



**CHARLOTTE COUNTY - PUNTA GORDA  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

**MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 16, 2017  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MEETING**

**MEMBERS ATTENDING**

Mitchell Austin, City of Punta Gorda  
Ron Ridenour, Charlotte County Airport Authority  
Kay Tracy, Charlotte County Economic Development  
Linda Sposito, City of Punta Gorda Public Works  
Matt Trepal, Charlotte County Community Development  
Chris Whittaker, City of North Port Planning and Zoning  
Rich Kolar, Charlotte County, Transit Division  
Venkat Vattikuti, Charlotte County Public Works  
Jerry Mallet, Charlotte County Emergency Management Development

**ADVISORY MEMBERS**

D’Juan Harris, FDOT Liaison

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Sgt. Tom Scott, Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office  
Richard Duckworth, Charlotte County Public Schools  
Earl Hahn, DeSoto County  
Don Scott, Lee County MPO  
Nichole Gwinnett, Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC)

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Joshua Pelfrey, City of North Port Planning and Zoning  
Gary Harrell, MPO Interim Director  
Lakshmi N. Gurram, Planner III

**1. Call to Order & Roll Call**

Mitchell Austin, TAC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. The roll call was taken using a sign-in sheet.

## **2. Public Comments on Agenda Items**

No public comments

## **3. Chair's Report**

Mitchell Austin had nothing to report.

## **4. Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Report**

### **4A. FDOT District One Draft Tentative Work Program Five Year Work Program FY2019/2020-2022/2023**

#### **4A- Addendum FDOT District One Draft Tentative Work Program Five Year Work Program FY2019/2020-2022/2023**

FDOT Liaison D'Juan Harris noted that the e-public hearing comment period for FDOT's District One Draft Tentative Work Program - FY 2019/2020-FY 2022/2023 was now open and would end on Friday, October 20, 2017 at 5 pm. He invited TAC members and all members of the public to visit [www.swflroads.com](http://www.swflroads.com) to make comments during this time.

Mr. Harris also noted that FDOT's Complete Streets workshop hosted by Deborah Chesna, FDOT Complete Streets/Growth Management Coordinator, had been postponed due to Hurricane Irma and would be held on November 6, 2017 in Bartow from 1-5 pm at the FDOT District One Headquarters Bldg.

Mr. Harris stated the three largest projects added to the Draft Tentative Work Program in Charlotte County are resurfacing projects also called Resurfacing, Restoration, and Rehabilitation (3R) projects. The projects are SR 776 from Pinedale Drive to Myakka River; US 41 from Taylor St to Peace River Bridge; and SR 35 (US 17) from Washington Loop Road to DeSoto County Line. He mentioned that FDOT is under new direction for re-surfacing projects taking into consideration addition of bike lanes/sidewalks where there are existing gaps and installing pedestrian friendly features during the resurfacing process.

Mr. Harris stated that SR 31 at Bermont Rd improvements are safety related projects and includes rigid pavement reconstruction with ultimate design concept of installing a roundabout with concrete pavement. Venkat Vattikuti asked about the status of the new flashing lights at the intersection. D'Juan stated he would update the Committee at the next meeting regarding the interim projects being done at the intersection.

Venkat Vattikuti stated that the installation of rumble strips on Bermont Rd. to be installed by the County were delayed due to Hurricane Irma and non-availability of County Staff.

D'Juan Harris clarified that the resurfacing project on US 41 from Taylor St to the Peace River Bridge is included on both the North bound and South bound sections of US 41.

*Venkat Vattikuti made a motion to recommend the MPO Board review and comment on the FDOT District One Draft Tentative Work Program Five Year Work Program FY 2019/2020-2022/2023. Chris Whittaker seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.*

**5. Consent Agenda:**

**A. Approval of Minutes: July 12, 2017 Meeting**

**B. MPO and Advisory Committees Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2018**

*Chris Whittaker made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Rich Kolar seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.*

**6. FY 2017/2018-FY 2021/2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment**

Gary Harrell informed the Committee that the MPO staff received a request from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to amend the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO's FY 2017/2018 – FY 2021/2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The first amendment is to change the limits of a current project:

FPN 4383781: SR 776 from Willow Bend Drive to Collingswood Blvd. limits changed to SR 776 from Flamingo Blvd. to Sam's Club Entrance.

Additionally, two transit grants were awarded to Charlotte County that are required to be in the TIP with the specific award amounts:

FPN 4419791: Charlotte County Transit FTA 5307 Small Urban Non-Budgeted, Capital Grant, FTA Funding \$720,546; Local Funding \$720,546 for FY 2018

FPN 4419801: Charlotte County Transit FTA 5339, Small Urban Smart Starts, Capital Grant, FTA Funding \$757,083; Local Funding \$189,271 for FY 2018

Two motions were made:

1. **Matt Trepal** made a motion to recommend the MPO Board approve an Amendment to the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO's TIP for FY 2017/2018 – FY 2021/2022 changing the limits of FPN 4383781: SR 776 from Willow Bend Drive to Collingswood Blvd. to SR 776 from Flamingo Blvd. to Sam's Club Entrance. **Venkat Vattikuti** seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

2. **Rich Kolar** made a motion to recommend the MPO Board approve an Amendment to the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO's TIP for FY 2017/2018 – FY 2021/2022 to include FPN 4419791 Charlotte County Transit FTA 5307 Small Urban Non-Budgeted, Capital Grant, FTA Funding \$720,546; Local Funding \$720,546 for FY 2018 and FPN 4419801 FPN 4419801: Charlotte County Transit FTA 5339, Small Urban SS, Capital Grant, FTA Funding \$757,083; Local Funding \$189,271 for FY 2018. **Venkat Vattikuti** Seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously:

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**Staff Comments**

Gary Harrell thanked TAC members for attending Bob Herrington's farewell party. He noted that FDOT is no longer asking the MPOs to endorse the Draft Tentative Work Program but

are encouraging the comments. Mr. Harrell also stated that the MPO Staff participated in a field trip with the Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan Consultant for the Charlotte County Regional Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan initiative.

Gary Harrell also informed the Committee that FDOT has asked for project submissions for the Shared-Use, Nonmotorized (SUN) Trails network. He mentioned the recent projects that were funded under the program.

### **Member Comments**

Kay Tracy informed the Committee members that the Harbor Walk project is moving forward regardless of the significant damage from Hurricane Irma. She also mentioned that installation of a temporary driveway is underway connecting Live Oak Park from Melbourne St.

Chris Whittaker informed the members that the River Rd. project is the top priority project for the City of North Port since Sarasota County's approval for the construction of a new baseball stadium and other developments in West Villages.

### **Adjournment (NEXT TAC MEETING – November 15, 2017)**

The meeting was adjourned at 10.15 a.m. The next scheduled Regular TAC Meeting was announced to be November 15, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. at the East Port Environmental Campus, 25550 Harbor View Road in Port Charlotte.

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