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## PALM BEACH METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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### **Summary Points of the June 19, 2014 MPO Board Meeting**

*PDF versions of all presentations are available for review at  
[palmbeachmpo.org/committees/agenda.htm](http://palmbeachmpo.org/committees/agenda.htm)*

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

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

The Chair made the following comments:

- Recently passed state legislation increases maximum MPO board membership from 19 to 25. The City of Greenacres and the Village of Royal Palm Beach, which currently share a seat, would be eligible for full-time seats and the Village of Palm Springs, the next largest municipality by population, could be added to the board. She requested this item be added to the July agenda.
- On July 24, 2014 she will be appointed chairwoman of the Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC).

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

Mr. Uhren reported on the following activities:

- Introduced Luke Lambert as a new planner with the MPO.
- Met with Beth Kigel, FTC, North Palm Beach Chamber, Juan Flores, FDOT D4 and D6 staff, and Southeast Florida MPOs to develop a common vision for freight movement in our region.
- Attended West Palm Beach walkability presentation on May 27. Is investigating lane removal on US 1 in northern Palm Beach County (6 lanes to 4 lanes) to introduce buffered bike lanes as a continuous corridor between the US 1 bridge and Martin County. Noted West Palm Beach and Lake Worth have approached the MPO to evaluate similar questions for US 1 in their areas.
- Hosted an FHWA workshop on May 28 and 29 regarding planning for operations and writing measureable goals and objectives. Staff will be suggesting revisions to the goals and objectives for our LRTP to comply with MAP-21 guidelines for performance based planning.
- Presented an overview of the LRTP update process in Belle Glade on June 9 and conducted a follow up meeting with the City of Pahokee staff.
- Will be speaking at the ULI Transportation and Development conference in Ft. Lauderdale on July 15.

- The airports would be presenting to the MPO in either July or September. Also, state, county and local representatives will present system maintenance needs and current funding levels to the MPO in September.
- FDOT Secretary Prasad noted that AAF will be required to comply with FRA guidelines for rail crossing safety as specified for higher speed passenger rail services.
- The MPO will work through the League of Cities technical and policy committees to determine how to best submit for FDOT's statewide quiet zone grant funds. Southeast Florida's maximum award will be one-third of \$10M and requires a 50% local match. To facilitate the match, he will investigate the feasibility of using all or part of the \$6.6M in FY 16 MPO funds for a local project to free up local funds for the match.

**H. The Board unanimously approved the following consent agenda items**

1. Ms. Bobbi Valentine to represent the Citizen/Advocate Users on the Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board.
2. Certification of the current board membership of the Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board.
3. Ms. Dawn C. Sonneborn to represent the City of Palm Beach Gardens as an alternate on the Technical Advisory Committee.
4. Resolution MPO 1-14 authorizing filing of an application for funding from the Federal Transit Administration in the amount of

**I. General Public Comments**

David London resident of West Palm Beach commented on XP vehicles, SunRail no smoking policy and fumes inside Tri Rail trains, and funding of super safe vehicles.

Leonardo Banks of Boynton Beach commented on the need for disability access, specifically for the blind, on Palm Tran fix route service. Mr. Banks suggested training drivers in assisting the disabled to encourage their use of the fixed route system.

**2. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. The Board unanimously adopted a resolution MPO 2-14 authorizing acceptance of the Transportation Disadvantaged Planning Funds**

**B. The Board unanimously endorsed the updated SR 7 (Sample Rd to Glades Rd) Project Development and Environmental Study Recommendation**

**C. The Board took the following actions regarding the FY 15-19 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

1. Received and filed proof of publication for the Public Meeting to consider the FY 15-19 TIP
2. Failed to pass a motion to remove the SR 7 projects from Okeechobee to Northlake, Roebuck Road from SR 7 to Jog Road, and the Jog Road extension from Roebuck Road to 45<sup>th</sup> Street from the FY 15-19 TIP. (10-4 with James, Materio, Fitzpatrick and Opperl in minority)

3. Opened public comment:
  - Martha Webster of Royal Palm Beach supported quiet zones/safety improvements, road extensions, and widening.
  - Steve Sherer of West Palm Beach opposed the extension of SR 7, Roebuck Rd and Jog Rd.
  - Dr. Len Fintzy representing City Watch Group opposed the extension of SR 7 and Roebuck Rd.
  - Roger Sims, esq. representing West Palm Beach submitted a letter and comments opposing the SR 7, Jog Rd and Roebuck Rd extensions.
  - Lisa Interlandi representing the Sierra Club and the Florida Wildlife Federation opposed the SR 7 and Jog Rd extensions.
  - Jesse Bailey resident of West Palm Beach advocated for a Complete Streets program, reduction of lane widths on Okeechobee Blvd., making Olive Ave. and Dixie Hwy. two-way streets, and making the Tri Rail Coastal Link the top priority for the TIP.
  - Susan Kennedy representing the Jupiter Farms Environmental Council opposed the widening of Indiantown Rd.
  - Dwight Mattingly representing the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1577 spoke on public notifications of meetings. He didn't believe there was a connection between the MPO and the public.
4. Unanimously approved a motion to remove Roebuck Road from SR 7 to Jog Road from the FY 15-19 TIP. 5. Approved a motion to remove the Indiantown Rd widening from Jupiter Farms Road to west of the Turnpike from the FY 15-19 TIP. (10-3 with Harrison, Ferreri and Wilson in minority)
6. Unanimously approved a motion to send a letter to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) encouraging an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) of the SR 7 extension impacts to the Grassy Waters Preserve.
7. Approved the FY 15-19 TIP as amended by approved motions above (removal of Roebuck Road from SR 7 to Jog Rd and removal of the widening of Indiantown Rd from Jupiter Farms to west of the Turnpike). (10-3 with James, Materio and Fitzpatrick in minority)

### **3. INFORMATION ITEMS**

#### **A. Port of Palm Beach Master Plan Update**

The Port of Palm Beach staff presented an overview of their Master Plan, current projects, future priorities and an overview of the proposed inlet dredging project.

##### Public Comments

Mayor Gail Coniglio of Palm Beach voiced the Town's opposition to the Lake Worth Inlet dredging project and the potential loss of jobs in the recreational sector.

Lisa Interlandi representing the Sierra Club opposed the Lake Worth Inlet dredging project.

Tom Conboy representing the Save Our Inlet Coalition opposed the Lake Worth Inlet dredging project.

**B. Federal Highway Trust Fund**

The Board was notified that House Republican Members are seeking to extend federal transportation funding while a more substantial MAP-21 reauthorization bill is being worked out.

**C. MPOAC 2014 Summary of State Legislation**

The MPOAC 2014 Summary of State Legislation that was passed by the Florida Legislature was provided to the Board. The MPOAC legislative priorities were addressed in HB 7175.

**D. Recent Palm Beach MPO Activities Related to the FEC Railroad Corridor**

Information was provided to the Board which outlines the recent MPO Board activities related to the FEC railroad corridor.

**E. 2014 Application for FY 2016 - 2020 Priorities**

Information was provided to the Board regarding the request and application form transmitted to transportation stakeholders asking them to submit public transportation projects costing less than \$5 million to be considered in the list of projects competing for SU funding. These projects will be screened by MPO staff and Advisory Committees and then presented to the MPO Board in September for final adoption as part of the annual priority projects list.

**4. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

**A. Member Comments**

Mayor Glickstein has been in talks with the School District about missing sidewalks and other issues with some schools in Delray Beach. He also said the City is receiving a lot of objections from constituents to the All Aboard Florida project. Mayor Glickstein wanted to know the percentage of funding allocated to projects east of I-95 in the TIP.

**B. Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, July 17, 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.