

MEETING AGENDA

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Wednesday, October 16, 2019 | 10:00 AM

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

1. Call to Order
 - Roll Call
 - Announcements
2. Opportunity for Public Comment
3. Approval of Minutes from August 21, 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. FDOT Draft Tentative Work Program
9. Upcoming Transportation Grant Opportunities - *Page 15*
 - a. Grant Opportunities
 - b. HRTPO Priority Process for FY 2025/26
 - c. FDOT Grant Application Process (GAP) System
10. Heartland 2060 Trends Overview Presentation
 - a. Exhibit: 2060 Trends Factsheets - *Page 17*
11. Other Business
 - a. Exhibit: Heartland Mobility Forum - *Page 25*
 - b. Heartland 2060 Summit
12. Update on Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Activities
13. Next Meeting: January 15, 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

This Page Intentionally Left Blank



**Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
Meeting Summary**

Wednesday, August 21, 2019, 10:00 a.m.

CareerSource Heartland

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

1. Call to Order

Chair David Allen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roll was called and the following TAC members were present:

Curtis Knowles, Alternate, Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Terry Stewart, City of Arcadia
Sean Scheffler, Alternate, City of Clewiston
David Allen, City of Okeechobee
Ken Fields, City of Sebring
Kyle Long, City of Wauchula
June Fisher, DeSoto County
Todd Miller, Hardee County
Margaret Emblidge, Hendry County
Shane Parker, Hendry County
Melony Culpepper, Highlands County
Clinton Howerton, Highlands County
Kenya Anderson, Alternate, Highlands County
John Howle, Okeechobee County
Nicole Have, School Board, Okeechobee County
Willie Hills, Alternate, School Board, Highlands County
Lori Carlton, FDOT Community Liaison Member

A quorum of members was present.

Announcements:

Pat Steed announced that Mike Clover, TAC member representing DeSoto County, had recently passed away.

2. Opportunity for Public Comment

Chair David Allen announced that the video that was presented at the last TAC meeting of traffic crashes and near-crashes at the intersection of N. 9th St. and US 441 in Okeechobee, was presented by the City of Okeechobee to FDOT. He stated that the City had received a letter from FDOT stating that they will be installing a traffic signal at that intersection with the next year.

Discussion followed.

3. Approval of May 15, 2019 TAC Minutes

Chair Allen asked if there were any changes to the May 15, 2019 TAC Minutes.

MOTION

There being none, Shane Parker moved to approve the May 15, 2019 TAC Minutes as submitted. Clinton Howerton seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment

Marybeth Soderstrom, 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

Terry Steward moved to approve the amendment to FY 2019/20 through 2023/24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) as presented. John Howle seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Transit Update

A. Transit Development Plan (TDP) Minor Annual Update

Marybeth Soderstrom, 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). The HRTPO is eligible to receive Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5305(d) transit planning funds to perform certain transit planning activities. Ms. Soderstrom 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.

6. 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 required documents in 2017. 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. Ms. Steed presented a Safety Snapshot of data for each county from 2014 through 2018 showing fatalities by year, including a map showing the locations of 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.

Marybeth Soderstrom, HRTPO staff, stated that each county has an active Community Traffic Safety Team (CTST), that are made up of law enforcement, first responders, planners, educators and others with an interest in traffic safety in their communities. The CTST identifies short-term or small localized issues that might be easily remedied with something like a sign or a barricade, without having to go through a long process. The FDOT Safety Office staff attends the CTST meetings and are made aware of any issues communities are having. Ms. Soderstrom asked members to let her know if they are interested in participating.

7. 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.

Melony Culpepper asked why the forecast was to the year 2045 when the horizon year is 2040.

Ms. Steed explained that in order to forecast a 20-year horizon for the future, it is set up to maintain a five-year window.

Discussion followed.

8. 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.

9. 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 Hctor, University of Florida. A second summit is scheduled for November 13, 2019 at Lake Placid Town Hall. More information about the second summit will be forthcoming. An email was sent earlier in the week to HRTPO Board and sub-committee members with information about the first summit.

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.

10. Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Activities Update

Lori Carlton, FDOT Community Liaison, recognized Nick Patel and Randal James from FDOT Operations Center, who were in attendance. She announced Debra Chesna is now the new Bike-Ped Coordinator. Ms. Carlton stated FDOT has contacted some local governments to request additional clarification on some of the information that was submitted on their project applications. She stated that the applications are now complete and FDOT can better determine the scope of the project. The Draft Tentative Work Program presentation should be provided at the October 16, 2019 TAC meeting. The E-Public Hearing is scheduled for the week of October 7, 2019.

Margaret Emblidge, Hendry County, reported that Hendry County has been working with Debra Chesna on a State Road 80 Development Plan, from Lee County Line to West Cowboy Way, in the City of LaBelle. This is because the current development pattern in that area will negatively impact the capacity of SR 80 if plans are not made to accommodate the rapid growth. The final study along with a Resolution will be presented to the HRTPO Board to include in Hendry County's priorities.

11. Next Meeting

The next TAC Meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at CareerSource Heartland in Sebring.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Allen, TAC Chair
City of Okeechobee