



DRAFT

MEETING MINUTES
BROWARD METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Regional Transportation
Technical Advisory Committee (RTTAC) Meeting
Wednesday, February 10, 2021 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 Aubery, Florida Department of Transportation District 4
Jie Bian, Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works
Anna Bielawska, Palm Tran
Lois Bush, Florida Department of Transportation District 4
Loraine Cargill, South Florida Regional Transportation Authority*
Kim Delaney, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council
Tewari Edmonson, Miami-Dade TPO*
Ken Jeffries, Florida Department of Transportation District 6*
Christina Miskis, South Florida Regional Planning Council
Nicolas Sofoul, Broward County Transit*
Andrew Uhlir, Palm Beach TPA*
Maria Vilches, Miami-Dade TPO

*physically present for quorum

Broward MPO Staff

Paul Calvaresi
Paul Flavien
Peter Gies
Carol Henderson
Erica Lychak
Darci Mayer
Andrew Riddle
Rebecca Schultz

Also Present

Caryn Gardner-Young, Florida Department of Transportation
Jessica Josselyn, Kittelson and Associates
Neil Lyn, Florida Department of Transportation
Victoria Williams, Florida's Turnpike Enterprise
Lisa Tayar, 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 1:38 p.m. As this was a hybrid meeting, he thanked the individuals who were physically present in order to meet quorum requirements.

2. Approval of Minutes October 2020 & December 2020

Motion made by Mr. Uhlir, seconded by Mr. Edmonson, to approve the October 2020 minutes. The **motion** passed by unanimous consent.

Motion made by Ms. Bielawska, seconded by Mr. Edmonson, to approve the December 2020 minutes. The **motion** passed by unanimous consent.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Mr. Uhlir, seconded by Mr. Sofoul, to approve the Agenda. The **motion** passed by unanimous consent.

4. Public Comments

None.

5. Comments from the Chair

None.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Adoption of FY 2021-FY 2026 Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) List

A/Chair Cross recalled that this list is adopted once per year and shared with partners at the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for programming purposes.

Paul Calvaresi of Broward MPO Staff reviewed the list, which shows projects for which FDOT has requested TRIP funding. Over the years, Regional Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (RTTAC) members have asked that the list include more information about projects. These requests are reflected in the current list.

Mr. Jeffries requested that fully funded projects be moved to a separate list for clarity.

Mr. Uhlir recommended that different types of requests, such as programmed, new, or future projects, be delineated with underlining or other identification. He also proposed that the costs of each project be broken down, identifying any projects that require matching funds.

Mr. Calvaresi advised that the TRIP list does not reflect any funding for projects after fiscal year (FY) 2026. All new requests are reflected in a single column with the notation "added 2021." There are also two projects for which funding is requested in FY 2024.

Mr. Sofoul addressed the ranking of projects, asking if this was based on their county of location or on the individual merits of each project. Mr. Calvaresi replied that theoretically, FDOT districts prefer that TRIP funding be broken out by district and prioritized; however, in practice, all TRIP funding within FDOT District 6 is dedicated to Miami-Dade, which uses its own priority list. In FDOT District 4, TRIP funding is divided among counties. Prioritization is individual to each county.

A/Chair Cross added that the original intent of TRIP legislation was supposed to direct this funding to regional organizations, which is part of the reason the RTTAC and Southeast Florida Transportation Council (SEFTC) were created to prioritize projects for the region. However, FDOT has not programmed TRIP funding according to this model for a number of years, which resulted in the funding being organized among the three transportation entities.

Ms. Cargill recommended a revision to the language of the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority's (SFRTA's) rolling stock projects, requesting that these items be identified as "additional rolling stock to meet the needs of increased capacity and expansion."

A/Chair Cross clarified that the language accompanying some items on the TRIP list was intended to specifically address the Broward MPO's intent to use other funds to match TRIP funding in lieu of having SFRTA provide matching dollars. As there are three SFRTA projects of this type, one in each county, he proposed that the language Ms. Cargill had provided be used at the beginning of the descriptions of all three items.

Ms. Aubery noted that two projects are funded in FDOT's current Draft Tentative Work Program, and requested that this be reflected on the TRIP list. A/Chair Cross agreed that this language should be consistent and acknowledge the projects' inclusion in the Work Program.

Mr. Sofoul noted two requests from Broward County Transit (BCT) prioritized at #16 and #17, pointing out that these projects were requested in 2020. He requested clarification of their funding status. Ms. Aubery replied that these projects are listed for funding in the current Draft Tentative Work Program in FY 2024. FDOT had coordinated with BCT through the Office of Modal Development to fund them earlier than requested, as funds

were available through that Office. She recommended moving these to the fully funded portion of the TRIP spreadsheet.

Mr. Edmonson requested clarification of whether or not a Tri-Rail station project should be completely removed from the list, as well as which entity is now in charge of the project. Ms. Aubery stated that based on current information, it is believed the station project is moving forward; however, SFRTA is no longer taking the lead on that project, which is being accelerated as part of the Northeast Corridor. She concluded that this project has been placed on hold and rolling stock has been prioritized instead.

Ms. Bush advised that there is history of the TRIP list reflecting the application of a regional project prioritization process which was developed through the RTTAC. She suggested that for next year's list, a brief narrative could be added to explain some of the methodology used in preparing the document, which might provide a clearer understanding of how the list works.

Mr. Calvaresi agreed with Ms. Bush's proposal, recalling that a version of this same discussion typically occurs each year in the RTTAC when the TRIP list is presented. There are often edits made from the dais, tables added or amended, additional data requested, and other changes. He felt if a narrative were attached, it would be easier for all members to know what the list does and does not include. He reiterated that the document was left open to edits by each agency.

A/Chair Cross summarized that SFRTA now prefers to focus any local funds on rolling stock rather than the Northeast Corridor project. He asked if there is a downside to removing this project altogether. Mr. Jeffries noted that the rolling stock is requested in FY 2026 and no local funding would be provided by SFRTA to the station project. Ms. Cargill suggested retaining the Northeast Corridor project at this time, and SFRTA and Miami-Dade County would further discuss the issue of matching funds.

Mr. Uhlir asked if the process could permit applications to be submitted at the end of February and the list prioritized at a later date. He pointed out that the final list of prioritized TRIP projects is not due to FDOT until August. This would allow for new applications to be prioritized in the new fifth year for funding and the list to be reviewed and adopted by the RTTAC before August.

A/Chair Cross recalled that in the last two cycles, the TRIP list has been brought before RTTAC twice: once in draft form and once in final form. The combination of the COVID-19 pandemic and the accelerated time frame requested by FDOT, however, has resulted in the final document coming before the Committee today. He emphasized that the RTTAC would determine a way to move the Item forward with a vote at today's meeting, and to revise the document before it is sent to SEFTC. He felt there should be a team consisting of the three transportation entities as well as FDOT that will sit down together and collaboratively review the TRIP approval process, including its timing.

Mr. Calvaresi and A/Chair Cross reviewed the changes necessary to prepare the TRIP document for presentation to SEFTC on February 19, 2021:

- BCT requests that projects be shown in the years in which they are funded rather than the years in which they were originally requested
- Palm Beach TPA requests that newly added projects be underlined
- Revise language to provide consistency with the additional rolling stock to meet needs for increased capacity and expansion; notes section should reflect that a project is programmed in the Draft Tentative Work Program FY 2022-FY 2026
- Palm Beach TPA confirms that Item 8 may be deleted from the list
- Add note on programming in the Draft Tentative Work Program to fully funded Miami-Dade projects as well
- SFRTA requests minor edits to “improvements” column specifying the construction of a new commuter rail station
- No changes to the grouping of rankings for this year’s list

It was determined that the spreadsheet would be updated and sent to the RTTAC members in advance of the February 19, 2021 SEFTC meeting so they have time to be comfortable with the document when it is presented. Some recommendations may be more easily applied to next year’s list.

Motion made by Mr. Uhlir, seconded by Mr. Jeffries, to approve the TRIP list as amended through discussion over the last 30 minutes and as summarized by Mr. Calvaresi. The **motion** passed by unanimous consent.

A/Chair Cross requested volunteers for an ad hoc working group to assist in making the TRIP list approval process easier for all parties. Ms. Bian, Mr. Calvaresi, Mr. Edmonson, Mr. Jeffries, and Mr. Uhlir offered to participate.

NON-ACTION ITEMS

1. Draft Southeast Florida Transportation Council (SEFTC) Agenda

A/Chair Cross advised that the Committee is seeking consensus on the Agenda. Two of the three SEFTC members must be present in person at the meeting, which will be held at the Broward MPO offices using social distancing and safety measures.

2. 2045 Regional Transportation Plan Outreach Update

Mr. Calvaresi recalled that SEFTC adopted the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) in August 2020. The document included a number of policy recommendations, including:

- Regional transit-supporting infrastructure
- Identification of new revenue sources
- Flexible revenue spending

- Complementary land use

Taken together, these recommendations would create a more enhanced transportation system throughout South Florida.

On a parallel track, FDOT created the Florida Transportation Plan (FTP), which includes its own strategies, goals, and objectives. This document was very comprehensive, considering first/last mile connections up to regional connections. By contrast, the RTP focused more closely on regional transportation. The FTP and RTP were compared to one another with regard to the following topics:

- Safety and security
- Structural mobility
- Increasing service
- Improvement of transportation system connectivity
- Mobility and freight
- Increasing land use

The two documents recognize both the need for additional funding as well as the need for greater flexibility within current funding to deliver transportation systems.

Erica Lychak of Broward MPO Staff provided an outreach update for the RTP, stating that the website MoveFloridaForward.org has been completed. A standardized PowerPoint presentation was developed for use by the three transportation entities and finalized in December 2020. The Southeast Florida Transportation Summit was also held at the end of 2020 and garnered significant support for outreach efforts.

The State Legislature is currently in session and the outreach team hopes to have conversations regarding budget decisions with elected officials. Communication technology meetings have become the norm due to the COVID-19 pandemic and are expected to continue in 2021.

3. SERPM 9.0 Update

Mr. Edmonson advised that the Southeast Florida Regional Planning Model (SERPM) 9.0 remains under the cone of silence at present. Negotiations have been completed and the item will be brought forward at the February 2021 Miami-Dade TPO meeting. Once it has been approved, it will be brought to the RTTAC as well.

4. 2050 Regional Transportation Plan Scoping Update

Mr. Uhlir reported that a working group has been established to address how regional funding for the 2050 RTP is shown. The group will continue to meet throughout 2021 to discuss tasks, including commenting on the most recent revenue forecast and developing a table of regional revenue sources. The working group also requests a volunteer member from one of the three transit agencies.

5. Unified Planning Work Program / Funding Coordination

A/Chair Cross noted that the FY 2020-2021 fiscal year is nearly halfway through, and requested that Mr. Calvaresi regularly bring this Item back before the RTTAC for review. The next key item is data procurement. Paul Flavien of Broward MPO Staff stated that the intent was to await finalization of the SERPM procurement process by the Miami-Dade TPO. The data procurement process is on schedule. Other upcoming items include:

- 2045 RTP Consultant Contract
- 2050 RTP Development
- Regional Unified Financial Forecast
- 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Development

Ms. Bush recalled that the last two scoping cycles for the 2045 and 2050 RTPs included group meetings and discussions of best practices. She proposed that this discussion could be included in pre-work for the scoping process.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (no discussion)

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. Member Comments

There being no further business to come before the Committee at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

NEXT SEFTC MEETING: February 19, 2021

NEXT RTTAC MEETING: April 14, 2021