

**Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting Minutes**  
**April 12, 2023**  
**Daytona Beach International Airport, Airline Room**  
**700 Catalina Drive**  
**Daytona Beach, FL 32114**

**Members Physically Present:**

Doug Hall  
Terry Lodge  
Luis Leal  
Larry Coletti  
Tom Ryan  
Nic Mostert  
Bob Storke  
Gayle Belin  
Andrew Dodzik  
Nancy Epps  
Maggie Ardito  
Emery Jeffreys  
Eileen Sharp  
Jason Aufdenberg, Chairperson  
Chris Daun  
Jacob Lunceford (non-voting)

**Representing:**

Daytona Beach  
DeBary  
Deltona  
Flagler County  
Holly Hill  
New Smyrna Beach  
Orange City  
Ormond Beach  
Palm Coast Alternate  
Ponce Inlet Alternate  
Volusia County District 1  
Volusia County District 1, Alternate  
Volusia County District 2  
Volusia County At-Large  
Volusia County Chair  
Votran

**Members Virtually Present:**

Patrick McCallister  
Gwen Perney (non-voting)

**Representing:**

Lake Helen  
Port Orange

**Members/Technical Appointees Absent:**

Ted Wendler, Vice Chairperson (excused)  
Paul Eik  
Adam Mengel  
Mark Oebbecke  
Christy Gillis (excused)  
Meghan Lindsey (non-voting)  
Lisa Divina (non-voting)  
David German (non-voting) (excused)  
Tim Grigsby  
Stephanie Moss (non-voting) (excused)

**Representing:**

DeLand  
Flagler Beach  
Flagler County Traffic Engineering  
Ponce Inlet  
South Daytona  
Volusia County Parks & Recreation  
Volusia County School Board  
Volusia County School Board, Alternate  
Volusia County, District 4  
FDOT

**Others Physically Present:**

Pamela Blankenship, Recording Secretary  
Stephan Harris  
Colleen Nicoulin  
Tim Baylie  
Mark Harper

**Representing:**

TPO Staff  
TPO Staff  
TPO Staff  
Volusia County Parks, Recreation, & Culture  
Daytona News-Journal

**Others Virtually Present:**

Richard Hamilton

**Representing:**

Scenic A1A Byway

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

The River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) meeting 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. The meeting was held in a hybrid format with 14 voting members and one non-

voting member physically present, and one voting and one non-voting member virtually present. Rulings from the Florida Attorney General require that the members physically present vote to allow virtual participation due to “extraordinary circumstances.”

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

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

Chairperson Aufdenberg announced the passing of Mr. Roy Walters, a long-time BPAC member, on March 30, 2023. He was appointed to the BPAC in 2005. A moment of silence was observed in honor of Mr. Walters.

## II. Public Comment/Participation

There were no public comments.

## III. Action Items

### A. Review and Recommend Approval of March 8, 2023 BPAC Meeting Minutes

**MOTION:** *A motion was made by Mr. Hall to approve the March 8, 2023 BPAC meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dodzik and carried unanimously.*

## IV. Presentation and Discussion Items

### A. Presentation and Discussion of the Volusia County Trails Master Plan

Mr. Tim Baylie, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Culture gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Volusia County Trails Master Plan. He gave an overview of the plan, the history of trail development in Volusia County, and the funding available for trails. He reviewed the status of the St. Johns River to Sea Loop, Coast to Coast Trail, and the Spring-to-Spring Trail. In 2022, the Volusia County Council increased ECHO funding from \$1M to \$1.5M. The branding of the trails was reviewed as well as the wayfinding signs. There is a mobile application called the Volusia County Parks and Trails Mobile App, which is a free download and provides trails, items of interest and special events, lodging, and restaurant information. The Trails Welcome Center is located at DeBary Hall Historic Site where the three trails intersect. An interactive trail map is also available. He encouraged the members to take the trails survey; twelve questions and two open-ended questions. The responses received will be presented to the Volusia County Council when the Master Plan is presented for final adoption.

Discussion ensued regarding camping along the trails.

Mr. Daun stated that when this item was presented about four years ago, he had asked how we have such a huge gap on the east side of Volusia County in terms of trails. Mr. Baylie had stated that they were working with the local governments but hadn't met with east side governments yet. He asked if they had met with them in the last four years.

Mr. Baylie responded yes, noting that some cities were further ahead. He explained the status of the trails on the east side.

Mr. Daun noted that the Sweetheart Trail and the Reed Canal segment were complete, however, the other gaps are still there.

Mr. Baylie pointed out that if the cities don't have their construction or design funds in the Work Plan now, they are five years out.

Mr. Daun asked if the communities go to the county or the St. Johns River to Sea Loop Alliance when they need an assessment of their master trails.

Mr. Baylie responded that the St Johns River to Sea Loop is a pledge from five counties to build that trail. The cities must identify what their alignment is. The state, which is managing the SUN Trail, has a one-mile corridor that they work with the cities on to build their trail within one mile to the north or south; the cities must stay within the one-mile corridor. The St Johns River to Sea Loop Alliance does not have anything to do with funding. The city must be the owner of the trail and the governing board must sign the maintenance agreement before funding is allocated.

Discussion continued on how to get the trail widened to the north of LPGA on Granada Boulevard; it is three feet wide and needs to be twelve feet, and it is shown as complete in the Volusia County plan. The city must make the repairs and if they do so, FDOT requires it to be twelve feet.

Mr. Daun noted that the trail in Holly Hill is still three feet wide and it is not in the Volusia County Trails Master Plan to be updated.

Mr. Baylie replied that anything in the Master Plan which is in the city is information received from the city; if they choose to call it a trail, it is included.

Discussion continued noting that the Holly Hill trail was a city-maintained asset even though it is part of the St Johns River to Sea Loop. The city must apply for SUN Trail funding to widen the trail; Volusia County cannot do that.

Mr. Daun commented that there was still no SUN Trail standard on Riverside Drive in Holly Hill.

Mr. Harris explained that Holly Hill had applied for a feasibility study to make the path on Riverside Drive full trail width. The TPO completed the study, and the right-of-way was constrained. Volusia County tried to build it anyway but couldn't get the right-of-way certified to build it. Many of the landowners that were impacted were approached for easements, and they said no. The county and city completed a narrower path. They could not get it completed with federal funds; this occurred within the last ten years.

Mr. Mostert stated that he currently lives in New Smyrna Beach, but he had a house in Holly Hill at the time. They built the three-foot trail and received negative feedback from the homeowners. He was thankful that they even got a three-foot sidewalk and noted that an attempt to get more has no chance.

Mr. Daun noted that the trail is highly used.

Ms. Belin stated the same thing happened in Ormond Beach where there was a trail that was approved for construction through Sanchez Park and the homeowners who backed up to the trail opposed it; it was taken off the table. She asked how the homeowners had a say in what the county does when it is county land.

Mr. Baylie stated it is state land; if they had contacted the state, the state said they wouldn't build it if the community doesn't want it. He gave an example.

Ms. Belin asked what she could do as a BPAC member representing Ormond Beach to help push the trails along.

Mr. Baylie replied that they need more advocates to encourage the policymakers to make the trails a priority. He has a SUN Trail application for Riverside Park on A1A, north to the Flagler County line. The city did not apply for Riverside Park south to Granada Boulevard; they must apply to get SUN Trail money. Ultimately, it is the policymakers' responsibility to move it forward.

Mr. Daun asked if the county could help the coastal communities fill the gaps from Edgewater to the Flagler County line; hiring a consultant to work with cities to help them apply for the money.

Mr. Baylie stated he would try to help unless told otherwise. Consultants can come up with alignments and help with grants but when the time comes for commitment to be made, they will get pushback from homeowners. If the cities can push through it, those same people will call the cities after the trail is built and ask for more to be built.

Discussion continued regarding community input and support for the trails.

Mr. Baylie stated that if Holly Hill starts to try to find the right of way, Volusia County can try to find funding for the trail if they want it.

Mr. Daun asked about bringing all the cities in to fill the gaps.

Mr. Baylie clarified that he would bring up to the County Manager that a request was made to help the cities on the east side organize their trail program with a consultant.

**MOTION:** *A motion was made by Mr. Jeffreys to encourage Volusia County to meet with a consultant and the cities on the east side of Volusia County to work on ways to finish the trails. The motion was seconded by Ms. Belin.*

Mr. Baylie stated he will discuss ways to move forward with Mr. Recktenwald. He and Tad Kasbeer will work together on how to move forward.

Mr. Baylie stated that comments on the Volusia County Trails Master Plan will be presented to the ECHO Board tomorrow; he will be going to the Volusia County Council with a summary of comments and adoption in late June or early July. Comments are due in early June, but they will still look at those received after that.

Discussion continued.

**B. Presentation and Discussion of the SR A1A Resiliency Plan**

Chairperson Aufdenberg stated that this item will be presented next month.

Ms. Nicoulin added that the presenter for this item had a scheduling conflict and asked to move the presentation to next month.

**C. Presentation and Discussion of TPO 101: Plans, Programs, and Member Responsibilities**

Ms. Nicoulin gave a PowerPoint presentation on the role of the TPO and its plans, programs, committee structure, and member responsibilities. She noted that the TPO would be undergoing reapportionment in the coming months, and she explained what that meant. She discussed how the TPO is funded and the money that has become available through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The Sunshine Law was also explained.

Mr. Coletti asked about the TPO's boundaries; he has been an advocate for increasing the Flagler County boundaries. On US 1 to the west, there are many homes being built and there is also a lot of bike riding because of the lack of traffic. He has been working with Flagler County on putting in a bike lane and they have agreed. If that section of the county were a part of the TPO, perhaps more could be done to make it safer.

Ms. Nicoulin responded that the TPO boundary discussion is upcoming. She explained that urbanized areas are required to be covered by a TPO. Currently, the urbanized boundary in Flagler County does not extend west of US 1. The urbanized boundaries as a result of the 2020 Census still do not extend that far with the exception of a couple of bump-outs. The TPO is required to cover the urbanized area and any area that can reasonably be foreseen as becoming urbanized in the next 20 years.

Discussion continued regarding the FDOT District and Regional Planning Council that covers Flagler County.

Ms. Nicoulin stated that as we look at rebranding the TPO we are looking at making sure the members have the information they need to make the right decisions at the meetings. Staff is planning to have this training as a formal annual workshop moving forward. She requested that the members let her know if there is any information that would be helpful moving forward.

#### **D. Presentation and Discussion of Reducing Bicycle Fatalities through Social Marketing**

Ms. Blankenship gave a PowerPoint presentation on a project that came out of a *Social Marketing in Transportation* course that she and Ms. Stephanie Moss, FDOT, completed through the University of South Florida and the Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR). She reviewed the pilot project designed to reduce bicycle fatalities and how it was developed through the social marketing process. Ms. Moss is currently working on a scope for a task order to implement the project.

Ms. Belin asked if any studies had been done that looked at fatalities across the country and who was driving.

Ms. Blankenship responded that they had used FDOT's Target Zero data because it was extensive for this college-aged male group.

Mr. Leal stated that there are two components missing, the first being insurance companies. Insurance companies can say they will drop their insurance rates by 10% if the driver does this action for three months and if you are responsible for a crash, they will drop the insured, or their rates will go up. The second component is the attorneys that capitalize on distracted driving. People do not look at consequences until it hits them monetarily.

Discussion continued on ways to get the word out on the college campuses and solicit people to help staff the tables. It was noted that another good group to reach would be high school students.

#### **E. Discussion of BPAC Meeting Start Time**

Mr. Harris explained that this item was requested to be on the agenda at the last BPAC meeting. The BPAC start time used to be 3:00 pm but it was changed to 2:00 pm. He explained how the agenda was structured to facilitate efficient meetings. He noted that at this time, there is no flexibility regarding alternative days and times for the meetings due to the reduced number of staff at TPO, the other meetings that are held on the same day, and the location.

Ms. Belin stated that those were good reasons to stick with the 2:00 pm start time.

Mr. Coletti suggested revisiting the item once the TPO has a permanent location.

***MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Coletti to revisit the discussion of the BPAC meeting start time when the TPO has a permanent location. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leal.***

Ms. Nicoulin stated that this has been discussed in-house among the staff. There is a TPO meeting every week which is very time-consuming. The staff has discussed whether there are ways to condense the meetings to a two-week period throughout the month and whether the committees need to continue to meet ten times each year. Unfortunately, we are locked in because of our location situation.

The discussion on the BPAC meeting start time was tabled.

#### **V. Staff Comments**

→ Federal Carbon Reduction Funds

Mr. Harris explained that there is funding authorized by the IJA for FY 2023/24 through 2027/28. The TPO has received an allocation for the current fiscal year; the funds are already programmed on projects and some of the funding in FY 23/24 is also already used. The remaining funds are still available for projects that reduce carbon emissions. He reviewed the acceptable types of projects for these funds.

#### **VI. Information Items**

- BPAC Attendance Record
- BPAC Project Review Subcommittee Report
- TPO Board Report

**VII. BPAC Member Comments**

Chairperson Aufdenberg introduced Ms. Eileen Sharp, a new member representing Volusia County District 2. He thanked the BPAC Project Review Subcommittee members for ranking the project applications that were received.

Ms. Daun noted there are issues on the Seabreeze Bridge and Oak Bridge spans because they are not marked for bicyclists; there is a three-foot wide sidewalk on the bridges and cyclists end up in that. There are no diamonds or bike trail markings in the break-down lane, and he keeps asking FDOT to put them in since it is a state road. In addition, he has also been talking for some time about bicycle/pedestrian issues at the railroad crossings in the urbanized areas of Daytona Beach. The crossings do not even have sidewalks that go through the railroad tracks. We need to use some of the safety funding to address these railroad crossings. He added that nothing has happened about the railroad crossings since he has been on the BPAC.

Chairperson Aufdenberg stated that People for Bikes mentioned a new federal bill, HR 1668, called the Sarah Debbink Langenkamp Active Transportation Safety Bill which encourages the completion of bicycle networks and plans and fills critical gaps. He encouraged the members to ask the Florida Congressional Delegation to join as a sponsor for HR 1668 and bring more money to our area to complete the gaps discussed today.

**VIII. Adjournment**

The BPAC meeting adjourned at 4:27 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 April 12, 2023 regular meeting of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC), approved and duly signed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 2023.



Pamela Blankenship, Recording Secretary  
River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization

**\*\* A recording of the April 12, 2023 BPAC meeting is available upon request.**