



**Hernando/Citrus**  
**Metropolitan Planning Organization**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Minutes - Final**

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**August 1, 2024**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Campbell called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. on August 1, 2024, at 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  
John Allococo, Hernando County Commission  
Ruthie Schlabach, Citrus County Commission  
Rebecca Bays, MPO Board Alternate Member, Citrus County Commission  
Blake Bell, Mayor, City of Brooksville  
Gene Davis, MPO Board Alternate Member, City of Inverness Councilman  
Brian Hunter, Non-Voting Advisor, Florida Department of Transportation, District 7

**MEMBERS ABSENT (ALTERNATES WERE AVAILABLE TO SERVE)**

Steve Champion, Hernando County Commission  
Beth Narverud, Hernando County Commission  
Joe Meek, Mayor, City of Crystal River

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Bob Esposito, MPO Executive Director  
Mary Elwin, MPO Coordinator  
Joy Turner, MPO Administrative Assistant III  
Siaosi Fine, Florida Turnpike Enterprise  
Victoria Anderson, Assistant County 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.

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

**Motion**

A motion was made by Commissioner Schlabach to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Allococo and the motion passed 5-0.

**RESULT: ADOPTED****MOVER:** Ruthie Schlabach**SECONDER:** John Allococo**AYES:** Ruthie Schlabach, John Allococo, Blake Bell, Rebecca Bays, and Jerry Campbell**ABSENT:** Elizabeth Narverud, Steve Champion, and Joe Meek**APPROVAL OF MINUTES****Motion**

A motion was made by Commissioner Bays to approve the June 6, 2024, meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Allococo and the motion passed 5-0.

**RESULT: ADOPTED****MOVER:** Ruthie Schlabach**SECONDER:** John Allococo**AYES:** Ruthie Schlabach, John Allococo, Blake Bell, Rebecca Bays, and Jerry Campbell**ABSENT:** Elizabeth Narverud, Steve Champion, and Joe Meek**ACTION ITEMS**

*[It is noted for the record, Gene Davis, MPO Board Alternate Member, City of Inverness Councilman, arrived at the meeting.]*

Review and Approval of the June 6, 2024, Meeting Minutes of the Hernando/Citrus Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Board

[14179](#)**Motion**

14179 Review and Approval of the June 6, 2024, Meeting Minutes of the Hernando/Citrus<br/>Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Board

**RESULT: ADOPTED****MOVER:** Ruthie Schlabach**SECONDER:** Blake Bell**AYES:** Ruthie Schlabach, John Allococo, Blake Bell, Rebecca Bays, Jerry Campbell, and Gene Davis**ABSENT:** Elizabeth Narverud, Steve Champion, and Joe Meek

Review and Approval of the Proposed 2025 Meeting Schedule for the Hernando/Citrus Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Board and Committees

[14327](#)

*[Subsequent to the meeting, the Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Boards for Hernando and Citrus County, voted on August 8, 2024, to move the August 14, 2025, meeting to September 11, 2024.]*

### **Motion**

A motion was made by Commissioner Allocco to approve the meeting schedule for 2025. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schlabach and the motion passed 6-0.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>ADOPTED</b>   |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | John Allocco   |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Ruthie Schlabach   |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Ruthie Schlabach, John Allocco, Blake Bell, Rebecca Bays, Jerry Campbell, and Gene Davis |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Elizabeth Narverud, Steve Champion, and Joe Meek   |

## **PRESENTATION**

Presentation by the General Planning Consultant, Kimley-Horn & Associates, of the Needs Assessment for the 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and Review of the 2050 LRTP Draft Cost Feasible Plan

[14365](#)

William Roll with Kimley-Horn, General Planning Consultant for the MPO, reviewed the Needs Assessment for the 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the draft Cost Feasible Plan. The MPO has identified the transportation capacity needs for the two counties and is identifying priority projects which will be considered for funding. Priority projects in the plan may include such improvements on portions of the following facilities:

- Suncoast Parkway Phase 3 to US 19 (Citrus)
- US 41 north of Inverness (Citrus)
- US 41 Spring Hill Drive to Powell Road (Hernando)
- County Line Road (Hernando)
- Lecanto Highway to SR 200 (Citrus)

## **CITIZENS COMMENTS**

There were no citizen comments.

## **MPO DIRECTOR COMMENTS**

Mr. Esposito provided the following updates:

- There will be two public workshops for the 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) on August 5, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. in Brooksville and at 5:00 p.m. in Inverness. The workshops can be attended in person or virtually. An email invitation was sent earlier this week - please share with others who would benefit from this information.  
*[Subsequent to the meeting, the workshops were postponed due to tropical storm Debby and rescheduled for August 22, 2024.]*
- A 2055 Florida Transportation Plan development is also in progress. A flyer was distributed for the public and partners to engage in the process, and the website is

<https://www.floridaftp.com>.

- A Gulf Coast Safe Streets Summit Dignitary Panel Representative is needed for an October 9, 2024, meeting from 1:00-5:00 pm at the Port Tampa Bay Cruise Terminal-2, 651 Channelside Drive, Tampa, Florida. The Summit is an educational event that brings together community partners to elevate our efforts on how to design and implement safe and equitable transportation facilities for all modes of transportation. Each MPO/TPO is being asked to provide high level decision makers (appointed, elected, board member, county administrator, division director or community leader) to be part of a moderated dignitary panel. The moderator will ask questions to prompt a dialogue following Gil Penalosa's presentation. It's envisioned that panelists will respond and discuss doable change they now see possible.

## BOARD COMMENTS

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 at the meeting today.

## ITEMS DISTRIBUTED OR PRESENTED DURING THE MEETING

[14619](#)

The attached was presented during the MPO Board meeting for informational purposes only:

1. 2050 Hernando/Citrus MPO Transportation Plan PowerPoint Presentation by the MPO's General Planning Consultant, Kimley-Horn & Assoc.

## UPCOMING MEETING:

The next regular meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Organization Board is scheduled for Thursday, September 5, 2024, beginning at 1:30 pm, in the Brooksville City Council Chambers, 201 Howell Avenue, Brooksville, Florida.

## ADJOURNMENT

Chair Campbell adjourned the meeting at 2:10 p.m.

### Motion

A motion was made by Mayor Bell to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schlabach and carried unanimously.

**RESULT: ADOPTED**

**MOVER:** Blake Bell

**SECONDER:** Ruthie Schlabach

**AYES:** Ruthie Schlabach, John Allococo, Blake Bell, Rebecca Bays, Jerry Campbell, and Gene Davis

**ABSENT:** Elizabeth Narverud, Steve Champion, and Joe Meek