

Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)
Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2022

Members Physically Present:

Terry Lodge
Luis Leal
Paul Eik
Larry Coletti
Tom Ryan
Nic Mostert
Bob Storke
Gayle Belin
Andrew Dodzik
Mark Oebbecke
Chris Daun
Jason Aufdenberg, Chairperson
Melissa Winsett (non-voting)
Stephanie Moss (non-voting)

Members Virtually Present:

Doug Hall
Nancy Burgess-Hall
Tim Grigsby
Roy Walters

Non-Voting Technical Appointees Virtually Present:

Gwen Perney
John Cotton

Members/Technical Appointees Absent:

Christy Gillis (excused)
Ted Wendler, Vice Chairperson
Adam Mengel
Patrick McCallister (excused)
Rob Brinson

Others Physically Present:

Stephan Harris
Colleen Nicoulin

Others Virtually Present:

Debbie Stewart, Recording Secretary
Pam Blankenship
Loreen Bobo
Jay Williams

Representing:

DeBary
Deltona
Flagler Beach
Flagler County
Holly Hill
New Smyrna Beach
Orange City
Ormond Beach
Palm Coast Alternate
Ponce Inlet
Volusia County Council Chair
Volusia County At-Large Alternate
Volusia County
FDOT

Representing:

Daytona Beach Alternate
Volusia County, District 2
Volusia County, District 4
Volusia County At-Large

Representing:

Port Orange
Votran

Representing:

South Daytona
DeLand
Flagler County
Volusia County, District 1
Volusia County School Board

Representing:

TPO Staff
TPO Staff

Representing:

TPO Staff
TPO Staff
FDOT
Volusia County

I. Call to Order / Roll Call / Determination of Quorum / Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting of the River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairperson Jason Aufdenberg. The roll was called and it was determined that a quorum was physically present. Due to the COVID-19 virus, the meeting was held in a hybrid format with 12 voting and two non-voting members physically present; four voting and two non-voting members were virtually present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Chairperson Aufdenberg stated the members participating virtually are doing so as a result of social distancing restrictions associated with COVID-19. Rulings from the Florida Attorney General require that the members physically present take a vote to allow virtual participation due to “extraordinary circumstances”.

MOTION: *A motion was made by Ms. Belin to allow members attending virtually to participate and vote. The motion was seconded by Mr. Eik and carried unanimously.*

II. Public Comment/Participation

There were no public comments.

III. Action Items

A. Review and Approval of November 10, 2021 BPAC Meeting Minutes

MOTION: *A motion was made by Mr. Storke to approve the November 10, 2021 BPAC meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leal and carried unanimously.*

IV. Presentation and Discussion Items

A. Presentation and Discussion of FDOT’s Safety Program

Ms. Loreen Bobo, FDOT, gave a PowerPoint presentation of FDOT’s Safety Program and their target of Vision Zero for fatalities and serious injuries; each project is reviewed to see what can be done to improve safety on the roadways. Safety projects must have a cost/benefit ratio; they only receive \$21 million for safety projects in District 5; however, safety measures are put into all projects. The safety office works with every FDOT department to improve safety and strive for zero fatalities. FDOT wants to provide a unified effort to greatly reduce crashes and the effects of crashes to ultimately get to zero fatalities and serious injuries. She reviewed FDOT’s strategic plan’s three foundations which include collaboration, infrastructure and education and explained each. She explained Vision Zero and noted there are federal resolutions being considered to reach that goal by the year 2050. Supporting slower speeds on roadways is one way to lower the statistics and she reviewed some countermeasures that assist in achieving slower speeds such as roundabouts, chicanes, raised crosswalks and narrower lanes. She reviewed ways that members could help such as encouraging safety enhancements in developments and permits. She explained the High Visibility Enforcement Program and encouraged members to get their police and sheriffs’ departments to participate. She noted there are other available federal grant opportunities which support education and other efforts by local governments; ideas for safety mitigation or areas of concern can be shared on their website.

Members discussed the presentation; they questioned whether or not Volusia County has a safety plan which is unknown. It was announced that FDOT Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funding can be used on local roads; FDOT analyzes the cause factors and corridors where the highest incidents occur; and how FDOT informs the public of these locations. It was suggested FDOT reflect those high incident areas in their advertising and awareness campaign and to have a contact phone number for citizens to report hazardous conditions they see. Comments were provided regarding slowing speeds and how bike lanes are installed. FDOT looks at how to accommodate all modes and it depends on the corridor; they look to see what the community wants. Public meetings are held for nearly every project and comments can be provided on the cflroads.com which has every project they are working on as well as contact information for the project manager. Autonomous vehicles were discussed. It was suggested monitoring speeds between SunPass tolls to see which vehicles are speeding and inform the drivers. Ms. Bobo will look into the HSIP regarding what percentage of the new transportation funding bill can be used for bicycle/pedestrian facilities and provide that information.

B. Presentation and Discussion of Updated Safety Data and Targets

Ms. Nicoulin stated it is the time of year when the TPO reviews crash data to help establish safety targets for 2022; the targets are based on a five-year rolling average. It is a federal requirement to adopt safety targets for five performance measures; fatalities, serious injuries, non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries, rate of

fatalities and the rate of serious injuries. This is the fifth year the TPO has had to adopt these targets. FDOT has a target of Vision Zero meaning zero fatalities and serious injuries. The TPO supports FDOT's Vision Zero as a vision but the TPO's requirement is to adopt an annual target. In 2018, 2019 and 2020, the methodology used to establish the targets was based on a 2% annual reduction in each safety performance measure; a 2% reduction is what the TPO felt could be attainable. She explained that last year they continued to reduce that target by 2% when measures are trending downward; however, if the measure is trending upward, the previous year's target would be retained. This is the methodology used to set the targets for 2022. She reviewed the data and explained how the targets are set; the previous year's target for fatalities, non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries, and the fatality rate will be retained; the targets for serious injuries and rate of serious injuries were met so new targets will be set. Next month a resolution to adopt the 2022 targets will be presented for a recommendation of approval.

Members discussed the data in detail and it was explained again how the 2022 targets were set and where the data was obtained (Signal Four Analytics of the University of Florida). Members also discussed various solutions on how to meet the targets including collaboration with law enforcement and other agencies; strategies to reduce fatalities and serious injuries; and funding for safety projects. It was asked if there are special federal funds to help local communities to bring the numbers down since this is a federal requirement. Ms. Nicoulin explained not yet; the targets are reported to FDOT who reports to FHWA reviews to see if we are making progress toward our target; however, there are state safety funds available that can be used off-system. That program is specific to funding safety related projects and local municipalities do not have to go through the TPO's process. It was also asked if funding is attached to the data; if a community has higher numbers if there is more funding for safety projects; the TPO does not program the safety funds but staff will coordinate with FDOT for more information. It was asked if the local communities within the planning area use Signal Four Analytics for their data. The TPO does not know but Ms. Winsett stated they are supposed to be. The TPO has used Signal Four Analytics consistently to be able to identify trends; other agencies have been using it as they have enhanced their data. Discussion regarding the data and targets continued; it was explained again how the targets were developed.

C. Presentation and Discussion of Updated Transit Safety Data and Targets

Mr. Harris gave a PowerPoint presentation of the updated transit safety data and targets; he explained MAP-21 and the FAST Act require transit agencies to develop a Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTSAP) and a Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan. He showed a video provided by The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) regarding these plans. There are three transit agencies within the TPO's planning area; Votran, SunRail and Flagler County Public Transportation. It is also a requirement for transit providers that are recipients of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds to set safety targets and update these targets annually. He explained that a PTSAP is not required for SunRail due to FDOT's Safety Oversight Program or for Flagler County Public Transportation as they do not receive FTA Section 5307 funds. The TPO adopts the transit safety targets set by the transit operator (Votran). He reviewed the transit safety performance measures and data; fatalities, injuries, reportable safety events and system reliability. The goal is to use the plan to reach or maintain a state of good repair. He reviewed the asset categories of the TAM which include equipment, rolling stock, infrastructure and facilities. A resolution to update the transit safety targets will be back next month for a recommendation of approval.

V. Staff Comments

→ DeBary SUN Trail Project Ribbon Cutting Event

Mr. Harris announced Volusia County is planning a ribbon cutting for the SUN Trail project in DeBary; this is a portion of the Spring to Spring Trail and the St. John's River to Sea Loop. The ribbon cutting will be Friday, January 21, 2022 at 11:00 am at Rob Sullivan Park; 200 West Highbanks Road, DeBary.

Chairperson Aufdenberg asked if this trail will connect Lake Beresford Park to Titusville.

Mr. Harris replied yes; it is a continuous trail to Titusville.

→ Votran Service Changes

Mr. Harris announced Votran has implemented temporary service changes due to a driver shortage. He reviewed the changes and noted the details are provided in the agenda. Votran is currently actively recruiting drivers.

→ 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

Mr. Harris stated the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law details for Florida are provided in the agenda. Most notable is USDOT has introduced a new program: Safe Streets for All. It will provide additional funding to local and tribal governments in Florida to support their efforts to advance the Vision Zero plan and other improvements to reduce crashes and fatalities especially for bicyclists and pedestrians.

→ 2022 Call for Projects

Mr. Harris stated the TPO's 2022 Call for Projects continues; it opened December 3, 2021 with a deadline to submit projects of February 25, 2022. There are four bicycle/pedestrian studies currently underway through the TPO's consultants; hopefully, these studies will be finalized this month so the local governments can apply for projects recommended in the studies.

Mr. Harris announced FDOT is holding a public meeting today to discuss safety improvements along SR A1A in Ormond Beach; it is at 5:30 pm at the Casements, 25, Riverside Drive, Ormond Beach. This project is on the TPO's priority list.

Ms. Nicoulin announced that the TPO received the Outstanding Planning Study Award from the Florida Planning and Zoning Association (FPZA) for the Paratransit Service Analysis; Mr. Harris was the Project Manager.

Mr. Daun referred to the new Complete Streets for All program and asked if in order to receive funding local governments will need a Vision Zero plan or safety plan.

Mr. Harris replied he believes so but is not positive; the law is new and staff is still reviewing the details. He will have another update next month.

VI. Information Items

- BPAC Attendance Record
- SR A1A Safety Improvements Project Public Meeting
- TPO Board Report
- TPO Outreach and Activities
- 2022 R2CTPO Meeting Schedule
- 2023-2027 FGTS Plan Update

Mr. Harris referred to the 2023-2027 Florida Greenways and Trails Systems (FGTS) Plan update and stated they did not implement the TPO's recommended updates to the plan; he will be meeting with them to discuss it. It is a probability that he will develop new updates to submit this year; he will bring those to the BPAC and the TPO Board for approval in the next few months.

VII. BPAC Member Comments

Ms. Moss announced FDOT is holding a public meeting regarding the Mason Avenue Corridor Planning Study on Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at 5:30 pm at the Midtown Cultural and Education Center in Daytona Beach; it will be a hybrid meeting. She announced that Oslo, Norway claims to have reached Vision Zero in 2019. The Community Traffic Safety Teams (CTST) encourage law enforcement agencies to participate in the High Visibility Enforcement Program; however, law enforcement agencies are understaffed and are unable to do so at this time.

Mr. Daun provided comments regarding the new Amazon warehouse on the Bellevue Avenue extension and the proposed east/west trail to DeLand. Volusia County will have to do due diligence and conduct traffic pattern and

capacity studies and include bicycle/pedestrian facilities because that was going to be the east/west trail to DeLand. It is a county road which is why he asked Ms. Bobo about using safety funds on local or county roads because this could be a potential issue. He wants to contact FDOT or Volusia County regarding the intersection of US 1 and Fairview Avenue (County Road 4040) because of the construction of apartments it is becoming a major east/west link as people do not want to use LPGA Boulevard or International Speedway Boulevard; there is no green arrow turn signal to turn onto US 1.

Mr. Dodzik announced he and Mr. Coletti attended the Call for Projects meeting in Palm Coast this morning; there was good representation from Palm Coast and Flagler Beach. There was a good discussion and all want to be more proactive and accomplish projects.

Mr. Harris asked if they were going to submit applications to the TPO through the Call for Projects this year.

Mr. Dodzik replied it appears that way; either collectively or individually. His understanding is that this TPO only covers a portion of Flagler County but rest of the county has another TPO.

Mr. Harris replied the R2CTPO serves the entire urbanized area in Flagler County; the rest of Flagler County has to work directly with FDOT for the unurbanized areas. There is not another TPO in Flagler County.

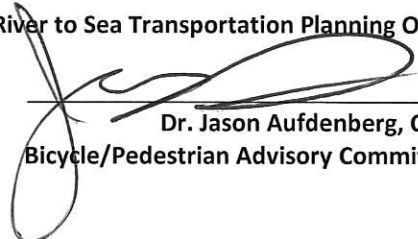
Ms. Winsett announced that for traffic signal improvements or other issues within Volusia County, the best way to get something done is to go to www.Volusia.org to the service request page and put the request in writing. It gives citizens the opportunity to explain what the problem is and what they would like to see done; routes the request to the appropriate department. There is not the perfect Volusia County employee to address committee members questions and/or concerns regarding engineering, funding, programs, etc.; she does her best but members should put their requests and/or concerns in writing to the elected officials and managers. If members cannot find the correct page on the website they can contact her for assistance.

Chairperson Aufdenberg announced that on Saturday he got a sneak peek at the Daytona Beach Riverfront Esplanade which is the reconstructed East Coast Greenway and a section of the St. John's River to Sea Loop. He walked the entire length from Main Street to International Speedway Boulevard (ISB) and it is scheduled to open to the public in April. The part of the trail from International Speedway Boulevard to Orange Avenue is a little behind; he does not have a time schedule for that yet.

VIII. Adjournment

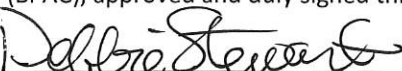
The BPAC meeting adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization


**Dr. Jason Aufdenberg, Chairperson
Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)**

CERTIFICATE:

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Recording Secretary of the River to Sea TPO certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the January 12, 2022 regular meeting of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC), approved and duly signed this 9th day of March 2022.



**Debbie Stewart, Recording Secretary
River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization**