



DRAFT

MEETING MINUTES
BROWARD METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Regional Transportation
Technical Advisory Committee (RTTAC) Meeting
Wednesday, December 9, 2020 1:30 PM
100 West Cypress Creek Road
6th Floor, Suite 650
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309-2181

Members Present

Acting Chair Bill Cross, Broward MPO
Sabrina Aubrey, Florida Department of Transportation
Anna Bielawska, Palm Tran
Lois Bush, Florida Department of Transportation District 4
Loraine Cargill, South Florida Regional Transportation Authority
Tewari Edmonson, Miami-Dade TPO
Wilson Fernandez, Miami-Dade TPO
Ken Jeffries, Florida Department of Transportation District 6
Thomas Lanahan, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council
Christina Miskis, South Florida Regional Planning Council
Christopher Rosenberg, Miami-Dade TPO
Andrew Uhlir, Palm Beach TPA
Maria Vilches, Miami-Dade TPO

Broward MPO Staff

Hannah Bourgeois
Paul Calvaresi
Paul Flavien
Peter Gies
Rebecca Schultz

Also Present

Christopher Dube, Florida Department of Transportation
Jennifer Fortunas, Florida Department of Transportation
Kurt Lehmann, Cambridge Systematics
Neil Lyn, Florida Department of Transportation
Franco Saraceno, Kittelson and Associates
Lisa Taylor, Recording Secretary, ProtoType, Inc.

REGULAR ITEMS

(All Items Open for Public Comment)

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

Acting Chair (A/Chair) Bill Cross called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

2. Review of Agenda

A/Chair Cross noted that while today's meeting will proceed as a workshop, all Agenda Items are open for public comment. Minutes will be approved at the Committee's February 10, 2021 meeting.

3. Public Comments

None.

4. Comments from the Chair

A/Chair Cross noted that the Transportation Summit between the three Executive Directors of regional transportation agencies was held earlier in the day, and touched on themes related to work the Committee has done over the past few years.

ACTION ITEMS

None.

NON-ACTION ITEMS

1. Transportation Regional Incentives Program Update and Discussion

A/Chair Cross advised that the Committee is now considering the 2021 Transportation Regional Incentives Program (TRIP) cycle. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District 4 has proposed a new online application platform. Sabrina Aubrey of FDOT explained that the Florida Grant Application Program (GAP) is a statewide program used by multiple entities. The application itself will remain the same, but must be downloaded to be filled out and then uploaded into GAP.

Paul Calvaresi of Broward MPO Staff further clarified that this TRIP application process begins with projects to be programmed in fiscal year (FY) 2027. It will apply to new projects that have not been previously programmed in FDOT's Work Program. FDOT District 6 will not use the GAP system for TRIP in the current year.

Mr. Calvaresi noted that because the transportation agencies do not know how much the TRIP funding match will be available, it is difficult to begin scheduling projects. He asked when these projections might become available. Mr. Jeffries replied that the amount will most likely be consistent with previous funding.

2. Florida Transportation Plan Update

Ms. Bush showed a PowerPoint presentation on the Florida Transportation Plan (FTP), which is a statewide plan guiding Florida's transportation future. It involves not only FDOT but all agencies involved in planning and managing Florida's transportation system, including state, regional, and local partners. It establishes a policy framework for the allocation of state and federal transportation funds, which flow through FDOT's Five-Year Work Program.

The FTP includes four elements:

- Vision element: establishes an overarching transportation vision and high-level goals for the next 25 years
- Policy element: identifies measurable objectives and policy-level strategies
- Implementation element: outlines specific short-term strategies and actions to advance the vision, focusing on the next five years
- Performance element: tracks and measures progress toward achieving the vision and provides a system for reporting of federal performance measures

The vision element serves as a backdrop for updating the FTP by establishing a vision of how the transportation system meets the needs of Florida residents, visitors, and businesses. The 2045 vision was for a robust transportation system intended to meet the needs of a dynamic state by accomplishing a number of specific goals by the year 2045. These goals include zero fatalities, seamless mobility, and universal accessibility. The vision incorporates global leadership, forward-looking planning, and sustainable transportation partners and investors.

The policy element identifies measurable objectives that often overlap, as well as key policy-level strategies. This element focuses on how transportation partners care for and respond to major trends that have the potential to change Florida's transportation future, including:

- Continued strong population and economic growth
- Changing demographics
- Shifting development patterns
- Changing visitor flows
- Emerging technologies and innovations
- Growing risks

The FTP focuses on strategies to achieve the greatest gains toward goals and objectives. These strategies highlight critical policies to help guide investment priorities and other FDOT and partner commitments. It emphasizes the mutual benefits of a single strategy to achieve multiple goals.

Ms. Bush advised that there is still an opportunity to comment on the draft FTP policy elements at www.floridatransportationplan.com. A final FTP policy element is expected to be complete by mid-December 2020. Next steps will include work on the implementation element with partner agencies.

Mr. Lanahan observed that flexibility was a key point of discussion at the Transportation Summit held earlier in the day, and asked if the proposed language in the FTP is sufficiently strong to provide this flexibility. Ms. Bush replied that the FTP's policy element is considered a higher-level element, while the implementation element addresses more specific actions to be achieved over the next five years. The policy element applies to all strategies within the FTP rather than a single strategy.

A/Chair Cross pointed out that a key aspect of the Committee's work, as well as of the issues discussed at the Transportation Summit, was the need for increased flexibility in funding. At present, funding programs do not align well with Southeast Florida's transportation needs. He noted that the presentation shows FDOT has acknowledged this issue, and concluded that the FTP represents a step in the right direction.

3. 2050 Regional Transportation Plan Calendar

A/Chair Cross showed a PowerPoint presentation on draft elements of the 2050 RTP, explaining that this presentation is intended to generate conversation among the Committee members.

The first element, Regional Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (RTTAC) meeting support, is intended to provide the agendas and logistics for running meetings. The next step is development of the Southeast Florida Regional Planning Model (SERPM) 9, which will be led by the Miami-Dade TPO. Miami-Dade is on schedule to complete the procurement process for this model in the second half of 2020, with development to begin in 2021. A/Chair Cross continued that the next major step will be data procurement, which will be led by the Broward MPO.

The 2045 RTP consultant contract will end in October 2022 and is currently advancing toward completion. This is followed by a proposed time frame for the 2050 RTP's development, for which the Palm Beach TPA will be responsible. Most of 2021 will be spent determining the scope of the 2050 RTP.

Mr. Fernandez clarified that the procurement process for the 2050 RTP will most likely begin at the conclusion of FY 2022, by which time funding should be in place within the next Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). A/Chair Cross recommended that the three transportation entities ensure coordination among themselves to certify that funding for major elements is properly allocated within their UPWPs.

Mr. Fernandez added that the scope of work will need to be completed sufficiently early to make sure that the three transportation entities understand what they are responsible for and are able to determine their costs. He estimated that this should be in place by the beginning of calendar year 2022. A/Chair Cross suggested adding an Agenda Item to the February 2021 RTTAC meeting to begin discussion of the scope and possibly form a working group.

Ms. Bush asked if the agencies plan to coordinate pre-work in order to get the best results in preparing for the 2050 RTP, such as research into emerging best practices in order to shape the scope of work and subsequent plans. A/Chair Cross requested that pre-work also be part of the discussion at the February 2021 meeting.

Ms. Cargill requested a timeline for the procurement of “big data.” Paul Flavien of Broward MPO Staff replied that once Miami-Dade has finalized procurement for the SERPM 9 model, procurement of this data will begin in January 2021.

Mr. Uhlir asked how many resources at the Broward MPO are being used toward the SEFTC/RTTAC meeting support. A/Chair Cross advised that Mr. Calvaresi has been putting together agendas and communications to ensure that presentations are provided in a timely manner. He noted that the way meetings are run was adjusted to better suit the MPO’s preferences.

Mr. Fernandez recommended a clear understanding of budgetary needs, pointing out that the budget for support has remained the same for several years. If support continues as an aspect of the RTP, he felt there should be an assignment of the necessary funding to maintain it.

Mr. Calvaresi stated that bringing support services in-house for the Broward MPO provides greater flexibility to both the MPO and the RTTAC, as meetings can be adjusted so they are held in a more cohesive form. A/Chair Cross added that funding plays an important role: negotiations with a contractor for the 2045 RTP proved to be challenging, as the cost of the approved scope of work presented for bid was relatively high in comparison to the budget. He cautioned that this is unlikely to improve for the 2050 RTP.

A/Chair Cross next addressed the Regional Unified Financial Forecast, noting that for the 2045 RTP, final draft information was provided roughly 18 months before the plan was due. The Committee hopes to find a way to procure the Financial Forecast sooner, as development of plans is a two-year process that requires this information.

Mr. Calvaresi recalled that during discussions of the 2045 RTP, the Committee had addressed how this document might add value to the Metropolitan/Long Range Transportation Plans (MTP/LRTPs) developed by each agency. A/Chair Cross recommended a broader discussion of this topic at the February 2021 meeting, either by the full Committee or by a working group assigned to determine the RTP’s scope.

Peter Gies of MPO Staff addressed the Regional Unified Financial Forecast, noting that the RTP will be complete approximately six months before it is presented for adoption. This means the agencies will consider draft Cost Feasible Plans (CFPs). For this reason, it is even more important for the Financial Forecast to be provided as early in the process as possible. He also noted that Mr. Uhlir will lead the partnership between

the three transportation entities in understanding how to provide consistency in their financial forecasts. He concluded that the earlier this forecast can be provided, the better.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (no discussion)

1. Modeling Subcommittee

Mr. Edmonson stated that this Subcommittee is working with FDOT to determine if there is sufficient support funding for them to meet. They hope to begin meeting in January 2021.

2. Public Participation Subcommittee

Hannah Bourgeois of MPO Staff reported that this Subcommittee will continue to further its outreach efforts, including presentations to different organizations. The website, MoveFloridaForward.org, will soon be live and will be included in social media outreach, which will begin in January 2021.

3. TSM&O Subcommittee

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. Member Comments

Ms. Bush recommended that the Committee members review progress indicators identified for FTP policy element objectives, noting that some of these objectives are already being tracked by FDOT and the transportation agencies. Other indicators, such as trips by mode, may be further developed to help assess the FTP's progress. This can help determine which performance metrics are the most important.

There being no further business to come before the Committee at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

NEXT RTTAC MEETING: February 10, 2021

NEXT SEFTC MEETING: February 19, 2021