



---

## PALM BEACH METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

---

2300 N. Jog Rd., 4<sup>th</sup>.Floor, West Palm Beach, Florida 33411-2749

Phone 561.684.4170 Fax 561.242-7165 www.PalmBeachMPO.org

### **Summary Points of the April 17, 2014 MPO Board Meeting**

*PDF versions of all presentations are available for review at  
<http://www.palmbeachmpo.org/committees/agenda.htm>*

#### **1. REGULAR ITEMS**

##### **F. Comments from the Chair**

The Chair welcomed new board members, City of Boca Raton Deputy Mayor Constance Scott and Commissioner Michael Fitzpatrick from the City of Boynton Beach.

The trip to Washington, D.C. was very helpful in obtaining information for the TIGER grant application for the Quiet Zone infrastructure funding.

Mr. Todd Brauer of the Whitehouse Group, who is writing the TIGER grant application, was invited to give a brief update on the status of the grant. He said they now have all the technical data needed to move forward. The application process had been a little behind schedule but is back on schedule to have the draft application ready by Monday, April 21st.

##### **G. Executive Directors Report**

Mr. Uhren reported on the following activities:

- Reiterated fruitfulness of Washington, D.C. trip. There are more than 175 crossings involved with the grant and believes they have a strong application.
- He introduced Mr. Greg Stewart, executive director for the Broward MPO.
- Was encouraged by the qualifications of applicants for the two open positions in the MPO and hoped to have the positions filled very soon.
- Participated in the Bike to Work day on March 28 by riding his bike to downtown West Palm Beach.
- Was in Jacksonville on April 3rd and 4th for the MPOAC meeting. Items discussed included transportation bills, maintaining funding levels, and MAP-21.
- Leadership Palm Beach- He lead Transportation Day on April 9th. Part of the class was held on the upper level of a Tri Rail train. Other speakers included Palm Tran Assistant Director Charles Frazier, PBC Traffic Director Dan Weisberg, Bret Baronak, the MPO's Bicycle/Greenways/Pedestrian Coordinator and Ms. Beth Kigel president and CEO of the Northern Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce.

##### **H. Consent Agenda Items**

The Board unanimously approved the following items:

1. Mr. Bruce Bastian nominated by Vice Mayor Paulette Burdick, as a new member to the Citizens Advisory Committee.
2. Ms. Angela Usher to represent the School District of Palm Beach County on the Technical Advisory Committee and Ms. Joyce Cai as the alternate.
3. Mr. Michael Owen to represent the School District on the Bicycle, Greenways, Pedestrian Advisory Committee and Ms. Joyell Shaw as the alternate.
4. Postponement of Amendment #6 to the FY 14-18 Transportation Improvement Program

The amendment seeks to increase right-of-way funding for the Beeline Hwy project from west of Australian Ave to Old Dixie Hwy. Further information was requested from the Florida Department of Transportation.

**I. General Comments and Public Comments on Action Items**

David London resident of West Palm Beach commented on bringing the XP vehicle to Florida. He also spoke on the effects of secondhand smoking.

Richard Radcliffe, executive director for Palm Beach County League of Cities gave an update on Water Taxis.

- Board of County Commissioners passed a Water Taxi Ordinance requiring operators to go through a registration process with the Coast Guard. The fee would be \$150 countywide.
- Each city would provide a decal with proof of registration from the Coast Guard. There would be a small fee.
- County is indemnified by this process.
- Operators must be certified captains and have proof of insurance.
- League's participation should conclude by May 21, 2014.

**2. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Amendments to the FY 14-18 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

The Board unanimously approved the following amendments to the FY 14-18 TIP.

- a. Amendment #5 (FM 4293391) Turnpike All Electronic Tolling from I-595 to S of Lantana Toll Plaza: Postpone CST from FY 14-15 to FY 18 and increase funding by \$9.1M
- b. Amendment #7 (FM 4193452) Southern Blvd/SR 80 from Lion Country Safari to Crestwood/Forest Hill Blvd: Postpone ROW from FY 14 to FY 14-17 and decrease funding by \$510K
- c. Amendment #8 (FM 4132651) I-95 at Central Blvd/PGA Blvd: Create \$56K for PE phase in FY 14

### 3. INFORMATION ITEMS

#### A. **Broward MPO Approach to Flexible Project Funding as part of Commitment 2040**

Mr. Todd Brauer of Whitehouse Group, the Broward MPO LRTP consultant, presented the Broward MPO's approach to creating eligible classes of non-major capital projects for inclusion in their cost feasible plan.

#### B. **2040 Long Range Transportation Plan**

##### 1) Transit and Freight Desires Plan

Leftwich Consulting Engineers (LCE) presented a map and list of major transit and freight projects identified for potential inclusion in the 2040 long range plan update. Board discussion and ongoing analysis will serve to further refine the Transit Desires Plan.

##### 2) Project Funding Categories

LCE presented an overview of proposed project funding categories and examples of projects in each category for potential inclusion in the 2040 long range plan update.

##### 3) Urban Interchange Analysis

LCE presented the results of the urban interchange analysis and highlighted recommended improvements for potential inclusion in the 2040 long range plan update. Of the 6 locations in the 2035 cost feasible plan, only Northlake Blvd. at Beeline Hwy. is recommended for a partial interchange. Also, Glades Rd. at the Turnpike is recommended for an interchange improvement.

The presentation may be viewed at the following link:

[http://www.palmbeachmpo.org/committees/pdf/2014\\_MPO\\_Board/Presentations/2014\\_APR\\_17\\_LRTP\\_Draft-Directions\\_2040.pdf](http://www.palmbeachmpo.org/committees/pdf/2014_MPO_Board/Presentations/2014_APR_17_LRTP_Draft-Directions_2040.pdf)

#### C. **All Aboard Florida Update - US DOT On-site Engineering Field Report**

The Board was provided with the just published Federal Railroad Administration Part 1 of their diagnostic field review and safety improvement recommendations for the FEC rail corridor from Miami-Dade to St Lucie Counties. The FRA evaluation notes the AAF commitment to provide constant warning time at all crossings and also highlights general safety recommendations for pedestrian gates and vehicle presence detection systems. Finally, the report identifies specific recommendations for safety improvements within the portion of the corridor seeking a proposed maximum train speed of 110 mph (i.e. the "sealed corridor"). The Board chose to unanimously endorse the FRA report and recommendations via a motion from the floor.

#### D. **I-95 at Glades Road and Spanish River Boulevard**

The Board was provided with graphics highlighting the layout for the interchange now under construction at I-95 and Spanish River Blvd. and the planned improvements at the I-95 and Glades Rd. interchange.

**E. Correspondence -**

**Southampton Subdivision of Century Village Petition requesting noise barriers.** The request was forwarded to the FDOT. The FDOT response stated that in order for an area to be considered for a noise study, a capacity project must first be identified within the current FDOT 5-year Work Program since a community may qualify for a noise study from FDOT only if:

1. An existing roadway's lane capacity is expanded; or
2. An existing roadway alignment is significantly altered; or
3. A new roadway is proposed.

FDOT staff have reviewed the current FDOT 5-year Work Program to identify any upcoming projects within this vicinity and have concluded that there are currently no projects in these limits programmed for this type of work, so FDOT is not able to initiate an analysis of potential noise abatement measures at this time for this location.

It was also noted that FDOT staff are in the process of researching any previous noise inquiries or analyses at this location and that they will contact the MPO if this research indicates any opportunities to conduct a noise evaluation at this location.

**Palm Beach Gardens Resolution 19, 2014**

The resolution expresses their strong opposition to the proposed new urban interchange at the intersection of SR 710 and Northlake Blvd.

**4. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

**A. Member Comments**

There were no member comments.

**B. Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, May 15, 2014 at 9:00 A.M. in the 12<sup>th</sup> Floor McEaddy Conference room of the Palm Beach County Governmental Center in West Palm Beach. The public is always welcome to attend and learn how their transportation tax dollars are put to use.