



AGENDA
Southeast Florida Transportation Council
Friday, October 30, 2020 9:30 a.m.
[Virtual Meeting](#)

In response to the COVID-19 situation, in order to allow for social distancing, our meetings are being held virtually. Participants & attendees must click here to register and join the meeting:
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_GCdMYx9zQwqyZwLK6KjFvw

REGULAR ITEMS
(All Items Open for Public Comment)

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Recognition of Quorum
2. [Approval of Minutes - August 7, 2020](#)
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Public Comments
5. Comments from the Chair

ACTION ITEMS

1. Motion to Adopt a Resolution to Amend Southeast Florida Transportation Council Rules to allow for Call-in/Virtual Board Participation

NON-ACTION ITEMS

1. 2045 Regional Transportation Plan Outreach Update
2. ***Discussion of Florida Department of Transportation Work Program Process***

COMMITTEE REPORTS - no discussion

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. Member Comments

NEXT SEFTC MEETING: February 19, 2021

***MOTION TO ADJOURN**

* Motion Requested

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Erica Lychak, Title VI Coordinator at (954) 876-0033/0058 or lychake@browardmpo.org (or via Florida Relay at 711) at least seven days prior to the meeting.

For complaints, questions or concerns about civil rights or non-discrimination please contact: Erica Lychak, Title VI Coordinator at the numbers or e-mail above.



**Southeast Florida Transportation Council
(SEFTC)**

2.

Meeting Date: 10/30/2020

SUMMARY:

[Approval of Minutes - August 7, 2020](#)

Attachments

Minutes - August 7, 2020



**MEETING MINUTES
SOUTHEAST FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
Friday, August 7, 2020, 9:30 a.m.
Virtual Meeting**

Board Members Present

Oliver G. Gilbert III, Chair, Miami-Dade TPO
Maria Marino, Vice Chair, Palm Beach TPA
Beam Furr, Broward MPO

Also Present

Steven Abrams, Executive Director, SFRTA
Aileen Boucle, Executive Director, Miami-Dade TPO
Hannah Bourgeois, Broward MPO
Bryan Caletka, Councilmember, City of Davie
Paul Calvaresi, Broward MPO
David Clark, Broward MPO
Bill Cross, Broward MPO
Tewari Edmonson, Miami-Dade TPO
Paul Flavien, Broward MPO
Erica Lychak, Broward MPO
Franco Saraceno, Kittelson and Associates
Greg Stuart, Executive Director, Broward MPO
Nick Uhren, Palm Beach TPA
Jamie Opperlee, Recording Secretary, Prototype, Inc.

Regular Items

(All Items Open for Public Comment)

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Recognition of Quorum

Vice Chair Gilbert called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Roll was called and it was noted a quorum was present.

2. Approval of Minutes – February 21, 2020

Motion made by Mr. Furr, seconded by Vice Chair Marino, to approve. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Mr. Furr, seconded by Vice Chair Marino, to approve. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

4. Public Comments

None.

5. Comments from the Chair

Vice Chair Gilbert thanked all present for accommodating the change to the meeting's start time.

ACTION ITEMS

1. ADOPTION of the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan

Franco Saraceno, representing consultant Kittelson and Associates, showed a PowerPoint presentation on the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The RTP has been extensively reviewed with the assistance of planning partners. In addition to the final RTP, the project team has developed a series of technical memoranda, which are available on the SEFTC website.

The RTP documents the process used in its development, including the public involvement and technical analysis phases. Mr. Saraceno advised that he would focus on four key milestones:

- Defining the regional network
- Vision, goals, and objectives
- Technical scenario planning process
- Priorities and policy statements

Definition of the regional network is a core function of SEFTC, as this network will be eligible for certain revenue sources, such as Transportation Regional Incentives Program (TRIP) funds. It consists of approximately 1600 miles of roadways across Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach Counties, as well as nearly 400 miles of railroads, over 300 miles of waterways, and 32 hubs including airports, seaports, and other intermodal transfer facilities.

The vision, goals, and objectives of the RTP serve as a guide that led to the development of the Plan. Its vision is to create a shared regional document that identifies regional needs, funding, and policies that serve and benefit the entire region. The goals are as follows:

- Provide accessible and efficient multimodal transportation that is integrated with land use

- Protect regional health and the environment for a safer and more secure transportation system for all users
- Optimize and expedite investment strategies that will support an expanding regional economy
- Provide a fair and equitable plan that provides transportation options for all users

Mr. Saraceno noted that revisions to the RTP document include a more explicit description of the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA's) equity and environmental justice requirements, all of which were followed during the planning process.

The RTP addresses three broad challenges:

- South Florida's growing population: this is expected to increase by 30% between the present and 2045: this growth is accompanied by more traffic congestion, pollution, and other issues that must be addressed
- Mismatched investments: while public transit is a priority in the region, it has not been possible to match the level of investment in transit with this priority
- Limited access: only 5% of South Florida residents can walk to high-capacity or premium transit service, which can be addressed through network infrastructure improvements as well as land use policy

The technical methodology developed and implemented in support of the RTP included scenario planning built around infrastructure, funding, and land use. The team developed the following three scenarios:

- Scenario 1: continue the current investment trend, which focuses on roadways
- Scenario 2: shift a number of funds historically used for roadways to build the high-capacity transit network, but maintain the status quo in terms of land use
- Scenario 3: invest in the transit network while clustering development and growth around high-capacity transit corridors

Daily transit ridership is expected to triple under Scenarios 1 and 3, with nearly 700,000 boardings anticipated each day if the RTP's plan is implemented. Walking access to premium transit from residents' homes would become available to 35%, which represents a 500% increase. Access to jobs through high-capacity transit would increase by 50% under these proposed scenarios.

While the RTP is intended to serve as a visionary plan, it also represents an aggregate of the three South Florida transportation agencies' Long Range Transportation Plans (LRTPs), including a 73% increase in the investment in transit and a 12% increase in roadway miles. While this would be a significant change, Mr. Saraceno pointed out that 76% of transportation dollars will continue to be invested in roadways and 18% in transit, with the remainder in systems management and multimodal improvements.

Mr. Saraceno emphasized again that transit has been a major priority in the South Florida region for several years. A Regional Plan developed in 2013, which used a similar scenario planning process to the one used in the 2045 RTP, found that 73% of

individuals who weighed in on the proposed scenarios supported a “region in motion” scenario, which is similar to today’s Scenario 3. Similar results were found in 2020 in all three counties, which have made the following commitments to transit:

- Miami-Dade TPO: the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan is the number-one transportation priority in this county
- Broward MPO: the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) allocates 45% of funds to transit and multimodal transit-supportive improvements
- Palm Beach TPA: allocates 80% of discretionary funds to transit and multimodal transit-supportive improvements, with only 14% dedicated to roadway projects

Mr. Saraceno noted, however, that the agencies’ discretionary funds represent less than 5% of their LRTP/MTP funding. Further evidence of the commitment and improvements the agencies have made in recent years includes the Broward County and Miami-Dade Transportation Surtaxes. Funds have also been leveraged toward physical improvements with the assistance of private industry, such as Brightline/Virgin Trains, as well as transit-oriented development (TOD) and the Tri-Rail extension into Downtown Miami.

Mr. Furr commented that he hoped these partnerships will be integrated into SEFTC’s vision for transportation in South Florida. He noted that Brightline/Virgin Trains has shown some willingness to allow Tri-Rail access to their tracks from Miami-Dade through to Palm Beach County, and asserted that this should be one of SEFTC’s priorities as well.

Steven Abrams, Executive Director of the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA), advised that he speaks with Brightline/Virgin Trains regularly with respect to operation of Tri-Rail trains on Brightline tracks. At present, Brightline is negotiating a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Miami-Dade County Staff, which would be a first step toward a partnership that would permit commuter services on Brightline/Virgin Trains tracks.

Mr. Furr pointed out that economies of scale related to access rights will change with the addition of Broward and Palm Beach Counties. He recommended that SEFTC reach out to Brightline/Virgin Trains as one body, as this would result in a stronger negotiating position for the three agencies and the region.

Mr. Saraceno returned to the presentation, stating that the culmination of the RTP includes a set of policy statements, which were compiled in February 2020. These statements were:

- Build up regional transit infrastructure while maintaining the region’s roadways and focusing on first- and last-mile connections
- Create a land use policy statement that can provide technical assistance to local government partners in order to promote a land use policy that complements a high-capacity transit system

- Improve flexibility in funding policies to allow some of the majority of funding that goes toward roadway improvements to be flexed to transit systems
- Identify new revenues and encourage the commitment of more transit dollars from federal funding

Vice Chair Marino commented that she would like to see the incorporation of mobility fees rather than impact fees, as was recently done in Miami Gardens. She pointed out that mobility fees may be implemented more broadly than impact fees, and can allow municipalities to act as partners with Brightline/Virgin Trains and Tri-Rail by investing in rail stations and other priorities.

Motion made by Mr. Furr, seconded by Vice Chair Marino, to adopt. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

2. APPROVAL of Travel Demand Model Memorandum of Understanding

Paul Flavien of Broward MPO Staff showed a PowerPoint presentation on the travel demand model Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which is an agreement between the three South Florida transportation entities, Broward County government, and Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Districts 4 and 6. The MOU outlines the responsibilities of each participant with regard to the acquisition of cell phone travel data for analytical use. The term of the MOU will extend from September 2020 through December 2024. Once the MOU has been signed, the data procurement process may begin. Broward County has already allocated funding for the acquisition of data. The Regional Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (RTTAC) recommends approval of the agreement.

Mr. Furr requested clarification of the data to be acquired. Mr. Flavien advised that this includes global positioning systems (GPS) and travel data generated from cell phones.

Motion made by Mr. Furr, seconded by Chair Gilbert, to approve. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

NON-ACTION ITEMS

1. Regional Transportation Plan Outreach Update

Erica Lychak and Hannah Bourgeois of Broward MPO Staff showed a PowerPoint presentation on the RTP outreach update. The Public Participation Subcommittee (PPS) met on July 21, 2020 with the goal of reaching out to different groups at civic meetings and generating tangible action from those groups. She noted that the RTP's message is most effective when tailored to the interests of the individual groups with which PPS members met.

Discussion by the PPS focused on creation of a Speakers' Bureau, which would consist of eight to ten representatives who can deliver the message. They have also discussed creating two different versions of the PowerPoint presentation: a longer version for presentation to entities with a high level of familiarity with transportation planning needs, and a shorter, less technical version for community groups that are likely to be less familiar with planning. A companion website is undergoing final revisions.

Ms. Bourgeois further reviewed the targeted approach taken by the PPS, explaining that the groups to which they will reach out include Chambers of Commerce, local elected officials, various boards of transportation planning entities, and other community organizations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – no discussion

1. Modeling Subcommittee

This report was presented under Action Item 2.

2. Public Participation Subcommittee

This report was presented under Non-Action Item 1.

3. TSM&O Subcommittee

Paul Calvaresi of Broward MPO Staff reported that the Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSM&O) Subcommittee met on July 23, 2020 and reviewed updates on the 2045 RTP, FDOT's Traffic Incident Management web-based application, and the Working from Home Initiative of South Florida Commuter Services. They discussed potential use of the transportation agencies' fiber-optic cable infrastructure for public internet access. They also discussed the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on traffic operations. The next TSM&O Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for October 22, 2020.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. Member Comments

The Council determined that they would meet as scheduled on October 30, 2020, although no Action Items are expected for that date.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: October 30, 2020



**Southeast Florida Transportation Council
(SEFTC)**

1.

Meeting Date: 10/30/2020

REQUESTED ACTION:

Motion to Adopt a Resolution to Amend Southeast Florida Transportation Council Rules to allow for Call-in/Virtual Board Participation

WHAT THIS ACTION ACCOMPLISHES:

Approval of this item will enable the Executive Committee to meet in a virtual capacity during the declared State and Health Emergency.

SUMMARY EXPLANATION/BACKGROUND:

The SEFTC values the health of the Board of Directors and staff. The SEFTC also recognizes the commitments and travel distance required to be present. The proposed Resolution found in the Attachment declares that while the state of Florida remains in a State and Health Emergency the SEFTC will continue to meet virtually. For the proposed Resolution, please see the Attachment.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PREPARER:

If you have any questions, please contact Paul Calvaresi at (954) 876-0037 or calvaresip@browardmpo.org.

Attachments

Communication Policy

Resolution 2020-1

TPO Resolution 34-2020

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL (“SEFTC”) USE OF COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA TECHNOLOGY FOR MEETINGS

Communications media technology has become a valuable and prevalent asset for conducting SEFTC business meetings. For purposes of this document, communications media technology shall, at a minimum, provide the capability of two (2) way voice and video communication audible and visible to both those not physically present and to persons present at a SEFTC meeting. All SEFTC meetings are recorded (audio only).

Voting Membership Participation

SEFTC voting members may attend, participate, and vote at meetings through the use of communications media technology, *as long as a quorum of the other voting members* are physically present at the meeting (unless quorum requirements are waived by state or local officials), under the following circumstances:

- 1) When the voting member is away from his/her home County (Miami-Dade, Palm Beach or Broward) or is otherwise unable to physically attend a SEFTC meeting due to his/her official business.
- 2) When the voting member is confined to home or hospital due to illness or accident.
- 3) When the voting member’s absence is due to a death or serious illness of an immediate family member.
- 4) When a pandemic or other declared state of emergency presents considerations that cause an undue burden for the voting member’s attendance in person at a SEFTC meeting.
- 5) When extraordinary circumstances cause the voting member to be unable to attend the SEFTC meeting in person. A request under this section requires approval by a majority vote of the other voting members who are physically present at the meeting.

Under sections 1 through 5 listed above, the absentee member shall provide notice to the meeting host’s Executive Director of his/her request to participate via communications media technology and the circumstances of the absence. The Executive Director shall provide this request to the SEFTC voting members for their consideration.

Two (2) SEFTC voting members may not be present at the same remote location.

Applicability to Committees and Subcommittee (“Committee”)

This procedure shall be applicable to all SEFTC committees that are otherwise subject to Florida’s Sunshine Laws and Regulations.

Committee members may attend, participate, and vote at meetings through the use of communication media technology, as long as a quorum of committee members are physically present at the meeting (unless quorum requirements are waived by state officials), under the following circumstances:

- 1) When the member is away from his/her home County (Miami-Dade, Palm Beach or Broward) or is otherwise unable to physically attend the meeting due to his/her official business.
- 2) When the member is confined to home or hospital due to illness or accident.
- 3) When the member's absence is due to a death or serious illness of an immediate family member.
- 4) When a pandemic or other declared state of emergency presents considerations that cause an undue burden for the member's attendance in person at a meeting.
- 5) When extraordinary circumstances cause the member to be unable to attend the meeting in person. A request under this section requires approval by a majority vote of the other members who are physically present at the meeting.

Under sections 1 through 5 listed above, the absentee Committee member shall provide notice to the meeting host's Executive Director of his/her request to participate via communication media technology and the circumstances of the absence. The Executive Director, or his delegate, will provide this request to the other Committee members for their consideration.

Two (2) Committee members may not be present at the same remote location.

Public Participation

Members of the public who are not physically present at a SEFTC meeting may participate in all SEFTC meetings using communications media technology as such may be readily useable by the host MPO. Unless specifically modified by this section, public participation is governed by applicable Florida law.

SEFTC will comply with current guidelines for safe meetings from the Center for Disease Control ("CDC") or Health Department. Members of the public may attend meetings in person in compliance with those guidelines or may otherwise view meetings online through the live broadcast.

Any person may request permission of the chairperson to speak to an item on the agenda by coming to the meeting in person or by sending an email to the host MPO's Executive Director containing the speaker's full name, email address, phone number, and the agenda item to be discussed. Emailed requests will be accepted up to two (2) hours before the scheduled meeting or workshop. A link will be sent to those speakers and they will be allowed to address the SEFTC meeting (or Committee) virtually through the Zoom web application on meeting day. A three-minute time limit will be imposed for each speaker.

Legal:

F.S. 120

F.S. 286.011

F.S. 286.0114

F.S. 286.012

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-1

A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHEAST FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL (“SEFTC”) AUTHORIZING THE USE OF COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA TECHNOLOGY FOR ALL SEFTC BOARD AND COMMITTEE PUBLIC VIRTUAL MEETINGS IN CONFORMANCE WITH SECTION 286.011, FLORIDA STATUTES, DURING THE DECLARED STATE AND HEALTH EMERGENCY; DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SEFTC OFFICIALS TO TAKE ALL STEPS NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THIS RESOLUTION; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) is a severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission and presents symptoms similar to those of influenza; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 poses a public health risk to the Southeast Florida Transportation Council’s (“SEFTC”) officials, employees, clients, contractors, and the members of the public who desire to attend SEFTC public meetings; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the spread of COVID-19 in the State of Florida, on March 1, 2020, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order No. 20-51 directing the Florida Department of Health to issue a Public Health Emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-52, declaring a State of Emergency in the State of Florida due to the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the SEFTC finds that there is a clear and present danger in holding in person public meetings for the members of the general public, SEFTC officials, employees, those attending the SEFTC Board and Committee public meetings, and for those who come into contact with those attending; and

WHEREAS, the SEFTC finds that the technology exists to conduct virtual public meetings utilizing technology that will permit the SEFTC to comply with Section 286.011, Fla.Stat., (the “Sunshine Law”) requirements, while protecting the health and safety of SEFTC officials, employees, contractors, and members of the general public; and

WHEREAS, as of the date of this Resolution, the State of Emergency and Public Health Emergency is still in effect, and the SEFTC finds that it is necessary to utilize Communications

Media Technology (“CMT”) to hold virtual public meetings in order to limit gatherings of SEFTC officials, employees, contractors, and members of the general public in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, Governor DeSantis’ Executive Order 20-69, as amended by Executive Order 20-193, which waived the quorum and public building requirements for public meetings, expired as of 12:01 am on October 1, 2020; however there is still a need for the Board to hold virtual meetings through the use of CMT in order to protect the health and safety of the general public, SEFTC officials, employees, and contractors, and the use of CMT is permitted pursuant to SEFTC Rule 2.04.9; and

WHEREAS, the SEFTC finds that due to the SEFTC’s unique circumstances, which include the number of members on the SEFTC’s Boards and Committees, and in order to continue to comply with the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control (“CDC”) to limit the number of individuals in any one location and social distancing requirements, that it would be difficult to accommodate the SEFTC’s Board and Committee memberships in one location, and that the use of CMT for all SEFTC Board and Committee virtual public meetings should continue for the duration of the State of Emergency; and

WHEREAS, the SEFTC finds that the SEFTC shall continue to comply with the provisions of Section 286.011, Fla.Stat. (the “Sunshine Law”), through the use of CMT in order to insure public notice and public access to all SEFTC Board and Committee virtual public meetings held during this State of Emergency; and

WHEREAS, the SEFTC finds that this Resolution serves a public purpose, and is in the best interest of the public health, safety, and welfare.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTHEAST FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The above “WHEREAS” clauses are true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2. The Southeast Florida Transportation Council (“SEFTC”) hereby finds that the State of Emergency and Health Emergency related to COVID-19 are still in effect, and that as a result, the need to limit public gatherings justifies the utilization of Communications Media Technology (“CMT”) for all SEFTC Board and Committee virtual public meetings. The SEFTC shall continue to comply with all provisions of Section 286.011, Fla.Stat. (the “Sunshine Law”), and SEFTC Rule 2.04.9, to insure public notice, public access, and public participation in the SEFTC

Board and Committee virtual public meetings; however, due to the extraordinary measures needed to implement in order to limit public gatherings and to insure social distancing, the SEFTC shall permit members of the SEFTC Boards and Committees to attend their respective virtual meetings through the use of CMT.

Section 3. The SEFTC's Procedures for Board/Committee Members and Staff for Virtual Public Meetings, previously implemented, shall be utilized for the SEFTC Board and Committee public meetings held utilizing CMT.

Section 4. The appropriate Southeast Florida Transportation Council officials are hereby authorized and directed to take all steps necessary to effectuate the purpose of this Resolution.

Section 5. CONFLICT

All Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith, be and the same are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 6. SEVERABILITY

If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution.

Section 7. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2020.

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

By: _____
Oliver G. Gilbert III, Chair

TPO RESOLUTION #34-2020**RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR TO EXTEND EXECUTIVE ORDER 20-69, AS PREVIOUSLY EXTENDED, AUTHORIZING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO CONTINUE TO CONDUCT PUBLIC MEETINGS VIA VIRTUAL PLATFORMS, OR ALTERNATIVELY, TO ISSUE AN EXECUTIVE ORDER AUTHORIZING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO CONDUCT PUBLIC MEETINGS USING A HYBRID IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL MODEL**

WHEREAS, the Interlocal Agreement creating and establishing the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Miami Urbanized Area requires that the Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), in its role as the MPO, provide a structure to evaluate the adequacy of the transportation planning and programming process; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of a new coronavirus, known as SARS-CoV-2, which causes an infectious disease named coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) a “public health emergency of international concern,” and then on March 11, 2020, given the alarming levels of spread and the severity of the virus, declared COVID-19 a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order 20-52 declaring a state of emergency for the entire State of Florida as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the Miami-Dade County Mayor declared a local state of emergency in Miami-Dade County regarding the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 the President of the United States issued a Proclamation declaring a National Emergency concerning COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order 20-69, suspending any Florida Statute that requires a quorum to be present in person or requires a local government body to meet at a specific public place and allowing local government bodies to utilize communications media technology, such as telephonic and video conferencing, as provided in section 120.54(5)(b)2., Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 20-69 has been extended on multiple occasions and currently will expire on November 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) guidelines recommend the practice of social distancing when gathering in large groups, especially in enclosed areas, by staying at least 6 feet from other people; and

WHEREAS, with over 167,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases, Miami-Dade County remains the Florida county hardest hit by COVID-19, and reducing gatherings of large numbers of people is critical to controlling COVID-19 until a vaccine is widely available; and

WHEREAS, at any TPO Governing Board meeting there could be present up to twenty-five (25) voting members, staff to the individual Board members and transportation partners, as well as the general public, which creates a significant challenge to maintain social distancing in any currently available meeting space; and

WHEREAS, Board members and members of the general public due to age or underlying medical conditions may be high risk and thus unable to attend or participate in person; and

WHEREAS, continuing to allow local governments to conduct public meeting via virtual platforms would promote greater public participation while maintaining safety protocols during the COVID-19 pandemic,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION IN ITS ROLE AS THE MPO FOR THE MIAMI URBANIZED AREA, that this Board:

Section 1. Urges the Governor to extend Executive Order 20-69, as previously extended, authorizing local governments to continue to conduct public meetings via virtual platforms, or alternatively, to issue an executive order authorizing local governments to conduct public meetings using a hybrid model where some Board members are present in person and others through a virtual platform.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade Legislative Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the state lobbyist to advocate for the actions set forth in section 1 above.

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was sponsored by the Executive Policy Committee and moved by Board Member Rebeca Sosa. The motion was seconded by Board Member Jose “Pepe” Diaz, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert III -Aye
Vice Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr. -Aye

Board Member Juan Carlos Bermudez	-Aye	Board Member Steven D. Losner	-Aye
Board Member Philippe Bien-Aime	-Aye	Board Member Roberto Martell	-Absent
Board Member Daniella Levine Cava	-Aye	Board Member Joe A. Martinez	-Absent
Board Member Oscar De La Rosa	-Aye	Board Member Jean Monestime	-Aye
Board Member Jose “Pepe” Diaz	-Aye	Board Member Dennis C. Moss	-Aye
Board Member Audrey M. Edmonson	-Aye	Board Member Rebeca Sosa	-Aye
Board Member Perla T. Hantman	-Aye	Board Member Javier D. Souto	-Aye
Board Member Sally A. Heyman	-Aye	Board Member Micky Steinberg	-Aye
Board Member Eileen Higgins	-Aye	Board Member Francis Suarez	-Absent
Board Member Barbara J. Jordan	-Absent	Board Member Xavier L. Suarez	-Absent
Board Member Vince Lago	-Aye		

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and approved this 22nd day of October 2020.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

By Zainab Salim
Zainab Salim, Clerk
Miami-Dade TPO

