

**Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)
Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2021**

TCC Members Physically Present:

Andrew Holmes
Joseph Barker
Ron Paradise
Darren Lear
Brian Walker, Vice Chairperson
Kyle Fegley
Becky Mendez, Chairperson
Shawn Finley
Jose Papa
Mike Disher
Tim Burman
Melissa Winslett
Ralf Heseler

TCC Members Virtually Present:

Belinda Collins
Mark Karet
Rakinya Hinson (non-voting advisor)

TCC Members Absent:

Rodney Lucas
Tim Day
Brian Peek
Lauren Possinger
Adam Mengel

Others Present:

Debbie Stewart, Recording Secretary
Colleen Nicoulin
Lois Bollenback
Pam Blankenship
Stephan Harris
Kellie Smith (virtually)
Ennis Davis (virtually)
Sarah Van Gundy (virtually)
Brian Stanger (virtually)
Anthony Nosse (virtually)
Heather Garcia (virtually)

Representing:

Daytona Beach
DeBary Alternate
Deltona
Edgewater
Holly Hill
New Smyrna Beach
Orange City
Ormond Beach
Palm Coast
Ponce Inlet
Port Orange
V.C. Traffic Engineering
Votran

Representing:

DeLand Alternate
Pierson
FDOT District 5

Representing:

Bunnell
Lake Helen
South Daytona
V.C. Emergency Management
F.C. Traffic Engineering

Representing:

TPO Staff
TPO Staff
TPO Staff
TPO Staff
TPO Staff
FDOT
FDOT
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I. Call to Order / Roll Call / Determination of Quorum

Chairperson Mendez called the meeting of the River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) to order at 3:00 p.m. 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 thirteen voting members physically present and two voting and one non-voting members virtually present.

MOTION: *A motion was made by Mr. Lear to allow TCC members attending virtually to participate and vote. The motion was seconded by Mr. Paradise and carried unanimously.*

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

II. Press/Citizen Comments

There were no press/citizen comments.

III. Action Items

A. Review and Approval of February 16, 2021 TCC Meeting Minutes

Mr. Disher noted that he was listed as the Daytona Beach Shores alternate in the February minutes but he is the Ponce Inlet representative.

MOTION: *A motion was made by Mr. Lear to approve the February 16, 2021 TCC meeting minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Disher and carried unanimously.*

B. Review and Recommend Approval of Resolution 2021-## Amending the FY 2020/21 to 2024/25 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) (Roll Call Vote Required) With a Presentation and Discussion of FDOT Districtwide Freight Program

Ms. Nicoulin stated two projects are being added to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); one programs \$2 million for a PD&E study for a FDOT Districtwide Truck and Freight Alternative Site Analysis and the other programs grant funding for a transit project for the Center for the Visually Impaired. She introduced Ms. Kellie Smith, FDOT, to give a presentation on the Districtwide Truck and Freight Alternative Site Analysis.

Ms. Smith gave a PowerPoint presentation and noted a public service announcement (PSA) video is available regarding the truck parking issue; she was unable to show the video due to a technical issue but she encouraged members to watch it later. She announced FDOT will be kicking off the PD&E truck parking analysis this summer. Truck parking is a critical issue and the number one issue for commercial truck drivers. She explained Jason's Law was enacted as part of MAP-21; as part of that, it directed the US DOT to conduct a survey and a comparative assessment to evaluate the ability of each state to provide adequate truck parking for commercial vehicles engaged in interstate transportation; to assess the volume of commercial vehicle traffic in each state; and to develop a system of metrics to measure the adequacy of commercial vehicle parking facilities in each state. Over 40% of truck drivers spend more than an hour searching for a place to park which results in an annual loss of \$5.1 billion in revenue. FDOT completed a statewide truck parking survey in March 2020; there are currently 298 truck parking facilities with 10,000 truck parking spaces available throughout the state. There is a need for more truck parking; 3,400 additional spaces are needed statewide today. The statewide study showed the I-4 corridor is the most critical corridor in the state for truck parking. FDOT District 5 conducted Phase I of a Truck Parking Study which assessed the existing truck parking capacity and future truck parking demand throughout the district. Interstate 4 in District 5 is 75 miles long and the only truck parking along the stretch is in the Longwood area; there are 36 spaces available in District 5 with an additional 89 spaces in Polk County, just south of the district boundary. The current demand for truck parking spaces in District 5 is 481, by 2025 it will be 750, and 883 by 2040. Truck parking demand is expected to continue to grow as new industrial facilities continue to locate along the corridor. FDOT District 5 secured federal freight funds to conduct a PD&E study for this endeavor; it will evaluate and recommend potential truck parking sites that will be viable for either public and/or private sector development to meet the estimated truck parking demand along the corridor through 2040. The analysis will include heavy public and local engagement, engineering analysis, and an environmental assessment. A preliminary concept design will be performed for every recommended, viable site. The PD&E study will include extensive local engagement and public involvement; they want to ensure they have the right project in the right place and public input is critical to the process. Design is funded for 2021, right-of-way from 2023 to 2027 and construction in 2026. This is a need we have as a region and it is important to work together to find a solution. She noted that they do not yet have a site for the design, right-of-way or construction.

Mr. Paradise asked if a link to the presentation could be provided to the members.

Ms. Nicoulin replied the link is available on the TPO's website under the TCC agenda but she will send it out.

Mr. Paradise asked when the public meetings were expected to occur.

Ms. Smith replied after they finalize the scope they will send it to the TPO for review; once comments are received and they negotiate with their consultant, FDOT will kick off with the local agencies and stakeholder groups. They plan on having as much public involvement as possible to make sure they do the right project in the right place.

Mr. Paradise asked if we could expect something this summer.

Ms. Smith replied they hope to have the project under contract within the next few months and with an expectation to start by the latest this summer.

Mr. Paradise stated there have been some potential sites that have come through the county; he assumes those sites will be looked at again. He asked if that was accurate.

Ms. Smith replied they will discuss at the kick-off meetings some of the sites evaluated in the Phase II study because they do not want to throw that data away but at the same time, it will not necessarily be the sites they look at first. They want to get feedback on what sites are most viable for the area.

Mr. Paradise asked if this has been coordinated with the adjacent FDOT district in the southwest tier of I-4.

Ms. Smith replied FDOT took the TIP amendment to the MetroPlan Orlando Board earlier this month for approval.

Mr. Paradise asked about the Tampa and Polk County area.

Ms. Smith replied they are coordinating with District 1 and District 7 based on some of the truck parking studies they have done; the study they looked at is just for our district but they are talking with them because they have previous truck parking projects.

Chairperson Mendez asked if FDOT is asking the TPO for the \$2 million to fund the study.

Ms. Smith replied no, they have secured a federal freight grant from Tallahassee.

Ms. Nicoulin added that the amendment will add the project to the TIP.

Chairperson Mendez commented that they have seen a list of sites previously and asked if there was a list of projects included in this study.

Ms. Smith replied they are starting with a blank slate to make sure the involvement of the local agencies and communities is taken into consideration before doing any additional analysis.

Chairperson Mendez stated the cities along I-4 do not all agree that Volusia County should have truck parking; Orange City filed an objection to truck parking at the I-4 interchange but Deltona welcomed it. She hopes that FDOT is hearing from all the different agencies involved.

Mr. Paradise stated the city of Deltona is not averse to discussing it but wants it to be a joint effort that represents the interests of West Volusia County collectively.

Ms. Bollenback asked Ms. Smith to explain exactly what FDOT is doing with this study as it is a different approach.

Ms. Smith replied one of the things they are looking at from all of their PD&E perspectives is they want to make sure they do not go down the wrong path so they are implementing phasing of the PD&E. The first component would like a planning level analysis with public engagement and feasibility assessments to ensure they are taking

the right project to the community. They are hoping to vet out some things with the stakeholder groups and local agency involvement prior to taking it to the public. It is a different approach they are taking to try and streamline the PD&E process.

Discussion continued.

Ms. Bollenback noted that communication is challenging these days and the TCC is the group that is technically knowledgeable and briefs the city and county commissioners. The concern here is that the original PD&E study completed by Ghyabi & Associates investigated closing the Richey Green Rest Area in Longwood and moving it to Volusia County; that included a public meeting in the Orlando area but no one was aware of it. The TPO was told by Ms. Noranne Downs, FDOT, at the time that it was just a high-level conceptual study; however, it was included in the Phase 1 report as a study that has been completed. It does acknowledge that there were objections by Volusia County; it did not mention the River to Sea TPO but the TPO provided objections as well. She asked if there was any discussion of the Longwood truck stop closing and if that was a consideration in this study.

Ms. Smith referred to the first study FDOT completed and stated they acknowledge that it was not conducted in the way they wanted. FDOT wants to put a focus on including and fully engaging the local agencies and communities as they move projects forward in the TPO area. They have made changes to projects based on community engagement. They know they have not done things right in the past but they are changing the path forward. The Longwood truck stop has been a topic of discussion in the past but from the estimated 2040 demand for truck parking and until they can address that need, it will not be discussed because there is a big need for it to be addressed first.

Chairperson Mendez asked if the study would not only include potential site selection but an improvement plan that goes along with any site selection or if it is just a site selection with no suggested improvements.

Ms. Smith replied they are looking at the traffic component as well to see what the site impacts are.

MOTION: *A motion was made by Mr. Lear to recommend approval of Resolution 2021-## amending the FY 2020/21 to 2024/25 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The motion was seconded by Mr. Paradise and passed with one opposing by a roll call vote.*

IV. Presentation Items

A. Presentation and Discussion of List of Project Priorities

Ms. Nicoulin stated each year the TPO develops a List of Priority Projects (LOPP); the current list is available on the TPO's website and lists the projects prioritized in our planning area that are able to access federal and state resources. The projects on the LOPP come from a variety of different sources; she explained the different lists. She reviewed the flow chart of the annual priority project process. Prior to opening the annual Call for Projects, the subcommittees meet to review the process, project applications and guiding resolutions and discuss any issues that may have occurred the previous year as well as ways to improve the process. This year, the Call for Projects opened at the end of November and closed at the end of February; local governments submit project applications for bicycle/pedestrian, traffic operations and planning studies. She is in the process of scheduling the TIP Subcommittee now and the BPAC Project Review Subcommittee meets tomorrow. The TIP Subcommittee reviews the project applications for traffic operations and planning studies. The applications are scored based on a set of criteria used, including safety, congestion, etc., and the LOPP is updated with the new projects. A draft LOPP is presented in May to the advisory committees and TPO Board with formal adoption in June. Once adopted, the LOPP is submitted to FDOT; it conveys the TPO's priorities in the planning area to FDOT and they use the list to update their tentative Work Program. Projects that move into the Work Program and have funding are pulled off the TPO's priority list. Once the legislature approves FDOT's Work Program, the TPO uses that information to develop the new TIP for the next fiscal year; a draft TIP is also presented in May and adopted in June.

B. Presentation and Discussion of Transportation Safety

Ms. Bollenback gave a PowerPoint presentation of transportation safety and stated this has been a difficult presentation to assemble as there have been recent incidents as well as the release of the Dangerous by Design Report last week. We are doing good, hard work relating to safety and to see crashes increasing is difficult. Safety is complicated and there is not a silver bullet to fix the issue. The TPO is only one agency that participates in the effort and we will continue to do so. She reviewed the five "E's" of safety; evaluation, engineering, enforcement, encouragement and education. She noted FDOT has added emergency response and four "I's" to their list; information, innovation, insight and investment. We have to figure out how to use all the different strategies to make a safer transportation system. We should also consider equity and empathy; there are populations that are disproportionately impacted by unsafe conditions. Empathy is important because if we are not concerned enough about others we will continue to have increasing crashes. The participants in this process include FDOT, local governments, MPOs, law enforcement, advocacy groups, health agencies and users of the transportation system. We use the transportation system every day and it is important to recognize and message that this is not someone else's problem fix; it is the responsibility of everyone involved. She explained FDOT's "Vision Zero" policy and stated it is intended to be a shift in the way we think about transportation safety. Over the last few decades, transportation safety has been viewed as an inevitable byproduct of transportation. She suggested we approach it like the airlines do a plane crash or Votran views a transit-related crash and determine if the event could have been prevented and if so, why it was not and how it could be prevented in the future. FDOT has three plans that guide their safety approach across the state; the Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP), Highway Safety Plan (HSP) and the Highway Safety Implementation Plan (HSIP). These plans outline the strategies they will pursue based on a review of the data. She will send a link to FDOT's website where the plans are available for review. She reviewed portions of the plans and stated FDOT had 394 safety projects in 2018 statewide totaling approximately \$155 million. FDOT is clear about what is important to them and they are identifying ways to fix the issues. The TPO wants to support and complement FDOT's efforts.

She continued the presentation and reviewed some of the TPO's resources including required efforts such as the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), planning studies, project priority list, etc. Projects in the TIP by law have to be tied to the safety performance targets the TPO must set each year to show how the projects are addressing safety. She gave an overview of safety studies the TPO has completed over the last few years. The TPO also participates in many safety awareness and community events. She reviewed what some of the safety studies revealed in regards to the factors that contribute to crashes such as distracted driving, impaired driving, etc. The TPO sets safety targets for our planning area based on the data; FDOT sets targets at the state level. They are striving for Vision Zero. Targets started to be required a few years ago and FDOT submitted their first two-year report; the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) determined that the state has not made significant progress towards meeting its safety goals. This is not because FDOT has not been doing enough; they have but they need to do more as does the TPO. We will continue to work in that direction. The role of the TPO is to prioritize projects and target funding, complete planning studies, set safety targets and conduct public education and outreach. The challenge is the TPO is but one organization and does not write the laws, enforce the laws, or build projects; however, we can influence funding of projects, and promote and educate the public. The question is what else can we do; she reviewed items currently in the TPO's work plan including pursuing the improvements identified in the top ten crash locations, implement programs identified in the Community Safety Action Plan (CSAP), produce crash maps and promote efforts to reduce posted speeds. She asked members to provide input on what additional information they may need and if there is a study or analysis they think that needs to be completed.

Chairperson Mendez referred to the Walkability Study and the draft of what Complete Streets means and asked if that program was finalized.

Ms. Bollenback replied Mr. Harris may have more information regarding the Walkability Action Institute; she noted we have moved to a Complete Streets template.

Mr. Harris stated yes, it was finalized. The Walkability Action Institute was followed by the adoption of a Complete Streets policy. The TPO also tweaked the criteria for ranking project applications to award extra points if the project includes Complete Streets components.

Chairperson Mendez asked if traffic operations applications that are prioritized are more safety focused or if capacity improvements are because of concurrency needs.

Ms. Nicoulin replied it is a combination of both; the TPO has received a number of projects that address safety concerns.

Chairperson Mendez commented that in 2011, the state of Florida removed transportation concurrency but it may still be in some comprehensive plans; she asked if concurrency has killed the transportation network and if we are building more lanes because we have to meet concurrency rather than looking at how our transportation system operates. She asked if it was state level concurrency that has got us into this; the only way to undo it is to look at transportation differently from what we have always done.

Ms. Nicoulin replied operational improvements were identified in the LRTP and money was set aside to fund those local initiatives; those are not capacity projects but roundabouts or Complete Streets projects. We have identified a need for incremental improvements or instead of a road widening look at operational improvements.

Discussion continued.

C. FDOT Report

The FDOT report was provided in the agenda. Ms. Taylor stated there are no public meetings planned in the TPO planning area for March or April.

Mr. Fegley asked if the adaptive traffic signal at SR 44 and Airport Road is still on schedule.

Ms. Taylor replied she would get a status update and get back to him.

D. Volusia and Flagler County Construction Reports

The Volusia and Flagler County Construction Reports were provided in the agenda.

E. Staff Comments

Ms. Nicoulin introduced new TCC members, Mr. Joseph Barker, alternate from DeBary, and Mr. Mike Disher, Ponce Inlet Representative.

F. TCC Member Comments

There were no member comments.

VII. Information Items

- CAC & TCC Attendance Records
- February TPO Outreach and Events
- February 24, 2021 TPO Board Report

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business, the TCC meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

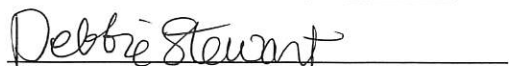
RIVER TO SEA TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION



MS. BECKY MENDEZ, CHAIRPERSON
TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (TCC)

CERTIFICATE:

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Recording Secretary of the River to Sea TPO certified that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the March 16, 2021 regular meeting of the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC), approved and duly signed this 20th day of April 2021.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debbie Stewart". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

DEBBIE STEWART, RECORDING SECRETARY

RIVER TO SEA TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

VOLUSIA TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (TPO)

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (TCC)

ROLL CALL VOTE

MEETING DATE: TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2021

QUORUM: 11 MEMBERS YES

MEETING TIME: 3:00 P.M.

MEETING LOCATION: VOLUSIA TPO

MOTION:

<u>REPRESENTING:</u>	<u>TCC MEMBER:</u>	<u>YES</u> / <u>NO</u>
BUNNELL	RODNEY LUCAS	_____ / _____
DAYTONA BEACH	ANDY HOLMES	✓ / _____
DAYTONA BEACH SHORES	STEWART CRUZ	_____ / _____
DEBARY	MATT BOERGER/JOSEPH BARKER	✓ / _____
DELTONA	RON PARADISE	✓ / _____
DELAND	MIKE HOLMES/BELINDA COLLINS	✓ / _____
EDGEWATER	DARREN LEAR	✓ / _____
HOLLY HILL	BRIAN WALKER	✓ / _____
LAKE HELEN	TIM DAY	_____ / _____
NEW SMYRNA BEACH	KYLE FEGLEY	✓ / _____
ORANGE CITY	BECKY MENDEZ	_____ / ✓
ORMOND BEACH	SHAWN FINLEY	✓ / _____
PALM COAST	JOSE PAPA	✓ / _____
PIERSON	MARK KARET	✓ / _____
PONCE INLET	MIKE DISHER	✓ / _____
PORT ORANGE	TIM BURMAN	✓ / _____
SOUTH DAYTONA	BRIAN PEEK/PATTY RIPPEY	_____ / _____
VOTRAN	RALF HESELER/ JAKE LUNCEFORD	✓ / _____
VC EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	LAUREN POSSINGER	_____ / _____
FLAGLER COUNTY TRAFFIC ENGINEERING	ADAM MENGEL	_____ / _____
VOLUSIA COUNTY TRAFFIC ENGINEERING	JON CHENEY/MELISSA WINSETT	✓ / _____