



Hernando/Citrus

Metropolitan Planning Organization

Regular Meeting

Minutes - Final

May 2, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

MPO Chair, Jerry Campbell, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 2, 2024, in the Brooksville City Council Chambers, 201 Howell Avenue, Brooksville, Florida. The meeting was publicly noticed on the Hernando County, Citrus County, and Hernando/Citrus MPO websites.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jerry Campbell, MPO Board Chair, Hernando County Commission
Jeff Kinnard, MPO Board Vice Chair, Citrus County Commission
Rebecca Bays, MPO Board Alternate Member, Citrus County Commission
John Allocco, Hernando County Commission
Steve Champion, Hernando County Commission
Brian Hawkins, MPO Board Alternate Member, Hernando County Commission
Blake Bell, Mayor, City of Brooksville
Robert Holmes, MPO Board Alternate Member, Crystal River City Councilman
Cabot McBride, City of Inverness Councilman
Brian Hunter, Non-Voting Advisor, Florida Department of Transportation, District 7

MEMBERS ABSENT (ALTERNATES WERE AVAILABLE TO SERVE)

Ruthie Schlabach, Citrus County Commission
Beth Narverud, Hernando County Commission

OTHERS PRESENT

Bob Esposito, MPO Executive Director
Mary Elwin, MPO Coordinator
Joy Turner, MPO Administrative Assistant III
Siaosi Fine, Florida Turnpike Enterprise
Melissa Tartaglia, Assistant Attorney, Hernando County

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance

MPO Board & Staff Introductions

The Pledge of Allegiance and the introductions of Board and staff followed the Invocation.

Enter Proof of Publication into the Record

A quorum was declared, and Ms. Turner noted for the record that the public notice for the meeting was posted in accordance with the adopted policies.

[It is noted for the record, Robert Holmes, MPO Board Alternate Member, Crystal River City Councilman, arrived at the meeting.]

APPROVAL/MODIFICATION OF AGENDA (Limited to Board and Staff)

Motion

A motion was made by Mayor Bell to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bays and the motion passed 9-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED
MOVER:	Blake Bell
SECONDER:	Rebecca Bays
AYES:	John Allocco, Jeff Kinnard, Cabot McBride, Steve Champion, Blake Bell, Rebecca Bays, Brian Hawkins, Jerry Campbell, and Robert Holmes
ABSENT:	Elizabeth Narverud, Ruthie Schlabach, and Joe Meek

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Review and Approve the April 4, 2024, Meeting Minutes of the Hernando/Citrus Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Board

[13980](#)

Motion

A motion was made by Commissioner Champion to approve the April 4, 2024, meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kinnard and the motion passed 9-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED
MOVER:	Steve Champion
SECONDER:	Jeff Kinnard
AYES:	John Allocco, Jeff Kinnard, Cabot McBride, Steve Champion, Blake Bell, Rebecca Bays, Brian Hawkins, Jerry Campbell, and Robert Holmes
ABSENT:	Elizabeth Narverud, Ruthie Schlabach, and Joe Meek

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Alternate Member from the City of Inverness to the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Board

[13940](#)

Motion

A motion was made by Councilman McBride to approve the appointment of Councilman Gene Davis as an alternate representative on the MPO Board representing the City of Inverness. The motion was seconded by Councilman Holmes and the motion passed 9-0.

RESULT: ADOPTED
MOVER: Cabot McBride
SECONDER: Robert Holmes
AYES: John Allocco, Jeff Kinnard, Cabot McBride, Steve Champion, Blake Bell, Rebecca Bays, Brian Hawkins, Jerry Campbell, and Robert Holmes
ABSENT: Elizabeth Narverud, Ruthie Schlabach, and Joe Meek

Review and Approval of the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Intergovernmental Coordination and Review and Public Transportation Collaborative Planning Agreement (ICAR)

[13984](#)

Motion

A motion was made by Commissioner Champion to approve the FDOT Intergovernmental Coordination and Review and Public Transportation Collaborative Planning Agreement (ICAR) and authorize the MPO Chair to execute the agreement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kinnard and the motion passed 9-0.

RESULT: ADOPTED
MOVER: Steve Champion
SECONDER: Jeff Kinnard
AYES: John Allocco, Jeff Kinnard, Cabot McBride, Steve Champion, Blake Bell, Rebecca Bays, Brian Hawkins, Jerry Campbell, and Robert Holmes
ABSENT: Elizabeth Narverud, Ruthie Schlabach, and Joe Meek

Resolution to Adopt the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for Fiscal Year 2025 - Fiscal Year 2026 and Approve Planning Organization Agreement #G2V07

[13981](#)

Motion

A motion was made by Commissioner Kinnard to adopt the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for FY2025-FY2026, authorize the MPO Chair to execute the required documents, and staff to transmit them to FDOT by May 15, 2024. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bays and the motion passed 9-0.

RESULT: ADOPTED
MOVER: Jeff Kinnard
SECONDER: Rebecca Bays
AYES: John Allocco, Jeff Kinnard, Cabot McBride, Steve Champion, Blake Bell, Rebecca Bays, Brian Hawkins, Jerry Campbell, and Robert Holmes
ABSENT: Elizabeth Narverud, Ruthie Schlabach, and Joe Meek

Reclassification of Administrative Assistant III (MPO) to MPO Executive Assistant beginning October 1, 2024 (County Fiscal Year 2025)

[13991](#)

Commissioner Allocco asked if the reclassification included moving from non-exempt to exempt and Councilman McBride asked if the position would be posted. Mr. Esposito affirmed both inquiries.

Motion

A motion was made by Commissioner Kinnard to approve the reclassification of the Administrative Assistant III to the MPO Executive Assistant beginning October 1, 2024, based up the job description, responsibilities, and experience. The motion was seconded by Councilman McBride and the motion passed 9-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED
MOVER:	Jeff Kinnard
SECONDER:	Cabot McBride
AYES:	John Allocco, Jeff Kinnard, Cabot McBride, Steve Champion, Blake Bell, Rebecca Bays, Brian Hawkins, Jerry Campbell, and Robert Holmes
ABSENT:	Elizabeth Narverud, Ruthie Schlabach, and Joe Meek

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Review of the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Program Accountability Results (PAR) Report

[13983](#)

Mr. Esposito reviewed the highlights on the PAR report and thanked Kimley-Horn, the General Planning Consultant, that produced the 2045 LRTP.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

There were no citizen comments.

MPO DIRECTOR COMMENTS

- The June 6, 2024, meeting will be vital as adoption of the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) for FY2025-FY2029 and List of Priority Projects (LOPP) will need to occur in order to meet the July 15, 2024, submittal deadline.
- The July 11, 2024, meeting is canceled as the Hernando County Commission is scheduling a workshop that day. Necessary agenda items will be presented at the June or August meetings.
- A list of the public engagement meetings associated with the 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) adoption was provided to the Board.
- The MPO conducts quarterly staff meetings with Ocala Marion TPO and Lake-Sumter MPO. The federal and state government agencies encourage the interaction between contiguous MPOs/TPOs or that have similar demographics. The last meeting was March 21st, and the next meeting is scheduled for June 20th.
- Mr. Esposito attended the April 24, 2024, meeting of the Lake-Sumter MPO Board.
- The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has scheduled a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Good Neighbor Trail (GNT) on May 22, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., in Tom Varn

Park in Brooksville.

- Mr. Esposito will attend the Florida Transportation Planning Exchange (TransEx) conference in St. Petersburg on May 7-8, 2024.
- Inverness City Councilman, Gene Davis, will attend the MPOAC Weekend Institute training in St. Petersburg, May 17-18, 2024.
- Mr. Esposito thanked the Hernando County Sheriff's office for attending the meeting.

BOARD COMMENTS

- Commissioner Allocco conveyed the concern raised from a Hernando County resident on the lack of sidewalk access to Moton Elementary School. Commissioner Allocco asked if MPO staff, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), or Hernando County Department of Public Works could provide an update. Mr. Scott Herring, Hernando County Public Works Director/County Engineer, informed the MPO Board that the average timeline to establish a sidewalk can take six to seven years before construction begins. Mr. Herring will contact the Hernando County School Board for further information. Mayor Bell relayed that the Hernando County School Board stated that sidewalks are the city's responsibility inferring that the School Board would look to the County for sidewalk responsibility.
- Councilman Holmes asked for FDOT's assistance in obtaining a copy of the build-out plans for US19 in Crystal River. Brian Hunter, FDOT, acknowledged Councilman's Holmes request and will follow-up.
- Mayor Bell thanked Mr. Esposito for his help in coordinating with Senator Ingoglia's office to set up a ribbon cutting ceremony for Rush Limbaugh Way in Brooksville. Mayor Bell will update the MPO Board on the details for the ribbon cutting ceremony once the details are finalized.
- Mayor Bell also extended his thanks and appreciation to Justin Hall, Director of Transportation Planning from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District 7 Office, for his work and assistance with the Brooksville City Council on the Good Neighbor Trail.
- Chair Campbell thanked the City of Brooksville for hosting the 2024 MPO Board meetings and for the support and presence of Hernando County officials and law enforcement.

ITEMS DISTRIBUTED DURING THE MEETING

[14056](#)

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Campbell adjourned the meeting at 1:53 p.m.

Motion

A motion was made by Commissioner Allocco to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Champion.

UPCOMING MEETING:

The next regular meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Organization is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, June 6, 2024, beginning at 1:30 pm, in the Brooksville City Council Chambers, 201 Howell Avenue, Brooksville, Florida.

**The meeting agenda and back-up material are available online at
www.hernandocounty.us**