

**Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC)
Meeting Minutes
August 17, 2021**

CAC Members Physically Present:

Kerry Karl
Janet Deyette
Ed Fendley
Marcia Stevens-Foltz
Gilles Blais
Bob Storke
Alan Peterson
Dave Castagnacci
Elizabeth Alicia Lendian
Edie Biro
Sean Castello (non-voting)

CAC Members Virtually Present:

Emily Nice
Erika Benfield
Nora Jane Gillespie
Roger Strcula
Bobby Ball
Tyler Burgett (non-voting advisor)

CAC Members Absent:

Faith Alkhatib (non-voting)
Tisha Peterson
Rick Basso
Susan Elliott
Joe Villanella (excused)
Jack Delaney (excused)
Patricia Lipovsky

Others Present:

Colleen Nicoulin
Stephan Harris
Jon Cheney
Ralf Heseler

Others Virtually Present:

Debbie Stewart, Recording Secretary
Pam Blankenship
Rakinya Hinson
Paul Schoelzel
Libertad Acosta-Anderson
Sarah Goolsby

Representing:

DeLand
Deltona
Flagler Beach Alternate
Flagler County
Holly Hill
Orange City
Palm Coast
Volusia County Chair
Volusia County at Large
Votran (CTC)
Volusia County Traffic Engineering

Representing:

Daytona Beach Alternate
DeBary
New Smyrna Beach
Ormond Beach
Port Orange
FDOT District 5

Representing:

Flagler County Traffic Engineering
Flagler County Public Transportation
Lake Helen
Pierson
Ponce Inlet
South Daytona
Volusia County D-2

Representing:

TPO Staff
TPO Staff
Volusia County Traffic Engineering
Votran

Representing:

TPO Staff
TPO Staff
FDOT
FDOT
FDOT
Tindale Oliver

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

Immediate Past Chairperson Alan Peterson called the meeting of the River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) to order at 1:15 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 ten voting physically present and five voting and one non-voting members virtually present.

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

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

II. Public Comment/Participation

There were no public comments.

III. Action Items

A. Nomination and Election of CAC Officers for FY 2021/22

Mr. Storke nominated Ms. Kerry Karl as Chairperson and Mr. Dave Castagnacci as Vice Chairperson for FY 2021/22.

Ms. Gillespie nominated Immediate Past Vice Chairperson Peterson as Chairperson.

Immediate Past Vice Chairperson Peterson respectfully declined.

MOTION: *A motion was made by Mr. Storke to nominate and elect Ms. Kerry Karl as CAC Chairperson and Mr. Dave Castagnacci as CAC Vice Chairperson for FY 2021/22. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fendley and carried unanimously.*

Immediate Past Chairperson Peterson turned the meeting over to newly elected Chairperson Karl.

B. Review and Approval of the May 18, 2021 CAC Meeting Minutes

MOTION: *A motion was made by Mr. Blais to approve the May 18, 2021 CAC meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Storke and carried unanimously.*

C. Review and Approval of the June 15, 2021 CAC Meeting Minutes

MOTION: *A motion was made by Mr. Storke to approve the June 15, 2021 CAC meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Blais and carried unanimously.*

D. Review and Recommend Approval of Resolution 2021-## Amending the FY 2021/22 to 2025/26 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) (Roll Call Vote Required)

Ms. Nicoulin stated each year when the TPO develops the new Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and transitions from the old TIP to the new TIP that begins July 1, the fiscal year (FY) that ended June 30 is removed and a new outer year is added. In the prior FY there are some projects that were supposed to be authorized prior to June 30 or projects that may carry over; these projects automatically roll forward within FDOT’s Work Program but have to be amended into the TPO’s new TIP. This amendment carries those projects forward from the old TIP to the new TIP and ensures consistency with the TPO’s TIP and FDOT’s Work Program; the first year of the TIP must match the Work Program in order for funding to flow. This amendment also includes the addition of two new projects; a transit project which is grant funded for the preventative maintenance and operation of Votran vehicles and a railroad crossing rehabilitative project for four crossings in Holly Hill at 10th Street, 8th Street, 6th Street and 3rd Street.

MOTION: *A motion was made by Mr. Blais to recommend approval of Resolution 2021-## amending the FY 2021/22 to 2025/26 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The motion was seconded by Mr. Storke and carried unanimously by a roll call vote.*

E. Review and Recommend Approval of the Regional List of Priority Projects

Ms. Nicoulin explained the Central Florida MPO Alliance (CFMPOA) is a partnership of MPOs in the Central Florida region; each year they work together to develop a regional list of priority projects which is based on the respective MPOs priority lists. In 2013, the CFMPOA developed a project prioritization process to create the regional lists in order to provide support to FDOT regarding collective priorities within the region. The regional list was reviewed and approved at the July 9, 2021 CFMPOA meeting. She reviewed the TPO's projects within the regional list and noted they are listed by TPO region and not in a priority order; they also match the TPO's List of Priority Projects (LOPP) that was adopted in June. One project to note is the US 17 widening project which was broken into four segments to make it more constructible. Also included is the SR 40 widening and several interchange projects. She also reviewed the regional trails and transit lists which include the Sun Rail North expansion to DeLand and prospective bus service to that new station.

Mr. Blais referred to the Brightline project on the transit list and asked about the private sector is listed on it.

Ms. Nicoulin replied that project is currently under construction and goes through the Space Coast TPO's planning area which is Brevard County as well as MetroPlan in Orlando. She noted that the projects on the regional list represent the priorities for all the Central Florida MPOs.

Chairperson Karl asked if this list was federally or state mandated as the TIP and the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) are or if this something that shows collaboration.

Ms. Nicoulin replied this is something the CFMPOA develops to convey regional priorities to FDOT; the CFMPOA is not a mandate.

MOTION: *A motion was made by Mr. Peterson to recommend approval of the Regional List of Priority Projects. The motion was seconded by Ms. Deyette and carried unanimously.*

IV. Presentation Items

A. Presentation and Discussion of Volusia County Infrastructure Update

Ms. Nicoulin introduced Mr. Jon Cheney, Volusia County Traffic Engineering Director, to give the presentation.

Mr. Cheney gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Volusia County Infrastructure update and stated it was presented to the Volusia County Council on June 1, 2021. He reviewed the county's existing infrastructure maintenance and non-county maintained infrastructure. The county's operating budget for maintenance, which includes the bridges and the resurfacing program, is just over \$20 million per year. The county's resurfacing budget is approximately \$5 million per year with the priority being the thoroughfare roads which are major collectors and arterial roads such as Clyde Morris Boulevard and Williamson Boulevard. He reviewed the report of all traffic signals within Volusia County and noted the report covers the entire United States. A weblink is available to the report and an interactive map to see how the traffic signals are performing. Traffic adaptive signals are on state roads or constrained facilities; the county is implementing traffic adaptive signals along LPGA Boulevard and Saxon Boulevard. He reviewed the county's bridge infrastructure which is measured by FDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and noted the county maintains 49 bridges, most of which are in good condition. The average age of the county's bridges is 42 years; however, the oldest bridge is 101 years.

Ms. Biro asked where that bridge is located.

Mr. Cheney replied he did not know but would find out. He continued the presentation and reviewed the non-county maintained infrastructure which includes homeowner association (HOA) roads and private roads. He

reviewed the 2021 Road Program and noted it refers to road capacity projects and not trails or sidewalks; he explained the funding sources for the Road Program including the gas tax, impact fees and the proportionate fair share. He reviewed the traffic development trend report of the unincorporated and incorporated areas of the county and the current and potential projects in the four impact fee zones for East Volusia and West Volusia. The county will be bringing the Road Program to the community soon for feedback and public input.

Mr. Blais commented that West Palm Beach has a tunnel and asked if that had been researched as a replacement to the Main Street Bridge.

Mr. Cheney replied not that he knows of but he will pass the suggestion on; it would be very expensive and more than the \$71 million approximate cost to replace that bridge.

Mr. Peterson referred to traffic signals and areas where people sit through a signal for several cycles and asked if they could change the timing by the time of day; if it could be a longer light in the morning and midday as opposed to other times of day.

Mr. Cheney replied the county currently has time-of-day plans for the majority of their coordinated signal systems; however, the issue is there are too many cars in a small space.

Mr. Peterson referred to the 5% of rural roads that are in poor condition and asked what the timing is for fixing them. The longer it takes, the more expensive it will be to repair them.

Mr. Cheney replied under 5% of the county's local roads are in very poor condition. When a road gets in poor condition, it is scheduled in the \$5 million budget for resurfacing and will be done at the same time as county projects that are close to those local roads.

Discussion continued.

Mr. Fendley commented that he is interested in safety and asked what the county is doing to address it. He reminded the committee about how the data and the Dangerous by Design Report indicates this region has the highest risk of death and injury for bicyclists and pedestrians. This can be addressed by lowering speed limits and he asked if the county is trying to address that.

Mr. Cheney replied the county has approximately \$500,000 allocated per year for safety projects which are typically turn lane projects. Regarding bicycle/pedestrian safety, if a citizen makes a request regarding a certain location, the county will evaluate it and look at engineering solutions versus enforcement such as traffic or pedestrian signals or rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs), etc. The county also works in partnership with the cities and will invest 50% of the capital cost for a pedestrian crossing, refuge island, etc., construct and install it and the city will pay for the other half and agree to maintain them. Looking at the data and using the current technology to find a trend of where future crashes may occur; there are new technologies coming out to look at the root issues.

Discussion continued.

Mr. Cheney stated TPO staff will post this presentation on their website and noted there are hidden slides included in it for each project reflecting funding, status and other details.

B. Presentation and Discussion of the Shared Use Non-Motorized (SUN) Trail Program

Ms. Nicoulin introduced Mr. Paul Schoeziel, FDOT, to give the presentation.

Mr. Schoeziel gave a PowerPoint presentation of Sun Trail funded projects in the River to Sea TPO's planning area. He stated gave the history and definition of the Sun Trail program and projects and explained the funding. The annually allocated \$25 million for the SUN Trail network is shared statewide so every MPO is competing for this funding. SUN Trail funding is two-tiered; individual trail projects receive one-third of the funding and

regional trail systems receive two-thirds of the funding. Individual trail projects either connect or contribute to a SUN Trail network. One caveat for the individual trail projects is that an allocation to one project phase is not a commitment for allocations for future project phases. He reviewed the SUN Trail eligibility requirements and stated all projects must meet these requirements; noting that eligible projects that are ready for programming will advance more quickly. He reviewed a map of the Coast to Coast Trail and stated the maps he will show today are available on the SUN Trail website. He reviewed the projects for the St. Johns River to Sea Loop within the TPO's planning area.

Ms. Foltz asked if electric bicycles are allowed on the trails.

Mr. Schoelzel replied currently, yes; however, these trails are non-motorized. He stated legislation regarding electric bikes is being considered and some states have restricted the use of electric bikes on trails in general. Currently, electric bikes are using the trails but he cannot say if it will continue in the future; it is a touchy subject.

C. Presentation and Discussion of the Paratransit Service Analysis

Ms. Nicoulin introduced Ms. Sarah Goolsby, Tindale Oliver, to give the presentation.

Ms. Goolsby gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Paratransit Service Analysis and stated the analysis was initiated due to the growing demand for paratransit and transportation disadvantaged (TD) service at the local, state, and national levels. They wanted to identify what changes have occurred in the industry and how they have positively or negatively impacted service provisions and cost efficiencies and find opportunities to fix issues that were identified; she reviewed those changes. She reviewed the statewide TD trend from 2014 to 2019 and the TD trend in Flagler and Volusia Counties. She also reviewed the statewide paratransit trend from 2011 to 2019 as well as for Flagler and Volusia Counties. She noted that Flagler County does not have any existing fixed route service; Volusia County has 27 fixed routes that operate from 6:00 am to 7:00 pm weekdays and Saturday with limited Sunday service. In Volusia County, Votran provides paratransit and TD service through its Gold service; American's with Disabilities Act (ADA) door-to-door service for eligible riders within the three-quarter mile service area around a fixed route. Flagler County provides countywide door-to-door TD service to eligible riders six days per week.

D. Presentation and Discussion of Votran's Transit Development Plan (TDP) Major Update

Ms. Nicoulin introduced Mr. Ralf Heseler, Votran, to give the presentation.

Mr. Heseler gave a PowerPoint presentation of Votran's Transit Development Plan (TDP) and explained the TDP is a 10-year plan which is updated every five years; it is an FDOT requirement for funding. The presentation included the background, process, public involvement, transit needs, financial needs, recommendations and an implementation schedule. The study included a Comprehensive Operations Analysis (COA) which was a look at the system to find ways to be more efficient. He reviewed the public involvement process they undertook. The top priorities found included the need for an increased frequency of buses, more weekend service and earlier and later service. He reviewed the needs development plan which was broken down into short term (1 to 3 years) and mid-term (4 to 10 years); the recommended changes to the system including changing routes and bus stops, new technology, express routes, etc.; this will require a lot of public involvement. He reviewed mobility on demand (MOD) and explained it could be used for the first/last mile to and from the bus stop via a ride sharing option. He reviewed the implementation plan and costs associated with it; if the plan as presented by the consultant was implemented, it could result in almost \$1 million in savings to Votran. However, that does not consider new infrastructure for new routes. The draft TDP will be presented to the Volusia County Council for approval today and must be submitted to FDOT by September 1, 2021.

E. FDOT Report

The FDOT report was provided in the agenda.

Mr. Fendley asked if FDOT could be part of the safety discussion he requested earlier and if they could address safety through the use of design speeds.

Ms. Nicoulin replied yes; staff will coordinate with FDOT's Safety Office.

F. Volusia and Flagler County Construction Reports

The Volusia and Flagler County construction reports were provided in the agenda.

V. Staff Comments

Ms. Nicoulin announced that July 30, 2021 was former Executive Director Lois Bollenback's last day at the TPO and a farewell open house was held on July 29, 2021. An Executive Director Search Committee was established to conduct a national search and that in the interim, she was named the Interim Executive Director. The Senate passed a large infrastructure bill last week; this is the reauthorization bill of the federal surface transportation laws and new funding for transportation and water infrastructure. This bill will now move to the House of Representatives for consideration. The 2020 Census data was released last week which showed an increase in population; the fastest growing area in the U.S. is The Villages with a 39% population increase between 2010 and 2020. Flagler County experienced a 20.6% population increase and Volusia County an 11.9% population increase.

VI. CAC Member Comments

Ms. Lendian stated she has a request from a citizen from Northwest Volusia County; Arredondo Grant Road, which is used frequently to get from US 17 to US 11, needs striping on the outside of the lanes. It is a two-lane road with narrow lanes and the citizen would like to see it striped.

Ms. Nicoulin replied she would coordinate with the county on that.

Ms. Foltz commented that several months ago a discussion occurred regarding a study that Flagler County requested FDOT conduct along SR A1A near the bridge and marina to see if a traffic signal was warranted there. She asked what the outcome was.

Ms. Nicoulin replied she would follow up with FDOT on the study results.

Ms. Nice announced the signage she proposed for East International Speedway Boulevard (ISB) announcing improvements are coming in 2023; it will serve as a positive indicator to residents and tourists that the blighted area will be turned around and the roads are being worked on. It was approved by the city and is currently being manufactured and she hopes it will serve as inspiration for other positive developments in the area.

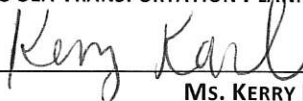
VII. Information Items

- CAC & TCC Attendance Records
- June/July TPO Outreach and Events
- June 23, 2021 and July 23, 2021 TPO Board Meeting Reports

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business, the CAC meeting adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

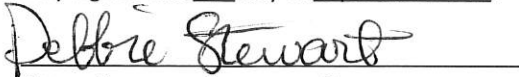
RIVER TO SEA TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION



MS. KERRY KARL, CHAIRPERSON
CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

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 August 17, 2021 regular meeting of the Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC), approved and duly signed this 17th day of September 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**

RIVER TO SEA TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (TPO)

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

ROLL CALL VOTE – TIP AMENDMENT

MEETING DATE: TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2021
MEETING TIME: 1:15 P.M.
MEETING LOCATION: RIVER TO SEA TPO

QUORUM: 9 MEMBERS YES

MOTION:

Table with columns: REPRESENTING:, CAC MEMBER:, YES, NO. Rows include locations like DAYTONA BEACH, DELTONA, DEBARY, DELAND, FLAGLER BEACH, FLAGLER COUNTY, HOLLY HILL, LAKE HELEN, NEW SMYRNA BEACH, ORANGE CITY, ORMOND BEACH, PALM COAST, PONCE INLET, PIERSON, PORT ORANGE, SOUTH DAYTONA, VOLUSIA COUNTY CHAIR, VOLUSIA COUNTY D-2, VOLUSIA COUNTY AT LARGE, VOTRAN (CTC), FLAGLER COUNTY TRANSIT and corresponding CAC members like SHAWN COLLINS/EMILY NICE, JANET DEYETTE, ERIKA BENFIELD, KERRY KARL, ED FENDLEY, MARCIA FOLTZ, GILLES BLAIS, RICK BASSO, NORA JANE GILLESPIE, BOB STORKE, ROGER STRCULA, ALAN PETERSON, JOE VILLANELLA, SUSAN ELLIOTT, PAUL MARTEL (ALTERNAT), BOBBY BALL, JACK DELANEY, DAVE CASTAGNACCI, PATRICIA LIPOVSKY, ELIZABETH LENDIAN, RALF HESLER, TISHA PETERSON.