

# 2022 Certification Report

PALM BAY – MELBOURNE TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA

**SPACE COAST TPO** 

Prepared by:

Federal Highway Administration

Florida Division

Federal Transit Administration Region 4

OCTOBER 2022

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# **Executive Summary**

Federal Law requires the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to jointly certify the transportation planning processes of Transportation Management Areas (TMAs) at least every four years (a TMA is an urbanized area, as defined by the US Census, with a population over 200,000). A certification review generally consists of four primary activities: a site visit, a review of planning documents (in advance of the site visit), the development and issuance of a FHWA/FTA certification report and a certification review closeout presentation to the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) governing board.

As a part of the TMA certification review process, FHWA and FTA utilized a risk-based approach containing various factors to determine which topic areas required additional evaluation during the certification review. The certification review process is only one of several methods used to assess the quality of a regional metropolitan transportation planning process, compliance with applicable statutes and regulations, and the level and type of technical assistance needed to enhance the effectiveness of the planning process. This certification review was conducted to highlight best practices, identify opportunities for improvements, and ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

The Federal Review Team conducted a site visit review of the Palm Bay-Melbourne Transportation Management Area (TMA) on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022. Transportation planning for the Palm Bay-Melbourne TMA is conducted by the Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization (TPO). The last certification review was completed in 2018. The Federal Review Team recognizes three noteworthy practices, identifies one corrective action, and offers two recommendations the MPO should consider for improving their planning processes. More information related to these findings can be found in the Findings/Conclusions section of this report.

Based on the overall findings of the certification review, the FHWA and FTA jointly certify that the transportation planning process of the **Palm Bay-Melbourne TMA**, which is comprised entirely by the Space Coast TPO, substantially meets the federal planning requirements in 23 CFR 450 Subpart C subject to the MPO satisfactorily addressing the corrective action stated in this report. The MPO is encouraged to provide the FHWA and FTA with evidence of satisfactory completion of the corrective action in accordance with the noted deadlines. This certification will remain in effect until **October 2026**.

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# **Space Coast Metropolitan Planning Organization**

#### Section I. Overview of the Certification Process

Under provisions of 23 CFR 450.336(b) and 49 CFR 613.100, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) must jointly certify the planning process of Transportation Management Areas (TMAs) "not less often than once every four years." This four-year cycle runs from the date of issuance of the previous joint certification report.

The primary purpose of a certification review is to formalize the continuing oversight and evaluation of the planning process. The FHWA and the FTA work cooperatively with the TMA planning staff on a regular basis. By reviewing and approving planning products, providing technical assistance, and promoting best practices, the formal assessment involved in a certification review provides an external view of the TMA's transportation planning process.

A certification review generally consists of four primary activities. These activities include: 1) a "desk audit" which is a review of the TMA's planning documents (e.g. Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP); 2) a "site visit" with staff from the TMA's various transportation planning partners (e.g. the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), local/regional transit service provider, and other participating State/local agencies), including opportunities for local elected officials and the general public to provide comments on the TMA planning process; 3) a Certification Report, which the Federal Review Team prepares, to document the results of the review process; and, 4) a formal presentation of the review findings at a future Space Coast TPO Board Policy meeting.

Certification of the planning process is a prerequisite to the approval of Federal funding for transportation projects in metropolitan areas. The certification review also helps ensure that the major issues facing a metropolitan area are being addressed. The review process is individually tailored to focus on topics of significance in each metropolitan planning area. Since 2018, to initiate the TMA certification review process, the Federal Review Team has utilized a risk-based approach containing various factors to determine which topic areas required additional evaluation during the certification review.

Appendix A summarizes the risk evaluation, and the report notes in the relevant sections which topic areas were not selected for review due to existing stewardship and oversight practices after considering the risk factors.

The review for the Space Coast TPO was held May 3, 2022. During this site visit, the Federal Review Team met with the staff of the Space Coast TPO, FDOT, Space Coast Area Transit, committee representatives, other partnering agencies, and the public. See **Appendix B** for a list of review team members and site visit participants, and **Appendix C** for the TMA Certification Meeting Agenda.

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The purpose of the public engagement process is to inform the public of the Federal transportation planning requirements and allow the public an opportunity to provide input on the transportation planning process to the Federal Review Team. A public meeting for this certification review was held on May 3, 2022. Public feedback and engagement on the MPO's planning process was also obtained through in person discussion, live YouTube broadcast instant messages, and the MPO website (<a href="https://www.spacecoasttpo.com/about-us/certifications-audits">https://www.spacecoasttpo.com/about-us/certifications-audits</a>) following the initial announcement on April 13, 2022. For those that could not attend the public meeting or who did not want to speak during the public meeting, contact information for the Federal Review Team was provided. Members of the public were given 30 days from the date of the public meeting to mail, fax or email their comments and/or request a copy of the certification review report. No additional comments were received by FHWA and FTA during the 30-day comment period.

A copy of the public engagement notices can be found in **Appendix D**. Screenshots of public input, minutes from the public meeting, including a listing of commenters and a summary of the public comments is provided in **Appendix E**. A link to the video of the May 3<sup>rd</sup> Federal review public meeting and the public comment period are also provided in **Appendix E**.

A summary of the 2018 corrective actions and recommendations and their status can be found in **Appendix F**.

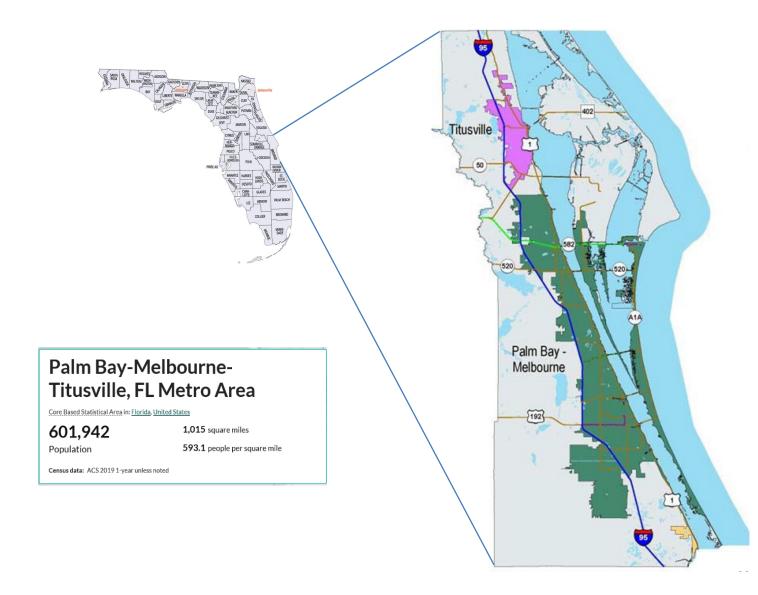
An explanation of planning acronyms can be found in **Appendix G**.

# Section II. Boundaries and Organization (23CFR 450.310, 312, 314)

# A. Description of Planning Area

Observations: The Space Coast TPO is located in Central Florida. The planning area boundary includes all of Brevard County. Brevard County is bordered on the north by Volusia County, on the south by Indian River County, and on the west by Seminole, Orange, and Osceola counties. The planning area is bounded on the east side by the Atlantic Ocean. There are 16 cities and towns included in the MPO's planning area: Cape Canaveral, Cocoa, Cocoa Beach, Grant-Valkaria, Indialantic, Indian Harbor Beach, Malabar, Melbourne, Melbourne Beach, Melbourne Village, Palm Bay, Palm Shores, Rockledge, Satellite Beach, Titusville, and West Melbourne, all are of which are part of two census defined urbanized areas, Titusville and the Palm Bay-Melbourne. The Space Coast TPO planning boundary is visually depicted by the following map:

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# **B. Metropolitan Planning Organization Structure**

Observations: This topic area was not selected for additional review based on the results of the risk assessment process.

<u>Finding:</u> The MPO's boundaries and organization substantially satisfies the federal requirements as outlined in 23 CFR 450.310 and 312.

# C. Agreements

<u>Observations:</u> This topic area was not selected for additional review based on the results of the risk assessment process.

<u>Finding</u>: The MPO's agreements substantially satisfy the federal requirements as outlined in 23 CFR 450.314.

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# Section III. Transportation Performance Planning (23 CFR 450.306(a), 306(d), 314(h), 324(f), 326(c), 326(d))

Observations: The MPO set all of their targets for safety, bridge, pavement, and system performance and for Transit Asset Management (TAM) within the prescribed timeframes. The board adopted the State safety target and documented setting the Safety Performance Measure Targets (PM1) in an MPO Board meeting on February 11, 2021, and most recently per Resolution #22-12 on February 10, 2022. The MPO adopted FDOT targets for Bridge and Pavement (PM2) and the System Performance (PM3) targets on October 11, 2018. The MPO has coordinated with the Space Coast Area Transit (SCAT), the local transit agency, to develop targets for transit asset management measures as indicated in the current approved Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), adopted July 14, 2022).

The targets are also published on the MPO's website, Space Coast TPO Performance Management link https://www.spacecoasttpo.com/what-we-do/performance-measures/performance-management and Appendix B of the 2045 Transportation Plan.

The MPO has written provisions for cooperatively developing and sharing information related to transportation performance data, selection of performance targets, reporting of targets, reporting of performance to be used in tracking progress toward attainment of critical outcomes and reporting of data. These were documented through the approval of the FDOT and MPOAC "Transportation Performance Measures Consensus Planning Document" by the MPO Board on May 14, 2020.

In the development of the LRTP, the MPO included a description of the performance measures and targets to assess the transportation system performance. They integrated the FDOT Highway Safety Improvement Program, Strategic Highway Safety Plan, Asset Management Plan and Freight Plan's goals, objectives, measures and targets into the 2045 LRTP by reference on page 2-7. They also are developing an online system performance dashboard. An example is shown on page 2-7 of the LRTP. The new site page will show the condition and performance of the transportation system with respect to the federally required performance targets, including progress achieved by the MPO in meeting the performance targets in comparison with system performance recorded in previous reports and baseline data.

In the TIP, the MPO lists priority projects from the LRTP, including capital projects, intersection improvements, sidewalk improvements bicycle facilities, and other safety projects which all support making progress toward achieving State and Federal goals and targets.

<u>Finding</u>: The MPO's transportation performance planning activities does not fully satisfy the federal requirements as outlined in 23 CFR 450.306, 314, 324, and 326.

**Corrective Action and Recommendations**: The Federal Review Team has identified one corrective action and offers two recommendations regarding Transportation Performance Planning. For more details about this corrective action and these recommendations, please see Section XI.

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# Section IV. Scope of the Planning Process (23 CFR 450.306)

#### A. Transportation Planning Factors

<u>Observations:</u> This topic area was not selected for additional review based on the results of the risk assessment process.

<u>Finding</u>: The MPO's planning process substantially satisfies the federal requirements as outlined in 23 CFR 450.306(b).

**Noteworthy Practice:** The Federal Review Team recognizes one noteworthy practice regarding Transportation Planning Factors. For more details about this noteworthy practice, please see Section XI.

## B. Air Quality

<u>Finding</u>: The Space Coast TPO is currently designated as an attainment area for all National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

#### C. Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Activities

<u>Observations</u>: This topic area was not selected for additional review based on the results of the risk assessment process.

<u>Finding</u>: The MPO's bicycle and pedestrian planning activities substantially satisfies the federal requirements as outlined in 23 CFR 450.306(b), 324(f), and 326.

**Noteworthy Practices:** The Federal Review Team recognizes one noteworthy practice regarding Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Activities. For more details about this noteworthy practice, please see Section XI.

#### D. Transit

Observations: Transit service in the Palm Bay-Melbourne and Titusville Urbanized Area's is primarily provided by Space Coast Area Transit (SCAT). SCAT is a department of the Brevard County Government, operating a fleet of buses for fixed route and paratransit service. SCAT provides fixed route transit service in Brevard County (including fourteen municipalities). SCAT has two maintenance/bus transfer facilities (Cocoa and Melbourne). Brevard County is the designated recipient for 5307 funds.

SCAT participates in regional transportation planning, TIP, STIP and UPWP updates with MPO involvement. SCAT also produces a Transit Development Plan (TDP) per Florida law. As part of the Long-Range Transportation Plan and Transit Development Plan update, SCAT works with the MPO on transit capital plans and alternatives. SCAT is represented on the MPO governing board, leads the Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordination Board (TDLCB), and both agencies currently hold quarterly meetings to discuss activities.

TPO and SCAT coordination has led to an update to the Transit Bus Stop ADA Assessment. The purpose of the plan is to better understand accessibility concerns relative to the transit system to help inform project development efforts. This includes retrofitting bus stops to bring them up to ADA standards. In-person and virtual bus stop assessment training was also conducted. The effort is a multi-pronged approach including outreach via

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surveys, a database of bus stop conditions and needs, as well as other relevant information.

As a participant in the TDLCB, Space Coast TPO helps ensure transportation opportunities are available for all residents, regardless of age, ability, or economic status.

**Noteworthy Practice:** The Federal Review Team recognizes one noteworthy practice regarding Transit. For more details about this noteworthy practice, please see Section XI.

#### E. Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)

<u>Observations</u>: This topic area was not selected for additional review based on the results of the risk assessment process.

<u>Finding</u>: The MPO's ITS activities substantially satisfy the federal requirements as outlined in 23 CFR 450.306, 322, and 23 CFR 940.

#### F. Freight Planning

<u>Observations</u>: This topic area was not selected for additional review based on the results of the risk assessment process.

<u>Finding</u>: The MPO's freight planning activities substantially satisfy the federal requirements as outlined in 23 CFR 450.306, 316, 324, and 326.

#### **G. Security Considerations in the Planning Process**

<u>Observations</u>: This topic area was not selected for additional review based on the results of the risk assessment process.

<u>Finding</u>: The MPO's UPWP substantially satisfies the federal requirements as outlined in 23 CFR 450.308.

# **H. Safety Considerations in the Planning Process**

<u>Observations</u>: This topic area was not selected for additional review based on the results of the risk assessment process.

<u>Finding</u>: The MPO's safety planning activities substantially satisfy the federal requirements as outlined in 23 CFR 450.306, 324(h), and 326.

# Section V. Unified Planning Work Program (23 CFR 450.308)

Current Document Title: Space Coast TPO UPWP

Date Adopted: May 12. 2022, Amendment #1, August 23, 2022

<u>Observations</u>: This topic area was not selected for additional review based on the results of the risk assessment process.

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<u>Finding</u>: The MPO's UPWP substantially satisfies the federal requirements as outlined in 23 CFR 450.308.

# Section VI. Interested Parties (23 CFR 450.316)

## A. Outreach and Public Participation

<u>Current Document Title</u>: Space Coast TPO 2019 Public Participation Plan Date Adopted: December 12, 2019, Amendment #1, July 9, 2020

<u>Observations</u>: This topic area was not selected for additional review based on the results of the risk assessment process.

<u>Finding</u>: The MPO's outreach and public participation activities substantially satisfy the federal requirements as outlined in 23 CFR 450.316.

#### **B.** Tribal Coordination

<u>Observations</u>: This topic area was not selected for additional review based on the results of the risk assessment process.

<u>Finding</u>: There are no tribal lands within the TPO's planning boundaries requiring the TPO to provide tribal coordination.

#### C. Title VI and Related Requirements

<u>Observations</u>: This topic area was not selected for additional review based on the results of the risk assessment process.

<u>Finding</u>: The MPO's Title VI and related activities substantially satisfy the federal requirements as outlined in 49 CFR 21, 49 CFR 27, 23 CFR 200, 23 CFR 450.316 and 336(a).

# Section VII. Linking Planning and NEPA (23 CFR 450.318, 320, 324(f)(10), 324(g))

<u>Observations:</u> This topic area was not selected for additional review based on the results of the risk assessment process.

<u>Finding</u>: The MPO's linking planning and NEPA activities substantially satisfy the federal requirements as outlined in 23 CFR 450.318, 320, 324(f)(10), and 324(g).

# Section VIII. Congestion Management Process (CMP) (23 CFR 450.322)

<u>Observations</u>: This topic area was not selected for additional review based on the results of the risk assessment process.

<u>Finding</u>: The MPO's congestion management process substantially satisfies the federal requirements as outlined in 23 CFR 450.322.

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#### Section IX. Long Range Transportation Plan (23 CFR 450.324)

Current Document Title: 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan

Date Adopted: September 10, 2020

## A. Scope of LRTP

<u>Observations</u>: This topic area was not selected for additional review based on the results of the risk assessment process.

<u>Finding</u>: The general scope of the MPO's LRTP substantially satisfies the federal requirements as outlined in 23 CFR 450.324.

#### **B.** Travel Demand Modeling/Data

<u>Observations</u>: This topic area was not selected for additional review based on the results of the risk assessment process.

<u>Finding</u>: The MPO's travel demand modeling processes substantially satisfy the federal requirements as outlined in 23 CFR 450.324(e).

#### C. Financial Plan/Fiscal Constraint

Observations: Fiscal constraint is demonstrated using narrative and tables. For the adopted LRTP, the FDOT provides an estimate of federal and state revenue available over the life of the plan, as well as an estimate of administrative, operations and maintenance costs over the life of the plan for the MPO to use. The plan identifies funding revenue sources, project costs and project phases for projects from the effective date of the plan through the plan's horizon year. Year of Expenditure costs are used in the plan. The revenue estimates are included in the Cost Feasible Plan (CFP) portion of the LRTP. The projected revenue over the life of the LRTP is \$5.0 B. The projected cost for maintaining the existing infrastructure, constructing new and widened roads, expanded transit services, and providing safer bicycling and walking facilities is \$4.3B. The LRTP is fiscally constrained.

<u>Findings</u>: The financial plan/fiscal constraint of the MPO's LRTP substantially satisfies the federal requirements as outlined in 23 CFR 450.324(f)(11).

# Section X. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) (23 CFR 450.326, 328, 330, 332, 334)

<u>Current Document Title</u>: Transportation Improvement Program, Fiscal Years 2021/22 – 2025/26

Date Adopted: July 8, 2021. Amended: September 9, 2021

Observations: The Space Coast TPO ensures that the TIP includes all proposed federally and non-federally funded regionally significant transportation projects including intermodal facilities. The TIP is fiscally constrained by year and consistent with the LRTP.

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<u>Finding</u>: The MPO's TIP substantially satisfies the federal requirements as outlined in 23 CFR 450.326,328, 330, 332, and 334.

## **Section XI. Findings/Conclusions**

The following items represent a compilation of the findings that are included in this 2022 certification review report. These findings, which are identified as noteworthy practices and recommendations, are intended to not only ensure continuing regulatory compliance of the Space Coast TPO's transportation planning process with federal planning requirements, but to also foster high-quality planning practices and improve the transportation planning program in this TMA. Corrective actions reflect required actions for compliance with the Federal Planning Regulations and must be completed within the timeframes noted. Recommendations reflect national trends or potential risks and are intended to assist the Space Coast TPO in improving the planning process. Noteworthy practices highlight efforts that demonstrate innovative ideas or best practices for implementing the planning requirements.

# A. Noteworthy Practices

- 1. **Transportation Planning Factors:** The Federal Review Team recognizes the MPO's inclusion of new Planning Emphasis Areas across their transportation planning process, including complete streets initiatives, equity and using virtual public involvement tools.
- 2. **Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Activities:** The TPO is commended for including first/last mile connections as part of the bicycle and pedestrian project prioritization process ensuring a complete system is implemented for these transportation modes.
- 3. **Transit:** The Federal Review Team commends Space Coast TPO and SCAT for the ADA Bus Stop Assessment, especially the virtual bus stop simulation as part of a recent webinar, which included participation across the east coast.

#### **B.** Corrective Actions

1. **Transportation Performance Planning:** Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) targets shall be included into the LRTP as outlined in 23 CFR 450.324(f). When the MPO amended the LRTP in February 2022, the amendment did not include the PTASP targets. Descriptions of targets and progress towards achieving targets for both PTASP and TAM were not described in the associated system performance report. **Revisions to the LRTP must be made to include this performance planning information by January 31, 2023.** 

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#### C. Recommendations

- Transportation Performance Planning: The Federal Review Team recommends that the MPO and transit agency, as part of the next SCAT TAM Plan update, coordinate to the extent practicable regarding adjustments to TAM targets and invest priorities, as applicable.
- 2. **Transportation Performance Planning:** The MPO should include, to the maximum extent practicable, a description of the anticipated effect of the TIP towards achieving TAM and PTASP performance targets identified in the LRTP, linking investment priorities to those performance targets.

# D. Training/Technical Assistance

At the conclusion of the site visit, the Federal Review Team asked the MPO staff if they had any training or technical assistance needs. The Space Coast TPO identified technical assistance requests for the following topical areas: Financial Training Director Training or similar (preferably online, peer exchange opportunities, and MPOAC institute).

#### E. Conclusion

Based on the overall findings of the certification review, the FHWA and FTA jointly certify that the transportation planning process of the Palm Bay-Melbourne Transportation Management Area which is comprised entirely by the Space Coast TPO, substantially meets the federal planning requirements in 23 CFR 450 Subpart C, subject to the MPO satisfactorily addressing the corrective action stated in this report. The MPO is encouraged to provide the FHWA and FTA with evidence of satisfactory completion of the corrective action in accordance with the noted deadlines. This certification will remain in effect until **October 2026**.

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# Appendix A. Summary of Risk Assessment

Florida TMA Certification Review Risk Assessment		
MPO: Date of Assessment:	Space Coast TPO January 2022	
Cert Review Report Date:	October 2022	
Topic Area	Selected for additional review?	
Organization of MPO/TPO (23 CFR 450.310, 312, 314)	No	
Transportation Performance Planning (23 CFR 306(a), 306(d), 314(h), 324(f), 326(c), 326(d))	Yes	
Scope of the Planning Process (23 CFR 450.306) - Transportation Planning Factors	No	
Scope of the Planning Process (23 CFR 450.306) - Air Quality	No	
Scope of the Planning Process (23 CFR 450.306) - Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Activities	No	
Scope of the Planning Process (23 CFR 450.306) - Transit	Yes	
Scope of the Planning Process (23 CFR 450.306) - Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)	No	
Scope of the Planning Process (23 CFR 450.306) - Freight Planning	No	
Scope of the Planning Process (23 CFR 450.306) - Security Considerations in the Planning Proc	No	
Scope of the Planning Process (23 CFR 450.306) - Safety Considerations in the Planning Proce	No	
Unified Planning Work Program (23 CFR 450.308)	No	
Interested Parties (23 CFR 450.316) - Outreach and Public Participation	No	
Interested Parties (23 CFR 450.316) - Tribal Coordination	No	
Interested Parties (23 CFR 450.316) - Title VI and Related Requirements	No	
Linking Planning and NEPA (23 CFR 450.318, 320, 324(f)(10), 324(g))	No	
Congestion Management Process (23 CFR 450.322)	No	
Long Range Transportation Plan (23 CFR 450.324)	No	
Long Range Transportation Plan (23 CFR 450.324) - Travel Demand Modeling/Data	No	
Long Range Transportation Plan (23 CFR 450.324) - Financial Plan/Fiscal Constraint	No	
Transportation Improvement Program (23 CFR 450.326, 328, 330, 332, 334)	No	
*Note: With the exception of Transit, if all areas are a "No", then the top 3 areas will be revie	awed.	
Note: With the exception of fransit, if all aleas are a No , then the top 3 areas will be revie	weu.	
The additional areas are: LRTP Financial Plan/Fiscal Constraint and Transportation Improvement Program		

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#### **Appendix B. Site Visit Participants**

#### **FHWA**

- Joseph Sullivan, Environmental Specialist
- Teresa Parker, Planner

#### FTA

Robert Sachnin, Planner

#### **SCTPO**

- Georganna Gillette, Executive Director
- Laura Carter, Assistant Director
- Steven Bostel, Transportation Program Manager
- Sarah Kraum, Senior Transportation Planner
- Kim Smith, Education & Safety Coordinator
- Abby Hemenway, APR, Public Involvement Officer
- Jillian John, Finance & Contracts Manager

### **SCTPO Governing Board**

Andrea Young, Chairwoman

#### **Space Coast Area Transit**

- Terry Jordan, Director
- Ken Harley, Transit Planner

#### **FDOT**

- Tyler Burgett, Government Liaison FDOT District 5
- Rakinyha Hinson, Government Liaison FDOT District 5

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# Appendix C. TMA Certification Site Visit Agenda

# Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization TMA Certification Review

May 3, 2022

# Space Coast TPO Brevard Government Center, Bldg. C, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way Melbourne, FL 32940

#### **AGENDA**

Tuesday	May 3, 2022	
Federal Certification Team Members	<ul> <li>Joseph Sullivan (FHWA)</li> <li>Teresa Parker</li> <li>Rob Sachnin (FTA)</li> </ul>	

Time	Item	Lead
9:00 a.m.	Welcome / Introductions ➤ Roles/Responsibilities/Key Activities of MPO and Transit Agency Staff	Federal Team, MPO, Transit, FDOT
9:15 a.m.	Site Visit Overview  Purpose of the Certification Process  Discussion of Risk Assessment Review schedule and close-out process	Federal Team
9:30 a.m.	Discussion of Previous Review Findings  ➤ Federal TMA Certification  ➤ State/MPO Annual	Federal Team, MPO, Transit, FDOT
9:45 a.m.	MPO Overview including changes within MPO since last TMA Certification  Demographics  Boundaries  Political  Process Changes	Federal Team, MPO, Transit, FDOT

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9:55 a.m.	Share Best Practices and Lessons Learned  What is the MPO most proud of over the last four years?  What challenges have you	MPO
10:40 a.m.	encountered and addressed?  Break	
10:45 a.m.	Technical Topic: Long Range Transportation Plan ➤ Financial Plan/Fiscal Constraint	Federal Team, MPO, Transit, FDOT
11:15 a.m.	Technical Topic: Transportation Performance Measures >	Federal Team, MPO, Transit, FDOT
11:45 a.m.	Break for Lunch	
1:00 p.m.	Technical Topic: Transit/Transportation Disadvantaged	Federal Team, MPO, Transit, FDOT
1:30 p.m.	Technical Topic: Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)	Federal Team, MPO, Transit, FDOT
2:00 p.m.	Technical Assistance & Training  ➤ Future Needs  Additional Questions  ➤ Anything else the MPO would like to share with the Federal Team that hasn't been discussed?	
2:30 p.m.	Break	
2:45 p.m.	Preliminary Findings Discussion Among Federal Team	Federal Team
3:45 p.m.	Preliminary Findings Discussion with MPO staff	Federal Team, MPO, Transit, FDOT
4:00 p.m.	Public Meeting	Federal Team
5:00 p.m.	Adjourn Site Visit	

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#### Appendix D. Public Engagement Notice



**Date: April 6, 2022** 

April 2022 - Get Involved Gazette

- Link: https://conta.cc/37h5in7
- Published via Constant Contact (email distribution list) and posted to our website
   Distributed to 3,035 contacts

#### Date: April 13, 2022

Press Release: Join Us! Federal Certification Public Meeting: Transportation Planning 101, May 3, 2022 | 4:00 - 5:00 PM

- Link: https://conta.cc/3KGgkRI
- Published via Constant Contact (email distribution list) and posted to our website
- Distributed to 3,042 contacts

#### Date: April 26, 2022

April 2022 – En Route Newsletter

- Link: https://conta.cc/300d7IE
- Published via Constant Contact (email distribution list) and posted to our website
- Distributed to 3,033 contacts

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Date: May 2, 2022

May 2022 - Get Involved Gazette

- Link: https://conta.cc/375ZrBi
- Published via Constant Contact (email distribution list) and posted to our website
   Distributed to 3,095 contacts

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# **Appendix E. Summary of Public Feedback**

FHWA and FTA would like to thank everyone who participated in and contributed comments for the Palm Bay-Melbourne TMA Certification Review. Public comments are a vital element of the certification review, as they allow citizens to provide direct input on the transportation planning process for their transportation planning area. The comments received through YouTube Live Chat, Comment Cards, verbal comments, and the public meeting included comments that generally referenced potential project areas that they considered needed improvement. Comment topics included specific road improvements, bike/ped facilities suggestions, transit for elderly, and suggestions to improve public participation. All comments received during the 30-day public comment period are located below. We have reviewed all comments and have taken them into consideration throughout the writing of this report. The next page begins the public meeting minutes and the public comments received.

#### **TMA Certification Public Meeting**

Providing opportunities for public involvement is an essential part of the transportation planning process. To that end, FHWA and FTA, in cooperation with the Space Coast TPO, held a public meeting as part of the TMA Certification review. The meeting was held May 3, 2022, at 4 p.m. in the City of Melbourne at the Space Coast TPO Board Room and provided an opportunity for participation in person or via a virtual platform.

Notice of the meeting was distributed via email to the Space Coast TPO contact list and posted on the Space Coast TPO website. The notice informed the public that FHWA and FTA were soliciting input from the community on the transportation planning process. In addition, the announcement requested public input on whether the community receives the necessary information to become involved in the process; if the ways in which citizens can be involved is clearly explained; and, if input from the community and citizens is considered and addressed. Lastly, the notice explained how citizens could provide comment, whether in writing or during the meeting.

In addition to the FHWA, FTA and Space Coast TPO staff members, the meeting was attended by FDOT representatives, concerned citizens, and other planning organization representatives. A total of 13 participants, both in-person and via the virtual platform, attended the meeting.

After introductions, Space Coast TPO Executive Director Georganna Gillette presented information about the metropolitan transportation planning process and then opened the floor for public comments. The presentation is located on the TPO website here: <a href="https://www.spacecoasttpo.com/home/showpublisheddocument/1288/637872578124970">https://www.spacecoasttpo.com/home/showpublisheddocument/1288/637872578124970</a> <a href="https://www.spacecoasttpo.com/home/showpublisheddocument/1288/637872578124970">https:

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# SCTPO Federal Certification Public Meeting May 3, 2022, 4:00 P.M.



Location: 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Building C, 3rd Floor Florida Room, Melbourne, FL 32940

	PRINT NAME	SIGNATURE	AGENCY/AFFILIATION
1.	EVA REY	Warnikay	the Viera Co
2.	ELIZABETH MYRON	EMYRON	CFLCCC
3.	JEFF MYLON	J My ron	FSEC GRC
4.	SANDRA Leone.	Spare.	Cocoa Planning.
5.	Paul Schoelze		FDOT
6.	Robert Pourto	Phys I	EC6A
7.	Mary Druge	THAND?	SETF
8.	Wendy Ells	Wendy Ella	Space Coast Advertising
9.	BILL HOOSE	Will Wholg	WIA
10.	SARAH HODGE	Sarah Hodge	N/A
11,	DON WILLIS	Dar Will	SCTPO
12.			

Public Comments (from live YouTube broadcast):

5/4/22, 12:57 PM Federal Certification Public Meeting: Transportation Planning 101 - May 3, 2022 - YouTubehttps://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6z4j5EoMNZ8 1/1

**Space Coast TPO** Welcome to our online viewers!

**Space Coast TPO** After our brief presentation, we will have a public comment period. If you have any comments to share on our planning process, you can enter them in the chat

and they will be read aloud.

**Space Coast TPO** Do we have any citizens or partners online that would like to make a comment?

**Lori Nadine** Roundabouts are HARD four seniors. Viera was one on top five for accidents. Consider seniors too please.

**Yooper Cares** It does not look like there are many citizen comments for this meeting. What outreach was done to encourage citizen participation?

**Yooper Cares** The gentleman in the orange shirt seems to have a lot of opinions. Why is the moderator not encouraging him to speak up more?

**Yooper Cares** I like the idea the gentleman just presented regarding the survey.

**Lori Nadine** Please conduct a survey in Palm Bay about the two proposed roundabouts on Malabar road. I will not use them but side streets instead.

**Space Coast** TPO The public will still have the opportunity to make comments until 5/10. Public comments can be submitted to abby.hemenway@sctpo.com

**Lori Nadine** I have experience of roundabouts living and working in Hollywood Fl. They. Are. Terrible.

**Space Coast TPO** Lori Nadine, thank you for your comment. We will make sure to pass on this suggestion to the project managers of these FDOT projects

**Yooper Cares** This comment not read out loud: "The gentleman in the orange shirt seems to have a lot of opinions. Why is the moderator not encouraging him to speak up more?"

**Yooper Cares** It's commendable that comments are included live. All comments should be read

**Yooper Cares** I've heard that there are better traffic circles than the Viera example.

**Space Coast TPO** Hi Yooper, thanks for bringing this to our attention. I can read it for the record, certainly.

**Yooper Cares** How are the examples being shared of the better examples to educate the public on what is being considered so that we can develop more comfort with what would

be constructed?

**Yooper Cares** referring to the traffic circles. Thank you for reading my comments out loud!

**Space Coast TPO** For those who would like more examples of traffic circles, safety statistics, related to modern roundabouts or traffic circles please make sure to email kim.smith@sctpo.com

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#### Public Comments received via email

From: <u>David Leacock</u>
To: <u>Hemenway, Abby</u>

**Subject:** abby.hemenway@brevardfl.gov

**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2022 1:47:00 PM

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Ms. Hemenway

This is concerning making Brevard county (Melbourne) more

### biker friendly. A newly constructed roadway

The 10 mile St Johns Heritage Pkwy from S John Rodes Blvd to Malabar Rd is a great path for commuter biking and or road biking. Some friends and I use it at least twice a week.

### An enhancement to the St Johns Heritage Pkwy

If this road could be connected to the following roads to complete a 21-mile loop:

- 1. At the north end of St Johns Heritage Pkwy add a bike lane (shoulder) eastward to S Wickham Rd
- 2. At S Wickham Rd install bike lane (shoulder) to the south going lane, which turns into Minton Rd
- 3. At the end of Minton Rd create bike lane (shoulder) going west and meet up with St Johns Heritage Pkwy

I would be very interested in your comments? Thanks

Sent from Mail for Windows

Space Coast TPO 21 | P a g e

From: Hemenway, Abby
To: David Leacock

Subject: RE: abby.hemenway@brevardfl.gov
Date: Monday, April 18, 2022 10:55:00 AM

:

Good Morning David,

Thanks so much for submitting your comments. We are always looking for ways to ensure more connectivity opportunities within Brevard County for all road users.

We work with the local cities and Brevard County to seek out long-term improvements and we recognize the importance of safeguarding our vulnerable road users (bicyclists and pedestrians).

While I cannot comment on the implementation of your suggestion, your comments will be submitted to our Federal Highway Administration certification team for review.

Thank you for your interest in the transportation planning process. Best,

**Abby Hemenway, APR**Public Involvement Officer

Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Building B, Melbourne FL 32940 P: (321) 350-9261 http://spacecoasttpo.com/





Events/Programming Chair



Florida Public Relations Association Space Coast

Space Coast TPO 22 | P a g e

From: David Leacock <leacoda@outlook.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2022 1:47 PM

To: Hemenway, Abby <Abby.Hemenway@brevardfl.gov>

From: <u>Donna Allbee</u>
To: Hemenway, Abby

**Date:** Thursday, May 5, 2022 2:00:24 PM

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

It seems I missed the meeting last night but would like to see more bike paths that connect with the few around Merritt Island. There are many old roads that are not kept up. They are narrow and adding bike and walk paths will upgrade the area.

Thank you,

Donna

Allbee

Get Outlook for Android

Space Coast TPO 23 | P a g e

From: Hemenway, Abby
To: Donna Allbee

Subject: RE:

**Date:** Thursday, May 5, 2022 2:58:00 PM

Good Afternoon Ms. Allbee,

Thanks so much for submitting your comment regarding the lack of bike paths in the Merritt Island area. We are always looking for ways to ensure more connectivity opportunities within Brevard County for all road users.

We work with the local cities and Brevard County to seek out long-term improvements and we recognize the importance of safeguarding our vulnerable road users (bicyclists and pedestrians).

I thank you for your time and for sending us this valuable feedback and your comments will be included in the public comment record for the Federal Highway Administration certification team for review.

Since you were not at the meeting, I did want to make sure to let you know that a recording of the meeting and the presentation are available to you on our website.

You can visit this link to view the materials: <a href="https://www.spacecoasttpo.com/about-us/certifications-audits">https://www.spacecoasttpo.com/about-us/certifications-audits</a>

Thank you for your interest in the transportation planning process. Best,

**Abby Hemenway, APR**Public Involvement Officer

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SPACE COAST

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING DIRDANIZATION

From: Steven G

Space Coast TPO 24 | P a g e

To: <u>Hemenway, Abby</u>

**Subject:** Comment for the 5/3 TPO Meeting **Date:** Tuesday, May 3, 2022 5:48:26 PM

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Abby,

My name is Steven Gilmore, I live at 496 Tina PI, Merritt Island, FL 32952 and I have a comment for your inclusion in any official record regarding transportation improvements needed.

Please complete the sidewalk down S. Tropical Trail around Rotary Park. My wife and I ride bikes with our 2 and 4 year olds and the lack of a complete sidewalk makes the trip down the road very perilous especially around blind corners where you have to cross the road and can't see if a car is coming. It would be so beneficial to the quality of life around here and really the only suggestion I have for you. I don't want this improvement to happen because of a tragedy.

Thank you! Steven Gilmore

Space Coast TPO 25 | P a g e

From: <u>Hemenway</u>, Abby

To: Steven G

**Subject:** RE: Comment for the 5/3 TPO Meeting **Date:** Thursday, May 5, 2022 2:42:00 PM

Good Afternoon Mr. Gilmore,

Thanks so much for submitting your comment regarding the sidewalk gap off of S. Tropical Trail around Rotary Park. We are always looking for ways to ensure more connectivity opportunities within Brevard County for all road users.

We work with the local cities and Brevard County to seek out long-term improvements and we recognize the importance of safeguarding our vulnerable road users (bicyclists and pedestrians). As a parent of a young child myself, I can see the benefit of your suggestion.

I thank you for your time and for sending us this valuable feedback and your comments will be included in the public comment record for the Federal Highway Administration certification team for review.

Thank you for your interest in the transportation planning process. Best,

#### Abby Hemenway, APR

Public Involvement Officer

Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Building B, Melbourne FL 32940 P: (321) 350-9261

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Space Coast TPO 26 | P a g e

From: <u>Dawn Butterfield</u>
To: <u>Hemenway, Abby</u>

**Subject:** comments for transportation

**Date:** Wednesday, April 13, 2022 12:26:13 PM

#### Hi!

I don't know if this is for RANDOM transportation, so my comments are for that. I don't have an opinion on the entity other than when I have sought out some information I was successful 90% of the time on some website. Would like probably more info on Brightline (or whatever the name is).

#### Comments general

### transportation; Train:

I hope that the Cocoa Curve is still being considered for a stop when it gets to that point. The

524 corridor is getting new housing and the shopping centers there are full now and US1 will be getting new (like ours in development) retail/restaurants, etc. I can see people commuting from Cocoa or Brevard to Orlando and that juncture is easy to get to no matter where you are in Brevard, and actually is almost central for all residents (Tville to Palm Bay) either via I-95 or US1.

# 524 widening:

I'm pretty sure this is on the books, but from I95 to Clearlake this needs to be widened due to the new truck stop AND the new housing that is going up.

#### Biking:

In my opinion there needs to be MORE bike lanes overall, in fact there "should be" some kind of map of how to bike from Tville to Palm Bay contiguously. Also probably up/down US1 would be great as that's an obvious way to have this and options for people. This area is GREAT for bikers, but unfortunately there isn't a passion for the bikers and how they can get from point A to point B.

Thanks for your consideration! Dawn

Dawn Butterfield RPh
Owner/Manager
321.305.6909 ph
321.305.6919 fax
www.cocoapharmacy.com

Space Coast TPO 27 | P a g e

From: Hemenway, Abby
To: Dawn Butterfield

**Subject:** RE: comments for transportation **Date:** Monday, April 18, 2022 11:41:00 AM

Good Morning Dawn,

Thanks so much for submitting your comments. Here's some follow up we can provide:

#### Train:

From a regional perspective, we are very excited about Brightline. It's always been a part of Brightline's long-term vision to have a station in Brevard County. But they must first get the Orlando to West Palm section up and running. This extension is their primary focus. Once that is complete and operational, there would need to be a ridership analysis or study done to determine if it would make fiscal sense to build a Brevard station. The SCTPO did conduct a Station Location Study a few years back as a point of reference. That study did determine some of the locations would be best suited in the Cocoa area.

For more information or history, check out our Rail page: www.spacecoasttpo.com/what-we-do/projects/rail-projects

#### 524 widening:

Great comments on the development there. Yes, this is a FDOT project that is still underway: https://www.cflroads.com/project/433605-1

#### Biking:

We agree, we are always looking for ways to ensure more connectivity opportunities within Brevard County for all road users. We work with the local cities and Brevard County to seek out long-term improvements and we recognize the importance of safeguarding our vulnerable road users (bicyclists and pedestrians).

Your comments will be submitted to our Federal Highway Administration certification team for review.

Thank you for your interest in the transportation planning process. Best,

**Abby Hemenway, APR**Public Involvement Officer

Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization

2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Building B,

Space Coast TPO 28 | P a g e

From: Terry Kohl

To: <u>Hemenway, Abby</u>

Subject: Input for cyclists and walkers

**Date:** Thursday, May 5, 2022 12:55:07 PM

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

#### Hi. We strongly recommend

- sidewalks be added to Ridgewood Ave in Avon by the Sea
- additional stop signs be added to Ridgewood Ave in Avon by the Sea. Currently there are A's many as 8 blocks between stop signs, enough for cars to ramp up their speed.
- signs for which way pedestrians should be walking are needed throughout

the area Thank you. The Kohl's

Space Coast TPO 29 | P a g e

- **From**: <u>Hemenway, Abby</u>

- **To**: <u>Terry Koh</u>l

Subject: RE: Input for cyclists and walkersDate: Thursday, May 5, 2022 2:53:00 PM

#### Good Afternoon,

-

- Thanks so much for submitting your comment regarding the sidewalk gaps on Ridgewood Ave and the additional need for signage in the neighborhood. We are always looking for ways to ensure more connectivity opportunities and enhanced safety, within Brevard County, for all road users.

-

- We work with the local cities and Brevard County to seek out long-term improvements and we recognize the importance of safeguarding our vulnerable road users (bicyclists and pedestrians).
- I thank you for your time and for sending us this valuable feedback and your comments will be included in the public comment record for the Federal Highway Administration certification team for review.
- Thank you for your interest in the transportation planning process. Best,

## Abby Hemenway, APR

Public Involvement Officer

Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Building B, Melbourne FL 32940 P: (321) 350-9261

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Space Coast TPO 30 | P a g e

From: glendafeldt@gmail.com

To: <u>Hemenway, Abby</u>

Cc: glendafeldt@gmail.com

**Subject:** Public Comment for Federal Certification Review

**Date:** Monday, May 2, 2022 6:22:12 PM

Importance: High

I am Dr. Glenda Feldt, retiree from public education and federal civil service. I moved from VA to Palm Bay, FL to enjoy my retirement in the sunshine and warmth. Love it. BUT:

Public Transportation here for elderly and disabled is the best kept secret ever. As in, nobody knows about it, nobody can tell me what my options are. NOBODY.

I cannot see to drive at night—headlights from oncoming vehicles is blinding. Sadly, almost everyone I have met through American Legion, my church, and community groups has the same problem. We have time and money to attend concerts, plays, events—BUT we cannot get there and back, especially in the winter months when it is dark by 5 PM. We need help. There are a LOT of us in this situation. Trapped at home because UBER costs more than the events we want to attend. We cannot shop at night, go to movies other than matinees. On Malabar Road I have seen a few bus stops, but I have never seen a bus down here. I have never seen a taxi down here. I cannot get food delivered at a reasonable cost except pizza—not the best thing for my health.

I am not able to attend your public hearing on May 3 due to other commitments. Please accept my written remarks as my part of the public comments. I would love to discuss further options (I came from the Williamsburg, VA area, where there are lots of retirees, lots of events, and lots of easily accessible transportation.) If you would like to contact me:

Dr. Glenda Feldt 1034 Webster Road SE Palm Bay, FL 32909 757-660-5439

glendafeldt@gmail.com

Space Coast TPO 31 | P a g e

Thank you. If it is possible to poll seniors in the Brevard County area, I believe you will be surprised at how many of us are trapped at home; not spending the money we have to spend; not enjoying community events; not eating out except as an "early bird" or at lunch.

Glenda Feldt

Space Coast TPO 32 | Page

From: <u>Hemenway, Abby</u>

To: glendafeldt@gmail.com

**Subject:** RE: Public Comment for Federal Certification Review

**Date:** Thursday, May 5, 2022 2:39:00 PM

Good Afternoon Dr. Feldt,

Thanks so much for submitting your comments. We are always looking for ways to ensure more connectivity for road users of all ages and abilities. Access to and from transit is a recurring topic in our county and rest assured we are aware of some of the challenges our citizens face.

We are working closely with Space Coast Area Transit and our transportation partners to continue to identify ways to improve transit and transportation options within our county, as we know there is a high demand to increase bus frequency and stops.

I thank you for your time and for sending us this valuable feedback and your comments will be included in the public comment record for the Federal Highway Administration certification team for review.

Thank you for your interest in the transportation planning process. Best,

## Abby Hemenway, APR

Public Involvement Officer

Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Building B, Melbourne FL 32940 P: (321) 350-9261

http://spacecoasttpo.com/





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Space Coast TPO 33 | P a g e

From: Lori Sheres

To: <u>Hemenway, Abby</u>

**Subject:** Road improvement suggestions

**Date:** Wednesday, April 27, 2022 8:09:50 AM

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Ms. Hemenway:

Unfortunately, I am unable to make it to the meeting next week and have a couple of suggestions for improvement in the Southern Brevard area.

- 1. Extend Dairy and Hollywood roads north to Malabar. This should ease traffic on Minton and Babcock, which can be treacherous. We need alternatives in this area.
- 2. Extend Jupiter north as far as possible, for the same reason.
- 3. Would love to see St. Johns Heritage Parkway extended north as much as possible to get to Viera-Cocoa without getting on I-95. The older I get, the harder it is to drive on 95, not to mention the lunatic drivers...
- 4. Instead of driving north to 192 to get to the beach, please consider building a Malabar Causeway. I once had an interview on Melbourne Beach and it took me 45 minutes to get there, going north to go south again (that was with light traffic). I would go to the beach more often if the drive were shorter and less dangerous. I worked for years on 192 and can attest to its peril.

Thank you for having my suggestions

considered. Lori Sheres

Space Coast TPO 34 | P a g e

From: <u>Hemenway, Abby</u>

To: Lori Sheres

**Subject:** RE: Road improvement suggestions **Date:** Monday, May 9, 2022 2:23:00 PM

Good Afternoon Ms. Sheres,

My apologies for the delay in response, as I am continuing to unbury myself from emails after a very busy community outreach week.

Thanks so much for submitting your comments regarding improvement suggestions in Southern Brevard.

We are always looking for ways to ensure more connectivity opportunities within Brevard County for all road users, in order to provide a safe and efficient system.

I thank you for your time and for sending us this valuable feedback and your comments will be included in the public comment record for the Federal Highway Administration certification team for review.

Since you were not at the meeting, I did want to make sure to let you know that a recording of the meeting and the presentation are available to you on our website.

You can visit this link to view the materials:

https://www.spacecoasttpo.com/about-us/certifications-audits

Thank you for your interest in the transportation planning process.

Abby Hemenway, APR Public Involvement Officer

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Space Coast TPO 35 | Page

From: <u>Kristin Lortie</u>
To: <u>Hemenway, Abby</u>

Cc: Carter, Laura; Gillette, Georganna

**Subject:** Re: Request for 5/3 Presentation & Meeting Materials

**Date:** Wednesday, May 4, 2022 4:19:21 PM

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Ms. Hemenway,

Thank you for your prompt follow up with the meeting materials.

After watching yesterday's session, I'd like to offer the following comments, feedback, and suggestions, and request that they be included in any citizen feedback reporting.

**Positives:** I appreciated it was available via Live YouTube, that YouTube comments were permitted, that all comments were read out loud, and that a prompt response was provided to my request for meeting materials. Please continue the YouTube Live.

**Feedback to consider:** I would have liked to see more citizen participation, and a longer duration live meeting session to encourage more sharing with the larger group (before the smaller breakout sessions started).

# I offer the following suggestions:

- Suggest that SCTPO draft clear and measurable citizen participation goals for the next cycle, and strive to double or triple the number of participants from yesterday's session, and especially "citizens at large", that hold diverse perspectives in the community;
  - These goals can include # of participants, and type of engagement (ex. # of written comments submitted during the participation process);
  - Adding measurable participation and engagement goals will encourage event planners to stretch further to achieve those goals;
  - Focusing on goals for engagement will help to get the numbers up, and lessen the inclination to solicit greater numbers of flattering comments and reduce numbers of unflattering comments;
- Ideas are often fresher right after the event.
  - Suggest that SCTPO create an "idea document" that captures additional ideas for citizen engagement, and hold a meeting (if helpful) to capture more engagement ideas;
- The facilitator was from the organization. Is there an independent facilitator that could host the citizen participation section, and that could encourage

Space Coast TPO 36 | P a g e

citizens to extend their comments and feel that critical feedback is a welcome part of the event?

- I attended a community workshop earlier this year that had an independent facilitator and that made people feel more more comfortable sharing their comments;
- Some of the commenters seemed like they were coordinated in advance to provide positive feedback. This should not come at the expense of "at large" citizens who

attended to provide candid feedback to the organization, like the disability advocate, the roundabout concerned people, etc.

- Meeting duration should be longer to adequately accommodate all comments, including extended comments from "at large" citizens.
- I facilitate a citizens group called Cocoa Cares Citizens Group on Facebook to encourage citizen participation. If I have advance notice, and there is enough detail provided that attendees ideas will be <u>welcomed</u>, I will personally help to encourage citizen participation for the next workshop.
- Is there any **continuity from this engagement session**? Are attendees being encouraged to attend any specific event?
  - I am aware that the SCTPO holds regular events that include citizen engagement, I just did not hear anything in particular announced at the end of the Livestream broadcast as a next step;
  - Suggest to have specific "next step" engagement opportunities announced at the end of the next session to keep people involved;
- While the commenting was a great option, adding 2-way voice/video communication
   would further enhance community access and ease of public participation.

Thank you for receiving my comments, and which I request to have included in your public comment reporting.

Kristin Lortie, Cocoa Resident, Supporter of Citizen Engagement in Public Matters Moderator of Cocoa Cares Citizens Facebook Group

Space Coast TPO 37 | P a g e

On Wed, May 4, 2022 at 12:06 PM Hemenway, Abby < Abby. Hemenway@sctpo.com > wrote:

Good Morning Ms. Lortie,

Thanks for your patience regarding your request.

We have added all of the Certification Review Meeting and the Public Meeting materials to the website. All of the information can be viewed here:

https://www.spacecoasttpo.com/about-us/certifications-audits

Please note, there was no formal agenda for the public meeting; however, we did have several transportation planning promotional materials available for the public to take with them. I linked them below.

- A Basic Guide: Transportation Planning
- Who We Are Flyer
- Life Cycle of a Project Flyer

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Kind Regards,

# Abby Hemenway, APR

Public Involvement Officer

Space Coast Transportation Planning

Organization 2725 Judge Fran

Jamieson Way, Building B, Melbourne FL

32940

P: (321) 350-9261 http://spacecoasttpo.com/







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Space Coast TPO 38 | P a g e

From: Kristin Lortie < kristin.lortie@gmail.com >

Sent: Tuesday, May 3, 2022 4:20 PM

To: Hemenway, Abby < Abby. Hemenway@sctpo.com >

**Subject:** Request for 5/3 Presentation & Meeting Materials

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Abby,

I am watching the Space Coast Federal Certification Public Participation meeting.

Can you send the presentation that was just covered during the 4 p.m. meeting, as well as the meeting materials for the Planning Organization meeting that occurred from 9 - 4 p.m. today?

Thank you,

Kristin Lortie, Cocoa Resident

Space Coast TPO 39 | P a g e

From: Hemenway, Abby
To: Kristin Lortie

Cc: Carter, Laura; Gillette, Georganna

**Subject:** RE: Request for 5/3 Presentation & Meeting Materials

**Date:** Friday, May 13, 2022 4:24:00 PM

Good Afternoon Ms. Lortie,

My apologies for the delay in response, as I am continuing to unbury myself from emails after a few very busy community outreach weeks.

First, I wanted to take a moment to thank you for attending the online portion of our Federal Certification Review Public Meeting: Transportation Planning 101.

Public feedback is essential to the transportation planning process and we appreciate your participation.

A few follow up comments to some of your suggestions:

- <u>Measurable goals</u> You make a great point. While the number of attendees is not a measure of effectiveness that we capture, since it varies so greatly between meeting topic, time, and audience we do have <u>Public Participation Plan Measures of Effectives Report</u> that we produce every year that details how we gauge public participation via our platforms and tools. We always look for opportunities to refine this on an annual basis.
- <u>Cocoa Cares Citizens Group</u> We would love the opportunity to feature public meetings and opportunities on your platform. Early next week, we will be announcing our Annual Open House (June 7<sup>th</sup>) that we hold each year to highlight our top project priorities for the next five years. I will be sure to include you when we send the information. We have held this event multiple places over the last few years (Cocoa Reference Library, Viera Govt Center, Center for Collaboration, etc.)
- <u>Idea document</u> Definitely something I will consider in the planning of our next Public Participation Plan. It might even be something that we could poll in newsletters, social media, etc.

Thanks so much for submitting these detailed comments and suggestions regarding the public participation process. You make some very interesting observations and suggestions, that I will take into consideration in the update of this year's <a href="Public Participation Plan">Public Participation Plan</a>. This will be adopted in December, but we will be actively promoting public comment and feedback on the document beginning in September.

I thank you for your time and for sending us this valuable feedback and your

Space Coast TPO 40 | P a g e

From: <u>Hemenway, Abby</u>
To: <u>Hemenway, Abby</u>

**Subject:** Lisa Kelly - Federal Certification Comment

**Date:** Monday, June 6, 2022 2:00:33 PM

Comment Received via Phone and mailed back as a recap on 6/7/22. Name:

Lisa Kelly

Address:

3108 Moss Dr. Cocoa, FL 32922

## **Overall Comments:**

SR 520

Ms. Kelly is very concerned about the local bridges and causeways in our area regarding signs of aging and deterioration. Specifically, she made a comment that SR 520 is overdue for a rebuild and that it would be a great idea to include pocket parks along the causeway. Her thoughts are to have top level for vehicles, low level for other modes of transportation as alternative transportation is beneficial for health environment and community safety. She made a comment that the Sunbank parking lot could be used for space.

# Widening of SR 528

Ms. Kelly stated that when the widening occurs she would like to see the addition of sound barrier walls.

## **Tolls**

Stated that she is very much opposed to toll roads in Brevard County.

## Passenger Rail

She stated that passenger and freight rail would benefit the community, but it would be essential to have a connector to the Port.

I thank you for your time and for sending us this valuable feedback and your comments will be included in the public comment record for the Federal Highway Administration certification team for review.

**Abby Hemenway, APR**Public Involvement Officer

Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Building B, Melbourne FL 32940

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# Appendix F. Status of Previous Certification Findings

The following is a summary of the previous corrective actions and recommendations made by the Federal Review Team to the Space Coast TPO. The MPO's last certification review report was published in 2018.

## A. Corrective Actions

1. Long Range Transportation Plan - Fiscal Constraint - While a comparison of the Plan revenue sources and Cost Feasible Plan was included to demonstrate the fiscal constraint of the Plan (Table 7.12), the LRTP did not include the first five years of the Plan and therefore, does not demonstrate full fiscal constraint of the Plan. In accordance with 23 CFR 450.322(a), and discussed in the November 2012 FHWA/FTA LRTP Expectations Letter, the LRTP must show projects and funding for the entire time period covered by the LRTP, from the base year to the horizon year. Because this information is missing from the financial infographics and tables, fiscal constraint of the full plan could not be determined. Revisions to the 2040 LRTP must be made to clearly demonstrate fiscal constraint for the entire Plan by February 28, 2019.

**Update:** FHWA/FTA sent a formal correspondence on February 27, 2019, confirming that this corrective action had been satisfied.

2. Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) - The FRT acknowledges that since the last TMA Certification, the Space Coast TPO included language related to fiscal constraint within the financial plan sections of the TIP. However, while these explanations convey an understanding of fiscal constraint, the FRT does not find language in the TIP that it is fiscally constrained by year, a link to FDOT's "Schedule A" is not sufficient to demonstrate fiscal constraint required in 23 CFR 450.324(h). The MPO must modify their TIP to demonstrate fiscal constraint by December 31, 2018.

**Update:** FHWA/FTA sent a formal correspondence on February 26, 2019, confirming that this corrective action had been satisfied.

## B. Recommendations

1. Outreach and Public Participation: One of the tenets of effective public involvement is to demonstrate that the TPO PPP is developed in consultation with all interested parties. The TPO provided a list of the external partners that provided input for PPP development. However, it isn't clear from the PPP itself whether or how these stakeholders partnered with the TPO to develop the PPP. The TPO should ensure that the PPP itself describes its development and the stakeholders that assisted in the process.

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**Update:** The MPO has acknowledged this recommendation and will incorporate the recommendation into the update of their Public Participation Plan update in 2022.

2. Title VI and Related Requirements: The TPO should assess the demographics of attendees at TDLCB meetings as well as the nature of the materials it approves for distribution to its service populations to 1) determine whether language interpretation or translation is needed to ensure access to programs and services by those who are LEP; and 2) ensure that TDLCB activities are consistent with the TPO's approved LEP plan. Note, this does not mean that the TPO must provide language services, just that it reviews its LEP plan to verify that essential TDLCB activities and materials are compliant with the governing LEP Plan.

**Update:** Space Coast Area Transit is under the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners and is the lead on the TDLCB meetings in coordination with TPO Staff. ADA accessible agenda packages for the visually impaired are provided. The TPO's LEP plan is reviewed and considered for TDLCB activities.

3. Transportation Improvement Plan: Is an excellent example of using visualizations and conveying information in an easy-to-understand format. To build off of these efforts, the TPO should consider symbolizing projects by type and/or mode, while also adding more specific project-related attributes. Consideration should be given to the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to spatially identify disadvantaged populations (including LEP) relative to TIP projects, in order to better assess benefits and burdens.

**Update:** The Space Coast TPO has expanded on its visualization techniques for the TIP within the past couple of years with the addition of a GIS analysist on the TPO team. Most recently the List of Project Priorities were mapped and provided for clarity. The TPO also displays funding amounts by mode in the TIP and it has generated lot of conversation with the committees. There are plans to add additional maps in the future. Most recently, as part of the Transportation Resiliency Master Plan Development, the TPO developed a full area Transportation Disadvantaged Maps to incorporate into the List of Project Priorities. The TPO is working to incorporate this particular visual map into the new upcoming TIP document.

Disadvantaged populations and LEP are considered during SCTPO planning studies. A demographic profile is pulled for areas surrounding a corridor study so that the strategies and tools chosen will best meet the needs of the community being affected by any changes recommended.

In addition, this analysis is conducted and documented in the development of plans including LRTP, Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan and Vision Zero Action Plan.

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# Appendix G. Acronym List

ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act AQ - Air Quality CAAA – Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 CFP – Cost Feasible Plan (of the LRTP) CFR - Code of Federal Regulations CMAQ - Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality CMP - Congestion Management Process DA – Division Administrator DBE – Disadvantaged Business Enterprises DHHS - Department of Health and Human Services EJ - Environmental Justice ETDM - Efficient Transportation Decision Making EPA – Environmental Protection Agency FAST Act – Fixing America's Surface **Transportation Act** FDOT - Florida Department of **Transportation** FHWA - Federal Highway Administration FTA - Federal Transit Administration FY – Federal Fiscal Year GIS – Geographic Information Systems HSIP - Highway Safety Improvement Program HPMS Reviews - Highway Performance Monitoring System ISTEA - Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act ITS - Intelligent Transportation Systems LEP – Limited English Proficiency LRTP – Long Range Transportation Plan M&O - Management and Operations MAP-21 - Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century MOA – Memorandum of Agreement MOU - Memorandum of Understanding MPA – Metropolitan Planning Area Boundary MPO - Metropolitan Planning Organization MPOAC - Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council NAAQS-National Ambient Air Quality

Standards

NHI - National Highway Institute

NEPA – National Environmental Policy Act

NHS – National Highway System NTI - National Transit Institute PEA – Planning Emphasis Area PL – Metropolitan Planning Funds PPP - Public Participation Plan RA – Regional Administrator RTIP - Regional Transportation Implementation Plan RTP – Regional Transportation Plan SAFETEA-LU – Safe, Accountable, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users RPC - Regional Planning Commission SFY - State Fiscal Year SHA – State Highway Administration SHSP – Strategic Highway Safety Plan SIP – State Implementation Plan SOP – Standard Operating Procedures SOV - Single Occupancy Vehicle SPR – State Planning and Research STIP - Statewide Transportation Improvement Program STP – Surface Transportation Program TAM – Transit Asset Management TAMP – Transportation Asset Management Plan TAZ – Transportation Analysis Zone TCM - Transportation Control Measure TDM – Transportation Demand Management TEA-21 – Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century TIP – Transportation Improvement Program Title VI – Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act TMA – Transportation Management Area TMIP - Travel Model Improvement Program TPA – Transportation Planning Agency TPCB – Transportation Planning Capacity **Building Program** TPM - Transportation Performance Management TPO - Transportation Planning Organization UAB - Urban Area Boundary UPWP - Unified Planning Work Plan U.S.C. - United States Code UZA - Urbanized Areas VMT – Vehicle Miles Traveled

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