

MEETING AGENDA

Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)

Thursday, October 24, 2019 | 2:30 PM

CareerSource Heartland, 5901 US Highway 27 South, Suite 1, Sebring, FL

1. Call to Order
 - Pledge of Allegiance
 - Roll Call
 - Announcements
2. Opportunity for Public Comment
3. Approval of Minutes from August 29, 2019 meeting* - *Page 3*
4. 2020 Meeting Schedule* - *Page 9*
5. Annual Election of Officers* - *Page 11*
6. Amendment to the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) 2018/19 – 2019/20* - *Page 13*
7. FDOT presentation on SR 70
8. Transit Planning - *Page 15*
 - a. Exhibit: Highlands Transit Plan Overview
 - b. Exhibit: Heartland Mobility Forum
9. FDOT Draft Tentative Work Program
10. Upcoming Transportation Grant Opportunities - *Page 35*
 - a. Grant Opportunities
 - b. HRTPO Priority Process for FY 2025/26
11. Heartland 2060 Trends Overview Presentation
 - a. Exhibit: 2060 Trends Factsheets - *Page 37*
 - b. Heartland 2060 Summit
12. Other Business
13. Update on Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Activities
14. CAC Member Updates
15. Next Meeting: January 23, 2020

*Action Items

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should advise the agency at least 3 days before the meeting by contacting Marybeth Soderstrom, HRTPO Title VI Liaison, 863-534-7130, extension 134 (voice), or via Florida Relay Service 711, or by email: msoderstrom@cfrpc.org

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**Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)
Thursday, August 29, 2019 | 2:30 p.m.
CareerSource Heartland, 5901 US Hwy 27 South, Suite 1
Sebring, FL
Meeting Summary**

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Bruce Behrens called the HRTPO CAC meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll was called and the following members were present:

- George Karos, Avon Park
- Bruce Behrens, Sebring
- Keitha Daniels, Hendry County
- Kristie Vazquez, Highlands County
- Elizabeth Silva, Alternate, Highlands County
- Michelle Gresham, Alternate, Highlands County
- Donna Doubleday, Hardee County
- Katrina Blandin, Hardee County
- Lori Carlton, FDOT, Exofficio

A quorum of members was present.

Announcements:

Pat Steed, HRTPO staff, explained the several HRTPO staff members were in Arcadia with FDOT to conduct a triennial review of HRTPO's rural transportation program, which is a three-day, intensive evaluation of the system.

2. Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comments were made.

3. Approval of Minutes from May 23, 2019 CAC Meeting

Vice Chair Behrens asked if there were any changes to the May 23, 2019 CAC Meeting Minutes.

MOTION

There being no corrections, Donna Doubleday moved to approve the May 23, 2019 Minutes as submitted. Keitha Daniels seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Election of Officers

Pat Steed, HRTPO staff, explained that Pam Crain has resigned as the CAC Chair since she no longer works in DeSoto County. The CAC must elect a Chair according to the adopted CAC bylaws. If the CAC elects the current Vice Chair to the role of Chair, the CAC must then also elect a new Vice Chair.

MOTION

Keitha Daniels moved to elect the current Vice Chair, Bruce Behrens, as Chair of the CAC. George Karos seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Keitha Daniels moved to elect Michelle Gresham as Vice Chair of the CAC. George Karos seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Note: It was determined after the above action was taken that role of Vice Chair may not be held by an alternate member. An election for Vice Chair will be held at the next meeting.

5. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment

Pat Steed, HRTPO staff, presented a letter of request from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to amend the HRTPO's currently adopted FY 2019/20 through 2023/24 TIP. The amendment included two parts consisting of the roll-forward report which identifies carry-over funding for projects in the TIP that were not committed in the previous state fiscal year, and a street name change from Manatee Drive to Beacon Avenue in Highlands County.

MOTION

Donna Doubleday moved to approve the amendment to the FY 2019/20 through 2023/24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) as presented. Elizabeth Silva seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Transit Update

A. Transit Development Plan (TDP) Minor Annual Update

Pat Steed, HRTPO staff, provided an overview of the Highlands Transit Development Plan Minor Annual Update, which is required by FDOT on an annual basis. A TDP Major Update is required every five years. This Minor Annual Update was presented to and approved by the HRTPO Board at their August 6, 2019 meeting. She added that staff was presenting the Minor Update to the TAC for their information. The TDP Minor Annual Update included continued evaluation of transit alternative options for Highlands County, and coordination with existing agencies that are currently providing transportation in an effort to maximize services, including the Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC).

B. Rural and Urban Grant Funding Allocations

Ms. Steed stated that the HRTPO is eligible to receive Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5305(d) transit planning funds to perform certain transit planning activities. Ms. Steed reviewed the transportation services that currently exist in the HRTPO region and their funding amounts and sources. She added that one of the main efforts identified in the Heartland Rural Mobility Plan is to develop a program to make the general public aware of the transportation services that are available to them. This effort will be branded, and a stand-alone component that will have its own website, informational cards located in targeted areas, and a general public outreach program focused on helping people find the resources available. This developing effort is currently named “Heartland Rides” and is expected to be ready in October 2019, in coordination with the first TD Summit and FDOT’s Mobility Week event.

Discussion followed.

7. 2019 Transportation Trends report

A. Safety Measures Snapshot

Pat Steed, HRTPO staff, stated that the HRTPO developed a Congestion Management Process (CMP) as one of its first required documents. Congestion management is a system for managing congestion on roadways through the use of demand reduction and operational management strategies. The CMP is required to be updated every five years. As part of that process, the CMP looks at trends throughout the region. Ms. Steed presented the recently completed CMP Transportation Trends Report, including information regarding the Congestion Management Plan Network, System Performance Trends, Congested Corridors, Goods Movement, and Commuter Services. She stated that safety has been and continues to be the number one priority of the transportation system at every level of government, including the HRTPO’s CMP. She presented a Safety Snapshot of data for each county from 2014 through 2018, which showed the number of fatalities by year, and included a map showing the locations of the fatalities. She also presented the Regional Safety Performance Measures and discussed the challenges of safety recording, saying the data is only as good as what is reported.

Discussion followed.

8. 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update

Pat Steed, HRTPO staff, explained that the HRTPO must develop an LRTP that addresses no less than a 20-year planning horizon. The intent and purpose of the LRTP is to encourage and promote the safe and efficient management, operation, and development of a cost-feasible intermodal transportation system that will serve the mobility needs of people and freight. The system should also foster economic growth and development, while minimizing transportation-related fuel consumption, air pollution, and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The LRTP must include long and short-range strategies consistent with Federal, State, and local goals and objectives. The HRTPO’s 2045 LRTP is due by March 16, 2021. Ms. Steed presented four elements of the LRTP, which were: Trends Analysis; Modal Choice; Funding; and Autonomous Connected Electric Shared (ACES) vehicles. She added that Safety is the overall focus and in the forefront of the LRTP. She presented a graphic showing the 2045 Cost Feasible LRTP Model

Development Process and Schedule for development and approval of the LRTP. She also presented the LRTP development timeline.

9. Public Participation

A. 2018-19 Public Involvement Report

Marybeth Soderstrom, HRTPO staff, presented an overview of the 2018-19 Public Involvement Report including a review of the public participation goals. She provided traffic statistics for the www.heartlandregionaltpo.org website to date, as compared to last year. The spikes in website views were in direct correlation with work on the Highlands County Transit Plan and the Transportation Improvement Program public comment period. Ms. Soderstrom reviewed the top five visited web pages and top five viewed documents on the website. She also presented the number of likes, engaged users, and reaches for the HRTPO Facebook page. The Goals for public participation are to Inform, Involve, Include, and Improve. Ms. Soderstrom distributed the HRTPO Communications Survey for anyone who had not previously completed it.

10. Other Business

Pat Steed, HRTPO staff, stated that work was currently underway to update the data for the Heartland 2060 visioning effort and announced that a Heartland 2060 Summit is scheduled for Friday, September 20, 2019 at Polk State College Center for Public Safety in Winter Haven at 8:30 a.m. This summit will focus on exploring trends in transportation, the economy and the environment in the HRTPO Region. Key Note speakers will be Kevin Thibault, Florida Department of Transportation Secretary; Tony Carvajal, Florida Chamber Foundation Executive Vice President; and Dr. Thomas Hocter, University of Florida. A second summit is scheduled for November 13, 2019 at Lake Placid Town Hall, where the focus will be on education, talent pipeline, and agriculture.

Ms. Steed stated that the Southwest-Central Florida Connector is one of the newly proposed corridors. This corridor is proposed to go through the Heartland directly impacting all HRTPO Counties except Okeechobee. She stated that the Task Force for this corridor has been appointed with 45 members from State Agencies and Commissions, environmental groups, and officials from local governments across the Heartland. She presented a list of representatives serving on the Southwest-Central Florida Connector Task Force (M-CORES). Those members included Secretary, L.K. Nandam who will represent FDOT District One and serve as Chair of the Task Force. The HRTPO Board appointed Hardee County Commissioner Colon Lambert; Commissioner Elton Langford was appointed from DeSoto County; Commissioner Weston Pryor was appointed from Glades County; Commissioner Mike Thompson was appointed from Hardee County; Commissioner Mitchel Wills was appointed from Hendry County; Commissioner Ron Handley was appointed from Highlands County; Commissioner Rick Wilson was appointed from Polk County; the Polk TPO appointed Winter Haven City Commissioner Nathaniel Birdsong; the Central Florida Regional Planning Council appointed Pat Steed; and the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council appointed Collier County Commissioner Bill McDaniel. Also, Charlotte, Lee, and Collier Counties all have representation on the Task Force. The Plenary Session and Initial Individual Task Force Meetings are scheduled for August 27, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. at the Tampa Convention Center. She explained how the Public Comment portion of the

meetings would be conducted. Six more Task Force meetings are expected to be held over the next year. The Task Force website is www.floridamcores.com.

Ms. Steed stated that all the Task Force members will be subject to Government in the Sunshine requirements and she explained its complexities, since she is on the Task Force and also staff to the CFRPC and to HRTPO. She urged members not to engage in discussion, or even remotely look as if they are engaged in discussion related to the corridor issues outside a publicly noticed meeting.

11. Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Activities Update

Lori Carlton, FDOT Community Liaison, stated that the E-Public Hearing for the Draft Tentative Work Program will be scheduled in October 2019. Ms. Carlton stated that the Draft Tentative Five Year Work Program presentation is expected to be ready for the October CAC meeting. Also, the Project Development and Environmental Study for CR 769, also known as Kings Highway, is also expected to be ready to present at the next CAC meeting.

12. CAC Member Updates

No updates were made.

13. Next Meeting

The next CAC Meeting is scheduled for October 24, 2019 at 2:30 p.m. at CareerSource Heartland in Sebring.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Behrens, CAC Chairman

The remainder of this agenda package has been archived.
Please contact 863-534-7130 for access to any archived materials.