms. Victoria Peters, also from District 4 FDOT, provided an overview on the cycle that is involved in the work program

Vice Chair Auwaerter asked about the estimated date of completion for the new A1A bridge in St. Lucie County, which some Indian River County residents use occasionally. This bridge is scheduled for completion early next year, January/February 2026. There will still be a lot of work in the area as the old bridge will need to be demolished.

There being no further comments, Chair McPartlan opened the floor for motion.

> **ON MOTION by Commissioner Flescher and SECONDED by Vice Chair Auwaerter, the members voted (11-0) to approve FDOT's Draft Tentative Five-Year Work Program, as presented.**

<u>**Consideration of the Draft 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).**</u>

Action Required

Mr. Freeman provided a brief overview on the development of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Mr. Freeman introduced Mr. William Roll, from Kimley-Horn and Associates. Mr. Roll conducted a power point presentation and was there to answer any questions. A copy of this presentation is on file in the MPO office.

Mr. Roll reminded the Board the deadline to approve this plan is December 2025. Failure to adopt the plan by the deadline risks the denial of federal funding for transportation projects. Mr. Freeman stated this item will be on display for public comment for a period of 30 days. Then Mr. Freeman expounded on the projects included in this plan.

There being no further comments, Chair McPartlan opened the floor for motion.

ON MOTION by Commissioner Adams and SECONDED by Vice Chair Auwaerter, the members voted (11-0) to approve the draft Long Range Transportation Plan and open the 30 day public comment period.

Consideration of a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment.
Action Required

Mr. Freeman commented this Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment is due to more funding being programmed for 82nd Avenue's right-of-way acquisition.

Chair McPartlan opened the floor for any additional comments from the Board.

There being none, the item was open for a motion.

Mr. Freeman stated this item requires a roll call of the vote.

ON MOTION by Commissioner Flescher and SECONDED by Commissioner Adams, the members voted (11-0) to approve the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment, as presented. (Commissioners Adams, Flescher, Earman, Loar, and Moss, Mr. McPartlan, Mr. Auwaerter, Mr. Voss, Mr. Baker, Mr. Dodd and Mr. Dyer all voted aye. Ms. Moore was absent from the vote.)

Review of the Annual MPO Certification.
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 several noteworthy practices undertaken by the MPO and found no deficiencies in this evaluation. Some the of the highlights include: long range planning efforts and visioning, excellence in public transportation (1.36 million riders, the 13th consecutive year of 1 million + riders, even during COVID), the most efficient public transportation system in Florida (number one ranking in cost per passenger trip), implemented transit service enhancements recommended by the TDP, bike/ped safety programming reaching out to the PE classes in elementary schools (issuing helmets to all participants), and cooperation in regional planning activities, also the completion of the Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan update.

There being no further comments, the item was open for motion.

ON MOTION by Commissioner Adams and SECONDED by Mr. Baker, the members voted (11-0) to approve the Annual Certification Statement, as presented.

Other Business.

Mr. Freeman presented the 2026 MPO and MPO Advisory Committees meeting schedule, noting meeting invites will be sent out for all meetings.

Comments from the Public.

There were none.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 AM.