

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

A meeting of the Indian River County (IRC) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) was held at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, December 10, 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](https://indianriver.gov/government/boards_and_committees/metropolitan_planning_organization_(mpo)/index.php)

MPO Members in Attendance:

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
Sherrie Matthews, Council Member, City of Sebastian
Linda Moore, Council Member, City of Vero Beach
Aaron Vos, Council Member, City of Vero Beach
David Dyer, IRC School Board
Daniel McEvoy, Town of Orchid (non-voting)

Members Absent:

Chair, Mayor Bob McPartlan, City of Sebastian
Ed Dodd, Council Member, City of Sebastian
Ben Baker, Council Member, City of Fellsmere

Staff in Attendance:

Brian Freeman, MPO Staff Director
Mark Vietze, MPO Senior Planner
Jarrod McCarthy, MPO Senior Planner
Patti Johnson, MPO Staff Assistant III/Recording Secretary
John Stoll, Planning & Development Services Director
Ryan Sweeney, Assistant Planning & Development Services Director

Others Present:

FDOT: Tony Norat
Kimley-Horn & Associates: William Roll
City of Fellsmere: Robert Loring & Maura Stokes
St. Johns Improvement District: John Lang
Residents: Honey Minuse, Ervin Cartwright, DeDe & William McCaslin, William Rigby

Call to Order.

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

The first presenter is stuck in traffic due to an accident and will be here shortly. With that in mind the order of the agenda will be changed accordingly.

Approval of Minutes of the MPO Meeting on October 29, 2025.

Action Required

Vice Chair Auwaerter asked if there were any additions or corrections to the MPO meeting minutes of October 29, 2025.

There being none, the item was open for motion.

ON MOTION by Commissioner Flescher and SECONDED by Mr. Vos, the members voted (9-0) to approve the minutes of the Metropolitan Planning Organization October 29, 2025, meeting as presented.

Status Report of MPO Advisory Committees.

No Action Required

Mr. Freeman reviewed his memorandum, dated December 2, 2025, included in the agenda packet and on file in the MPO Office.

Consideration of the 2025 Public Participation Plan Update.

Action Required

Commissioner Adams entered @ 10:03am

Mr. Freeman stated one thing that must be updated every few years is the Public Participation Plan. This lays out the MPO's procedures for conducting meetings and public workshops (for the safety action plan, long range plan, etc.) that we have completed this year; also, for our different products such as the plans themselves, and communications like the MPOverview newsletter. There haven't been many changes to this version of the update, but we will do another one in about two years.

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

ON MOTION by Commissioner Moss and SECONDED by Commissioner Flescher, the members voted (10-0) to approve the 2025 Public Participation Plan Update, as presented.

Crash Data Presentation.

No Action Required

Mr. Freeman stated in February that all MPO's in Florida are required to adopt safety targets for the year. There are five performance measures that we have supported, which includes the State's initiative for Vision Zero (having the goal of no traffic, serious injuries, or fatalities). This is a preliminary analysis of the safety data for the last five years. Mr. Vietze (MPO Senior Planner) has put together a presentation. A copy of this power point presentation is in the MPO office.

Mr. Vietze remarked the data in this presentation is from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2024. A lot of this data is included in the methodology for the development of the safety targets as we strive for vision zero. An interesting point is the intersection of SR 60 and 58th Avenue. While this intersection had the most crashes in the County, none of the crashes had serious injuries or fatalities.

Mr. Freeman mentioned at the next meeting you will receive a more refined product, with a series of maps and a report with a narrative, which will also coincide with the review of the annual safety targets.

Commissioner Loar did point out the traffic signal at 58th Avenue and 77th Street is now active.

Ms. Moore would like to request a traffic light be considered at the Courthouse.

Mr. William Rigby shared CR 510 concerns on how dangerous it is to pedestrians and bicyclists. Mr. Freeman commented that the new construction on that roadway will be adding bike lanes and sidewalks.

This is an informational item; no action is required.

Adoption of the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).

Action Required

Mr. Freeman opened this item by saying this is one of two primary functions of every MPO. One function is to prepare a long range transportation plan which is cost feasible or cost affordable. The second function is to prioritize and program projects from that plan so they can be implemented and that is done through the list of priority projects and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Over the past year we have had a series of presentations at different MPO meetings, including this Board and all the advisory committees. Also, over the Spring and Summer we conducted eight public workshops all around the community, (two were at the Gifford Achievement Center, two at the North County Library, one at the IG Center, the Vero Beach Community Center, Fellsmere City Hall, and one in this room). The workshops were held at various times, the morning, afternoon and early evening. By having them at various locations and times we try to make it convenient for residents to attend.

Mr. Freeman noted that a letter was received last week from the West Wabasso Progressive Civic Club with some concerns about the public participation process that the MPO has conducted for developing the long range plan. At the beginning of this week there was a letter drafted, in coordination with the County Attorney's office, on some of the concerns that were raised in that letter. Mr. Freeman remarked the MPO's position is that we have exceeded all our requirements, whether federal, state, or our own local requirements for our public participation process in developing the plan.

Mr. Freeman introduced Mr. William Roll, from Kimley-Horn & Associates, who conducted the presentation. A copy of this power point presentation is on file in the MPO office. Furthermore, Mr. Freeman stated a roll call vote is required for this item.

Mr. Roll said this plan is almost completed, the main action for the committee today is final adoption by the MPO Board at their meeting next week. As a reminder, the available total funding is about 650 million dollars, that is a purchasing value just under 500 million dollars. Since the last presentation there have been no changes in project revenues or committed roadway projects. On cost feasible projects there has been a minor adjustment to a project limit for one of the phases on SR 60, but improvements remain the same. There are no changes in the partially unfunded roadway needs, sidewalks, proposed bicycle facilities, and no changes in the transit development plan

There being no further comments, Vice Chair Auwaerter opened the floor for motion to adopt the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan.

ON MOTION by Commissioner Moss and SECONDED by Commissioner Adams, the members voted (10-0) to adopt the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plant, as presented. (Commissioners Adams, Flescher, Earman, Loar, and Moss, Ms. Matthews, Mr. Auwaerter, Mr. Voss, Ms. Moore, and Mr. Dyer all voted aye.)

Consideration of an Extension for the General Planning Consultant Contracts.
Action Required

Mr. Freeman explained there are four consultants who were approved as General Planning Consultants, the contracts were approved for a three-year term, with a one-year extension. Staff would like the Board's approval to exercise the one-year extension.

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

ON MOTION by Ms. Moore and SECONDED by Commissioner Moss, the members voted (10-0) to approve an Extension for the General Planning Consultant Contracts, as presented.

Other Business.

Mr. Freeman would like to recognize Mr. John Stoll, Planning & Development Services Director. Mr. Stoll previously worked as the Chief of Long Range Planning in Indian River County before moving to Colorado. Welcome back, John.

A second introduction is Mr. Jarrod McCarthy, the MPO's newest Senior Planner. This is Mr. McCarthy's second week with the MPO, he is originally from New England. We are happy to have Mr. McCarthy on our team.

Comments from the Public.

Mr. Rigby, West Wabasso resident, addressed the Board and asked questions about the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan. Mr. Rigby has concerns with the three retention ponds and drainage design that are being added due to the enhancements on CR 510.

Mr. Freeman will talk to Traffic Engineering and FDOT regarding these concerns.

Mr. Ervin Cartwright, West Wabasso resident, is very concerned with safety issues for pedestrians and bicyclists along CR 510, citing unsafe conditions. Also, when will this work begin. Mr. Freeman replied in the early 2030's.

Adjournment

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