



DRAFT
MEETING MINUTES
SOUTHEAST FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
Friday, October 30, 2020, 9:30 a.m.
Virtual Meeting

Board Members Present

Oliver G. Gilbert III, Chair, Miami-Dade TPO
Robert Weinroth, Palm Beach County Vice Mayor
Beam Furr, Broward MPO

Also Present

Aileen Boucle, Executive Director, Miami-Dade TPO
Bryan Caletka, Broward MPO
Paul Calvaresi, Broward MPO
David Clark, Broward MPO
Bill Cross, Broward MPO
Tewari Edmonson, Miami-Dade TPO
Wilson Fernandez, Miami-Dade TPO
Alan Gabriel, Broward MPO General Counsel
Ken Jeffries, FDOT District 6
Greg Stuart, Executive Director, Broward MPO
Nick Uhren, Executive Director, 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

Chair Gilbert called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m. Roll was called and it was noted a quorum was present.

2. Approval of Minutes – August 7, 2020

Motion made by Mr. Weinroth, seconded by Mr. Furr, to approve the minutes of August 7, 2020. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Agenda

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

4. Public Comments

None.

5. Comments from the Chair

None.

ACTION ITEMS

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

Paul Calvaresi of Broward MPO Staff advised that the current Southeast Florida Transportation Council (SEFTC) rules provide no mechanism to allow for any type of telephonic or virtual participation. Broward MPO General Counsel Alan Gabriel has provided draft language that would amend the rules as proposed. The Executive Directors of the three transportation agencies have reviewed the draft, and Palm Beach TPA Executive Director Nick Uhren has recommended a number of edits.

Mr. Uhren explained that it was his understanding that if a quorum is present in person, additional members may participate virtually if they present a reason they are unable to attend in person. This reason must be approved by the members who are present in person. The edits he proposed would provide greater flexibility outside any pre-approved excuses.

Mr. Weinroth requested clarification that this meant in the absence of an Emergency Order, the Council would be able to meet with two members physically present and one virtually present. This was confirmed. It was further clarified that subordinate committees would also be subject to the rule changes.

Attorney Gabriel explained that his reason for including a list of pre-approved reasons for non-attendance was because the Florida Attorney General has provided a number of opinions on this topic in recent years. He recommended that there be some explanation of the proposed term "extraordinary circumstances" for purposes of direction. He also noted it was likely that the upcoming Legislative Session will address communications technology attendance further.

Mr. Furr pointed out that edit #5 allows for extraordinary circumstances. Mr. Weinroth recommended that all edits be removed except #5, leaving it up to the Council itself to determine what constitutes an extraordinary circumstance.

Mr. Calvaresi noted that the Item can be deferred until the next meeting if the members wish additional changes be made to the language. Attorney Gabriel pointed out, however, that all three members would have to be in physical attendance to adopt the changes at the next meeting.

Motion made by Chair Gilbert, seconded by Mr. Weinroth, to approve with the Vice Mayor's recommendation. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

NON-ACTION ITEMS

1. Regional Transportation Plan Outreach Update

Mr. Calvaresi showed a PowerPoint presentation on 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) outreach, recalling that the RTP was approved by SEFTC in August. Since that time, SEFTC members and transportation agency Executive Directors perform significant outreach, which is done through tailored messaging to stimulate action. The intent is to emphasize what needs to change and how these changes can be made.

The Speakers' Bureau consists of the Executive Directors as well as Mr. Calvaresi, and the Public Participation Subcommittee (PPS) has crafted a universal PowerPoint. The RTP website includes a version of the PowerPoint as well. Business cards are printed for in-person meetings and contain a QR code that links to the website. Mr. Calvaresi emphasized the action-oriented nature of outreach: if a member makes a presentation to a group, the goal is to receive a letter or Resolution of support. The targeted approach means the members emphasize certain aspects of the RTP for targeted audiences.

The website is expected to be complete the first week in November 2020, and the PPS is scheduling meetings with other partners, including the League of Cities and local Chambers of Commerce and other economic development organizations. Outreach is intended to address policymakers or policy influencers. When travel becomes advisable once again, visits to Tallahassee may be scheduled to share this message with legislators once again.

2. Discussion of Florida Department of Transportation Work Program Process

Broward MPO Executive Director Greg Stuart advised that the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT's) Work Program will be delayed and is expected to include a number of significant reductions. This affects review times for all three transportation entities. Both the Palm Beach TPA and Broward MPO plan to schedule emergency meetings for the end of January 2021 to make up the adoption date for the Work Program. A presentation will be shown to the Broward MPO Board at their annual January workshop/retreat, followed by presentation and adoption at the special meeting.

Mr. Weinroth commented that one possible aspect of a stimulus program could be an infusion of funds into FDOT's Work Program, depending upon the decisions made by the State Legislature. Mr. Uhren added that the agencies would be in a good position to receive stimulus funds, as the region has proceeded on the assumption that funds would have been available for a number of projects if the COVID-19 pandemic had not occurred. This means there is a likelihood of shovel-ready projects in the pipeline, should stimulus funding become available.

Mr. Uhren continued that one challenge in the development of the Work Program has been the ability to identify significant changes and present them to SEFTC in a timely manner so they have adequate time to review and comment upon the changes. FDOT has been asked to deliver this year's Work Program in a way that facilitates a quick evaluation. Mr. Stuart confirmed that this request has been made of FDOT District 4 multiple times in the past, as it can be difficult to review the Work Program in its regular format within a short time frame.

Miami-Dade TPO Executive Director Aileen Boucle advised that the TPO plans to meet with FDOT District 6 in November and walk through all budget items that have been modified, as well as FDOT's response to TPO program priorities, which were presented very early in the Work Program cycle. They anticipate bringing FDOT's tentative Work Program to the TPO Board in December, with an additional meeting in January if needed.

Mr. Stuart noted that the 2045 RTP was presented to the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council in September 2020, and the document was approved by Resolution.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – no discussion

- 1. Modeling Subcommittee**
- 2. Public Participation Subcommittee**
- 3. TSM&O Subcommittee**

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- 1. Member Comments**

Mr. Furr asked if the Miami-Dade County Commission will be voting on terms regarding the proposed Coastal Link. Ms. Boucle clarified that this is an Agenda Item related to an access fee rather than operations. Mr. Furr spoke in favor of establishing a blueprint of how the three counties can negotiate together. Ms. Boucle advised that a special meeting may be called, but no date has been set thus far.

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There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 10:07 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: February 19, 2021