NOVEMBER 28, 2018 MEETING MINUTES
OF THE
RIVER TO SEA TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (TPO) BOARD

2570 W. International Speedway Boulevard, Suite 100
Daytona Beach, FL 32114-8145

TPO Board Members Present:
Commissioner Robert Gilliland, 1st Vice Chairperson
Vice Mayor Lita Handy-Peters, Chairperson
Commissioner Chris Cloudman
Commissioner Chris Nabicht
Commissioner Marshall Shupe**
Commissioner Penny Currie
Vice Mayor Jason McGuirk, 2nd Vice Chairperson
Commissioner Bill Lindau*
Council Member Jeff Allebach
Commissioner Dwight Selby
Council Member Bob Cuff
Council Member Joe Perrone*
Volusia County Council Chair Ed Kelley
Council Member Pat Patterson
Volusia County Council Vice Chair Deb Denys
Council Member Joyce Cusack
Saralee Morrissey (non-voting)
Vickie Wyche (non-voting advisor)
Robert Storke (non-voting)
Janet Deyette (non-voting)
Jose Papa (non-voting)

Representing:
Daytona Beach
DeBary
Deland
Deltona
Flagler Beach
Holly Hill
New Smyrna Beach
Oak Hill
Orange City
Ormond Beach
Palm Coast
Ponce Inlet
Volusia County
Volusia County District 1
Volusia County, District 3
Volusia County, At-Large
Volusia County School Board
FDOT District 5
BPAC Chairperson
CAC Chairperson
TCC Chairperson

TPO Board Members Absent:
Mayor Stephen Emmett*
Vice Mayor John Rogers*
Councilwoman Christine Power (excused)
Vice Mayor Vernon Burton*
Mayor James Sowell*
Council Member Drew Bastian (excused)
Councilman Ralph Schoenherr
Council Member Billie Wheeler (excused)
Andy Dance (non-voting)

* Non-voting member in the Small City Alliance
** Voting member for the Small City Alliance

Representing:
Beverly Beach
Bunnell
Edgewater
Lake Helen
Pierson
Port Orange
South Daytona
Volusia County, District 2
Flagler County School Board

Others Present:
Debbie Stewart, Recording Secretary
Lois Bollenback
Pam Blankenship
Colleen Nicoulin
Stephan Harris

Representing:
TPO Staff
TPO Staff
TPO Staff
TPO Staff
TPO Staff
Others Present:
Bob Finck
Jeffrey Jacquin
Andrew Holmes
Laura Dodd
Ron Paradise
Jane Shang
David Cooke
Merissa Battle
Mary McGeehe
Ron Meade
Alison Stettner
Robert Bullard
Jake Johansson
Jon Cheney
Frank Alvarez

Representing:
AIM Engineering
AIM Engineering
Daytona Beach
DeBary
Deltona
Dewberry Consulting
Dewberry Consulting
FDOT
FDOT
BPAC
Port Orange
Volusia County Traffic Engineering
Votran

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

The meeting of the River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Board was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by TPO Chairperson Lita Handy-Peters. The roll was called and it was determined that a quorum was present.

Ms. Stewart announced that Commissioner Shupe, Flagler Beach, would be the voting member for the Small City Alliance.

Chairperson Handy-Peters stated as Chair, she would like to take a moment of privilege before we start the details of the meeting. Last month, several members of the TPO were recognized for their service as they leave office. This month, she would like to recognize Volusia County Council Member Pat Patterson for his service. He has kept us straight over the years with parliamentary procedures and we will miss his good humor. She announced that she is also leaving office and this will be her last meeting. It has been a privilege to serve on this Board. She also recognized Volusia County Council Member Joyce Cusack who is also leaving office. Daytona Beach Commissioner Rob Gilliland will take over as interim Chairperson in January. She asked new TPO Board members to introduce themselves.

Council Member Bob Cuff, Palm Coast District 1, introduced himself and thanked the board for the opportunity to serve.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Public Comment/Participation

There were no public comments.

IV. Consent Agenda

A. October 24, 2018 River to Sea TPO Board Meeting Minutes
B. Treasurer's Report
C. Executive Committee Report
D. Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Report
E. Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Appointments and Resignations
F. Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Report
G. Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Report
H. Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Report
I. River to Sea TPO Board (R2CTPO) Summary Report
J. MPO Advisory Council (MPOAC) Report
K. Review and Approval of Executive Director’s Overall Evaluation Result and Recommendation for Retention
L. Review and Approval of Expenditure for US 17/92 at Dirksen Drive Traffic Operations Feasibility Study ($38,800)
M. Cancellation of December Executive and TPO Board Meetings

Chairperson Handy-Peters stated the consent agenda includes a variety of summary reports, the Treasurer’s Report and the meeting minutes from the October board meeting. Please note also, the consent agenda includes cancellation of the December board meeting and a recommendation of retention for the Executive Director.

MOTION: Commissioner Nabicht moved approval of the Consent Agenda. Volusia County Council Chair Kelley seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

V. Action Items

A. Review and Approval of the River to Sea TPO’s 2019 Legislative Positions

(Handout)

Chairperson Handy-Peters stated the Legislative Issues Subcommittee met in October to consider updates for the 2019 Legislative priorities. These considerations were discussed at the last TPO Board meeting. The subcommittee met again this morning to review a final draft of the positions for 2019 which is provided as a handout.

Ms. Bollenback stated legislative delegation meetings will be held December 7, 2018 in Flagler County and December 17, 2018 in Volusia County; the TPO prepared these positions in order to present them at the meetings. A note was inserted at the beginning to acknowledge these positions were developed with regards to positions developed by other organizations that are important partners in the work the TPO does. An item was added in regards to preserving MPOs and the current structure of MPOs in response to a bill proposed during the last legislative session. She reviewed the three priority positions being recommended.

Council Member Perrone asked if the state legislature knows the TPO’s membership is comprised of elected officials from various the municipalities as well as the counties and they are selected by their various councils.

Ms. Bollenback replied yes; most of them have been involved with a MPO at some point in their political career. The proposed bill targeted an issue in north Florida that involved another MPO and the proposed solution impacted other MPOs.

Volusia County Council Vice Chair Denys suggested that board members attend the delegation meetings and speak on these issues to have it on the record; that would be extremely effective. It is not too late to fill out a request to speak.

Commissioner Nabicht suggested board members meet with their state representatives and senators prior to the delegation meeting, put this document in their hands and discuss it with them. Those that have lobbyists for their city or county which will have legislative positions to send should mirror or include these positions. Hopefully, the message will collectively reach the delegation that these are the positions of Volusia and Flagler Counties and the cities. This group works extremely well together and is the best working group he has been a part of; anything that challenges this relationship deserves our attention.

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Gilliland to approve the River to Sea TPO’s 2019 Legislative Positions. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Shupe and carried unanimously.
B. Review and Approval of Resolution 2018-28 Amending the FY 2018/19 to 2022/23 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Chairperson Handy-Peters stated the proposed TIP amendment programs funding in the current year for the construction of sidewalks around Derbyshire Park. This is a prioritized project and it will spend down funding available in the current year. There is still some question, however, regarding approval from FDOT for this activity.

Ms. Bollenback stated when the agenda was set at the beginning of the month she was optimistic that this project would be ready for approval to put into the TIP but that has not happened. There is approximately $330,000 in the bicycle/pedestrian box and the TPO has been working with the city of Daytona Beach on a sidewalk project around Derbyshire Park to program these funds. If the money is not spent, the TPO runs the risk of having its spending authority reduced in subsequent years. There are schedule issues with the Derbyshire Park sidewalk project and FDOT needs to be comfortable that the schedule would allow the city time to deliver the project. The cost has also changed. This is not considered a cost overrun because the project is not in the Work Program. Recently, the estimate went from under $500,000 to over $500,000 which is an important threshold for FDOT. Under $500,000 they can program a project, but once that threshold is crossed, it has to go to the state for approval. There is still discussion to occur between FDOT and the city about how much is actually being requested. Since we do not have that information, and the board does not meet in December, staff is asking for approval to work with the TPO Board Chairperson and program the project if FDOT and the project sponsor resolve their issues. Once the issues are resolved the project will move into the Work Program and the TIP and be approved retroactively the January TPO meeting.

Commissioner Gilliland stated that the city of Daytona Beach's Public Works Director is here and suggested he give a status update.

Mr. Andrew Holmes, Public Works Director, Daytona Beach, stated this project is a high priority for the city and they are excited about moving it into the Work Program. The snags have been coordinating with FPL, and the city is working to resolve it. The cost they have is based 100% on plans and they have a high degree of confidence that it will not increase. He appreciates everything the TPO has done to help make this happen.

Commissioner Nabicht referred to the $500,000 cost and asked what latitude the TPO is asking for; what the cap is.

Ms. Bollenback replied the current cost estimate would have SU funding programmed at $558,500 for construction and the construction inspection. The city completed the design which exceeds the local match requirement. She believes the $558,500 estimate is fairly solid; the challenge is if it has to go to the state for approval that can become risky. If it drops below $500,000 we will not have to go through that.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Commissioner Nabicht to allow TPO Executive Director to work with the TPO Chairperson and FDOT and approve Resolution 2018-28 amending the FY 2018/19 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) retroactively in January and not to exceed $600,000. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Power and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Nabicht asked what would happen to the leftover money; he suggested putting it toward planning and feasibility studies since there is always a deficit.

Ms. Bollenback replied Presentation Item E will address that.

C. Review and Approval to Begin a Public Comment Period for a Draft Amendment to the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)
Chairperson Handy-Peters stated the River to Sea TPO adopted the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) report in January 2016. Since adopting the LRTP, FDOT updated their long-range plan for the Strategic Intermodal System (SIS). Typically, the SIS plan update is used to create the next LRTP update.

Ms. Bollenback stated there are two projects now under development; one is the interchange at I-95 and LPGA Boulevard which is undergoing an interstate modification report (IMR); a public meeting on this project is being held tonight. The other is a new interchange at I-95 and Pioneer Trail which is currently under a PD&E study. The contracts FDOT issued for these projects include both the planning phase and the design. The projects are in the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) as "unfunded" needs and in order for design work to occur, it has to be in the "funded" portion. The studies will both finish in the spring. FDOT updated their long-range estimates and included funding for these two projects. The TPO is required to hold a 45-day public comment period; materials need to be developed and made available for public review. If supported by the board, a public comment period will be initiated and this will be back in January as an action item to amend the LRTP to move these projects from the "unfunded" to the "funded" section of the plan. New planning requirements now require the TPO to address how we plan for tourism and resiliency. The TPO also has to incorporate performance measures for safety and transit asset management.

Commissioner Lindblau commented that the Oak Hill City Commission received a presentation recently and was advised the interchange at I-95 and Maytown Road will be completed by 2025; he asked if that was on the TPO’s radar.

Ms. Bollenback replied it is in the LRTP as a developer funded project so it is already considered cost feasible.

Council Member Perrone commented there was previously public opposition to the Pioneer Trail interchange and asked if there would be sufficient opposition to recommend it not be done. He believes the project may relieve congestion on Dunlawton Avenue. He asked if it was not done if there were other projects or interchanges could alleviate that congestion.

Mr. Bolinback replied that a part of the LRTP effort is to solicit public comment, and in the case of Pioneer Trail, some input was positive and some has been in opposition. In the last LRTP update, there was no opposition to it. Both the IMR and PD&E study going on for these two interchanges involved review of the design alternatives, environmental background work, mitigation requirements and public outreach. The TPO is changing the LRTP to allow the work on subsequent phases to occur. Generally, if people are interested in a project, comments will be received not just about updating the LRTP, but on design, the environment, among others. Those comments will be routed to the appropriate agency. The TPO has received a request that is being considered where we invite those comments to help Volusia County achieve their outreach goals.

Commissioner Selby commented that he does not see the US 1 and I-95 interchange on the list; it is significantly older than LPGA Boulevard and is unsafe, yet, it is not on this list; he asked for an explanation.

Ms. Bollenback replied the US 1 interchange is identified in the 2040 LRTP as an unfunded need and an IMR was done but she is not sure if it was completed because it was done by FDOT. The TPO fought to get it into the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and to make it clear to FDOT the work is needed; the design is outdated, it is hindering development and creating a safety issue. The reason it is not on this list is because these two interchanges have contracts in place and FDOT is trying to secure funding for the design phase of those contracts; that does not exist for US 1. Normally, the TPO would not update the LRTP when FDOT updates their SIS plan but would wrap that work into the next LRTP update; that is where the US 1 interchange will come in. It is in the LRTP but is not yet funded and there is no design work ready to be funded like there is for these two interchanges.

Commissioner Selby referred to the IMR for the US 1 interchange and asked if it had been completed.
Ms. Wyche replied it was not completed because it needs a PD&E study due to environmental issues.

Ms. Bollenback commented it still has two years of planning study work which gives the TPO time to wrap it up as part of the LRTP activities; that will have to be approved by September 2020.

Commissioner Selby stated he supports both of these other interchanges but Ormond Beach is concerned about US 1 which provides access to Volusia County and Flagler County. There is a lot of truck traffic in both directions and it is a primary exit for visitors to get to the beach.

Vice Mayor McGuirk referred to the Pioneer Trail interchange in New Smyrna Beach and stated that there will likely be some people not happy about it. The reality is that most people understand and accept it. The city took the official position of supporting it primarily due to the fact it was used as a transportation element to build all the homes to the west that this interchange will help; it is permitted for 6,000 homes. The people that live there are the ones that do not want it but the irony is, it is going to serve them. The city needs the interchange and there is a long history that justifies it.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Council Member Patterson approving the R2CTPO to begin a public comment period for a draft amendment to the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Selby.

Volusia County Council Vice Chair Denys commented that Vice Mayor McGuirk was correct on his reflection but what has also changed in this process is a couple of hurricanes and trying to get people evacuated. She knows some people that were against it are now for it and she does not believe there will be as much push back this time because the citizens have realized they need more access.

The motion carried unanimously.

VI. Presentations and Discussion Items

A. Presentation and Discussion of Recommended Changes to the R2CTPO Policy Resolutions for the Annual Call for Projects

Chairperson Handy-Peters stated the TPO Subcommittees meet each year to evaluate the project prioritization process and recommend improvements for the next cycle. The TIP Subcommittee and BPAC Project Review Subcommittee met jointly in October and then independently to review the process and develop recommendations.

Ms. Nicoulin stated the proposed changes to the resolutions were discussed last month, including eligible versus ineligible costs and developing separate definitions of cost increase and cost overrun. Language was added to Resolution 2016-01 that excludes costs that are ineligible for federal funds from counting toward the local match requirement. She reviewed the definitions for cost increase and cost overrun. Requests for additional funds must include a statement of hardship or justification from the project sponsor. The TPO will develop a form for these requests so they come in uniformly and they can be identified as a cost overrun or cost increase. Authorization for additional funds only applies to cost increases; cost overruns, as they are now defined will no longer come before the board.

Volusia County Council Chair Kelley referred to the definitions and a change of scope being a cost overrun rather than a cost increase; a cost increase and a change of scope would be a new contract and an additional expense as opposed to an overrun. An overrun would be doing the job you are doing and incurring additional costs for the job as described.

Council Member Allebach replied no; a cost increase is something that cannot be avoided.

Ms. Bollenback commented it is about control and whether the change in project costs is within a project sponsor’s control or something they decided to do versus something out of their control and unforeseen. A
cost increase is an increase out of their control and a cost overrun is something you have control over but are choosing to do something different which disrupts the program.

Discussion continued.

Commissioner Gilliland referred to cost overruns not coming before the board anymore and commented he is concerned if a project cost doubles, the board would not know about it. He asked if it would be a TIP amendment.

Ms. Bollenback replied yes; once a project is in the Work Program all TIP amendments come before the board. The point here is to separate some of those issues before they come to the board for debate and action; to filter what is within control and should have been foreseen. Sometimes, less than thorough estimates are received which do not impact projects on the priority list but once a project is in the Work Program it impacts funding for others.

Ms. Nicoulin continued to review the changes to the other policy resolutions. Language has been added to Resolution 2017-32 to confirm that the priority list will be used to support a regional list. The Central Florida MPO Alliance (CFMPOA) is developing a regional TSM&O list and a regional planning studies list. Different recommendations for Resolution 2017-03 were received from the subcommittees regarding the set aside funding allocations; currently, 40% is for traffic operations projects, 30% for bicycle/pedestrian projects and 30% for transit. The BPAC Project Review Subcommittee wanted to switch the 40% allocation from traffic operations to bicycle/pedestrian projects. The TIP Subcommittee made a recommendation to leave the allocations as they are. This discussion was brought to the advisory committees and the BPAC and TCC did not take action but the CAC approved a motion to support the TIP Subcommittee’s recommendation to leave the set aside allocations as is. The TPO needs a recommendation from the board.

The consensus of the board is to retain the set aside allocation percentages as they are.

Volusia County Council Vice Chair Denys stated the BPAC also receives $20 million in SUN Trail money.

B. Presentation and Discussion of the Priority Project Applications for Traffic Operations/Safety and Local Initiatives Projects, Transportation Planning Studies, and Bicycle/Pedestrian and B/P Local Initiatives Projects

Chairperson Handy-Peters stated each year, the TPO subcommittees also review the project applications used to access TPO set aside funding.

Ms. Nicoulin stated the draft applications are included in the agenda packet. There are no significant changes and language was added to support the performance measures adopted earlier this year. The applications will be back in January for approval.

C. Presentation and Discussion of the St. Johns River to Sea Loop Trail PD&E Study (Lake Beresford Park to Grand Avenue)

Chairperson Handy-Peters stated the St. Johns River to Sea Loop Trail is a 260-mile regional SUN Trail system, much of which is in Volusia County. There are several projects currently under development throughout the planning area. The presentation today is for a gap in west Volusia, extending from Lake Beresford Park to Grand Avenue.

Ms. Mary McGehee, FDOT Project Manager, announced a public alternatives meeting will be held December 5, 2018 in Deland and this is a brief synopsis of what will be presented at that meeting. She introduced FDOT consultant, Mr. Bob Finck, to give the presentation.

Mr. Finck gave a PowerPoint presentation of the St. Johns River to Sea Loop Trail PD&E study from Lake Beresford Park to Grand Avenue. The project is state funded through the SUN Trail program. He reviewed
the project goals and explained the PD&E process. He reviewed two alternative trail corridors; one to the west (Alternative 1) and one to the east (Alternative 2). Both alternatives will share the trail segment to the south of Lake Beresford Road and the segment to the north at SR 44 along Grand Avenue and Minnesota Avenue. He stated the goal is to utilize existing right-of-way wherever possible and that the proposed alternatives were chosen based on the availability of right-of-way as a priority factor. He reviewed the environmental analysis portion of the PD&E study, the evaluation matrix and the public involvement previously done; he announced the next public meeting will be December 5, 2018 at the Sanborn Center in DeLand from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. The project is funded through final design for fiscal year 2020 and construction in 2023. He stated additional project information can be found on the www.cfroads.com website or by contacting FDOT Project Manager, Ms. Mary McGehee or himself.

Volusia County Council Vice Chair Denys asked if an actual presentation will be given at the public alternatives meeting in DeLand.

Mr. Finck replied they will have a running PowerPoint presentation and there will be technical specialists available to answer questions.

Volusia County Council Vice Chair Denys stated that is a problem; they just experienced that at three meetings in New Smyrna Beach. She asked if the PowerPoint would just be on a laptop.

Mr. Finck replied it would be on a screen.

Volusia County Council Vice Chair Denys commented her concern is that the board's filters are stronger than the citizens who will see these alternatives. They need to do a better job of presenting the information to the public. The presentation in New Smyrna Beach failed; the citizens did not understand and the presentation was only on a small laptop. There needs to be a presentation and not just information.

Ms. McGehee replied they would make sure there will not be an event like that again. FDOT will have staff there and the AIM Consultants.

Volusia County Council Vice Chair Denys stated the public needs to hear a solid presentation on what the alternatives are because the other public meetings generated more questions than conclusions.

Vice Mayor McGuirk added the interpretation of support for the project was misunderstood at the last meeting in New Smyrna Beach. People want a bike trail and like the idea of it but do not like where it was going to be. There seemed to be an interpretation that 50% liked it and that is not true. FDOT needs to listen to the people and give them clear and concise information.

Ms. McGehee replied she appreciates the feedback and there is a week to finalize the presentation. One of the challenges with the trail is these are missing gaps primarily because of the right-of-way issues. It is very hard to satisfy everyone with the alternatives.

Councilwoman Power asked if the unfunded part of the trail is the right-of-way acquisition phase.

Ms. McGehee replied they may shift the construction funding into the right-of-way phase. Part of the SUN Trail program is they cannot use eminent domain so they have to work with willing sellers. They are hoping to work within the existing right-of-way. An extensive survey was done to identify the right-of-way parameters and they found there is not enough. In addition to the alternatives presented here, there were four different alignments they tried and none were without some sort of right-of-way requirement.

Councilwoman Power stated she attended the meeting in New Smyrna Beach also and she did not see where it helped. The consultants asked for comments and even though she filled out and submitted her comments she did not receive any follow-up in a phone call or email. If someone takes the time to provide comments a follow-up email would be nice.
Volusia County Council Vice Chair Denys commented that the gaps are the last piece of the puzzle and are difficult to fill. Because of that, they need to explain to the citizens about the right-of-way because they do not understand. They citizens want the information; they may not like it but at least they will understand.

Discussion continued.

D. Presentation and Update of the Regional Trails Program

Mr. Harris gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Regional Trails Program and stated trail activity generates $58 billion in annual consumer spending, 485,000 jobs, $3.4 billion in state and local taxes and $17.9 billion in wages. Trails are in the top four amenities for prospective home buyers. Trails have many uses including biking, viewing wildlife and equestrian activities. The TPO sets aside 30% of SU funding for bicycle/pedestrian and trail projects plus $100,000 year for bicycle/pedestrian feasibility studies. He explained the history of the trail system, the SUN Trail Network and the Coast to Coast Trail. He reviewed the economic impact of trail usage and gave a status update of the regional trails throughout Central Florida and the TPO’s planning area.

Ms. Bollenback stated there are currently over 200 miles of trails in the TPO planning area that meet the trail standard and over $6 million in trail funding this year with almost $33 million over the five-year TIP. This TPO has been a strong funder of trails through its set aside funding and as a recipient of SUN Trail funds.

Mr. Harris stated the funds Ms. Bollenback listed are SUN Trail funds but in addition to that the TPO also provides federal funds and Volusia County provides $1 million in ECHO funds annually through 2026 for trails. He showed the statewide SUN Trail Network, the Coast to Coast Trail and the St. Johns River to Sea Loop. The TPO anticipates the completion of the Coast to Coast Trail in Volusia County next year and completion of the St. Johns River to Sea Loop Trail by 2026 tentatively; there are still unfunded gaps.

Commissioner Selby stated Ormond Beach has done preliminary design of bike trails within the city and he asked if there was any regional or state funding available for those trails.

Mr. Harris replied several feasibility studies have been completed in Ormond Beach. The city has the opportunity to take those completed studies or any concept plans they may have and submit them through the TPO’s annual Call for Projects. A project must be on the priority list in order to get funded.

Ms. Bollenback stated there are grant programs available for the planning, design and construction of trails in addition to SUN Trail and TPO set aside funding.

Council Member Patterson stated in addition to the multi-use trails there is a 10-mile mountain bike trail through DeLeon Springs at Chuck Lennon Park. It is a nationally recognized trail that people come from all over the country to ride.

E. Presentation and Discussion on Current Fiscal Year (FY) SU Funding

(Handout)

Chairperson Handy-Peters stated the TPO has roughly $1.8 million for traffic operations projects and $330,000 for bicycle/pedestrian projects in the current year. TPO staff has identified two projects that may advance to utilize a portion of these funds; design for intersection improvements at SR 44 and Kepler Road and Derbyshire Park sidewalk improvements as previously discussed. If these are funded, however, there will still be just over $450,000 available.

Ms. Bollenback stated if the TPO does not spend down the funding received we run the risk of losing the authority to spend all of these funds in subsequent years. The design for the SR 44 and Kepler Road intersection improvements project was in the Work Program, dropped out and is back. It is still unknown if the Derbyshire Park sidewalk project will be able to advance to use this year’s funds. FDOT has suggested
using up to $1 million of the SU funding to help supplement and advance the design for the I-95 and Pioneer Trail interchange. This was discussed at the advisory committees and their question was if this money could be used for planning studies; yes, SU can be used for planning. The TPO currently sets aside $200,000 each year to develop feasibility studies and in the past has used it for the Regional Corridor Assessment. This board has been clear it wants to set aside planning money only to prep projects for development; the funds are intended for construction and should be used for construction unless there is preparation needed to get a project ready for construction. The TPO is looking for direction if the board is more inclined to move those funds toward advancing projects on the planning studies list or to go outside TPO policy and help advance the Pioneer Trail interchange design.

Commissioner Gilliland stated this is a unique situation and while he appreciates the chance to advance some feasibility studies, the reality is there are 20 years of projects on the priority list that will just sit if we move forward with more planning studies. There is a serious need with SR 44 in New Smyrna Beach and he firmly believes that the majority of people in that area are looking for some relief for not only SR 44 but also Dunlawton Avenue. Anything we can do to move that project along is important to the citizens that live in southeast Volusia County; he is more inclined to go that route.

Commissioner Nabicht commented construction is important and the TPO is continually hit with increased construction costs so he is not in favor of moving money that could be used for construction but if there is a few hundred thousand dollars left over we can move that towards planning. We all have needs for planning; the Saxon Boulevard corridor with the I-4 Ultimate coming through is problematic. Traffic will be moved off of I-4 into Deltona, DeBary and Orange City which will cause bottlenecks. While he appreciates the Pioneer Trail interchange situation, construction will never get cheaper so the more money we can put into construction today versus a year from now the better off we are. He would not want to move the money that could potentially be used to construct something into planning a future project when we have projects that are planned and do not have adequate money for construction.

Commissioner Cloudman stated he feels as if he should advocate for the SR 44 and Kepler Road project; it is a county project because it is in unincorporated Volusia County but is a major chokepoint for coming into and out of DeLand at the beginning and end of a work day. This has been a longstanding issue coming in and out of the west Volusia area off of SR 44 and he would be remiss if he did not advocate for the city of DeLand.

Ms. Bollenback replied the TPO has signaled to FDOT that the SR 44 and Kepler Road project is a high priority and they have agreed to advance the design. They have asked for a commitment from the TPO and Volusia County to contribute to the right-of-way as it will be very costly. The TPO has submitted a letter of commitment so that will advance pending commitment from Volusia County.

Vice Mayor McGuirk stated SR 44 has many issues; a lot of traffic comes in from the west side and this Pioneer Trail project will help accommodate people getting to the beaches. SR 44 is the most popular route to the beaches. It is not just the population of New Smyrna Beach and Port Orange but tens of thousands come in from the west side of the county. It will only get worse with the development going on; the Pioneer Trail interchange will help the locals and visitors from the west side get to the beaches and boat ramps.

Ms. Bollenback stated FDOT and the TPO are always trying to put together a program of projects that feed into the pipeline. It is easy to get projects started but another to get them completed. The concern is not to get the projects bunched up on the priority list which is why projects are staged over time. Right-of-way details and environmental details for Pioneer Trail cannot get nailed down until the PD&E is completed and we get into the design details. It cannot get a sign-off for a PD&E study until it is in the LRTP for funding. We want to keep a project with a long trajectory like a new interchange moving.

Volusia County Council Chair Kelley asked what the total of the excess funds is.

Ms. Bollenback replied $450,000 but that depends on what happens with the Derbyshire Park sidewalk project. The TPO also has advanced construction (AC) funds that are available either in the current year or
one year out. Those are the funds FDOT uses as a “float” to over program. They also use that to take money from other areas that did not over program; last year, with the $5.5 million received annually, the TPO was able to program $12 million. Using the AC funds is very helpful in growing the program.

Volusia County Council Chair Kelley stated he knows the TPO has benefited in the past from others that did not utilize their funding. He asked if in this case, the TPO is asking for direction on where to get more bang for the buck and if there was another project for $450,000 that can be completed with this money.

Ms. Bollenback replied the Derbyshire Park sidewalk project and the SR 44 and Kepler Road intersection improvement project are the only two projects ready to advance.

Discussion continued.

**MOTION:** 
Volusia County Council Chair Kelley made a motion to support FDOT’s request for a commitment of $1 million in SU funds for the design of the Pioneer Trail interchange. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor McGuirk and carried unanimously.

**F. FDOT Report**

Ms. Wyche stated the FDOT report is provided in the agenda and announced the District 5 Tentative Five-Year Work Program for FY 2019/20 to 2023/24 online public hearing will begin December 10, 2018 through December 14, 2018 and will be available online at www.wpph.com. There will also be an public information outreach meeting on Tuesday, December 11, 2018 from 4:30pm to 6:30 pm at the district office in DeLand. FDOT staff will be on hand to answer any questions.

**VII. Executive Director’s Report**

→ Update on Development of Roundtable of Volusia County Elected Officials

Ms. Bollenback stated a presentation was given on impact fees at the Roundtable of Volusia County Elected Officials meeting; no action was taken. She asked Volusia County Council Chair Kelley to give a more detailed update.

Volusia County Council Chair Kelley stated both the impact fees and half-cent sales tax will be discussed at the January meeting. The goal is to move forward with the discussion and bring all 16 cities and the county together to get the information out and be concise with the needs of the project. They will be working with all the city managers. We cannot do what needs to be done with infrastructure without an increase in impact fees.

Ms. Bollenback announced the TPO’s Annual Holiday Open House and Toy Drive this afternoon from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. The TPO is holding it early this year due to office renovations in December.

**VIII. River to Sea TPO Board Member Comments**

Volusia County Council Chair Kelley stated at the last TPO Board meeting, Holly Hill Commissioner Arthur Byrnes brought up traffic signalization and he asked what national meeting FDOT attended to drastically change the signalization; he has not seen traffic counts in the areas it was changed but it is really disrupting traffic. Unless there is absolute proof it is needed, it disrupts traffic. He asked if FDOT could look at this issue.

Council Member Perrone stated newly elected Ponce Inlet officers take office in November and he is pleased to represent his town. He complimented Chairperson Handy-Peters for doing a wonderful job as Chair this year.

Council Member Cusack stated it has been a pleasure to serve as part of the TPO; this is her last meeting. She knows the board will continue to make progress and implement policy that will impact the roads.
Vice Mayor McGuirk stated to all those leaving office it has been a pleasure serving with them.

Commissioner Gilliland referred to Phase 2 of Margaritaville and stated the city will know within a couple of months if the developer will close on the property. If they do not, the project is dead. One of the hang-ups there is with a utility agreement the city has with Ormond Beach. It was contemplated this would start as a small development at Granada Boulevard; it was never contemplated to be a massive development of 6,500 homes stretching from LPGA Boulevard to Granada Boulevard. Daytona Beach’s City Manager has been in contact with the city manager of Ormond Beach regarding this but this will mean the second phase of Tymber Creek will not get built. This ties back into Hand Avenue because a north/south road is needed. There is a 90 day extension on the purchase contract that passed three weeks ago; they are working through the utility issues but cannot sell the homes to cover the cost for the site improvements. Hopefully, this will move forward including the Hand Avenue overpass. This board works well together even with differing opinions and he is proud to serve on this board.

Chairperson Handy-Peters announced the next Executive Committee meeting has been moved from Wednesday, January 2, 2019 to Friday, January 4, 2019.

IX. Information Items

→ Citizens Advisory Committee Attendance Record – 2018
→ Technical Coordinating Committee Attendance Report – 2018
→ Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee Attendance Record – 2018
→ October TPO Outreach and Activities
→ SJR2C Trail Open House Flyer
→ FDOT Public Hearing Flyer
→ “Light Up Midtown” Health Fair Flyer
→ 2018 TPO Board and Committee Meeting Schedule
→ Save the Date for the R2CTPO Holiday Open House and Annual Toy Drive, November 28, 2018 from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm

X. Adjournment

There being no further business, the River to Sea TPO Board meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

CERTIFICATE:

The undersigned, duly qualified and acting Recording Secretary of the River to Sea TPO Board certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the November 24, 2018 regular meeting of the River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Board, approved and duly signed this 23rd day of January 2019.

Debbie Stewart, Recording Secretary
River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization