



# Regional Intermodal Connections Committee

*Summary of Committee Activity*

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September 2023



# Committee Mission



LAUNCHED IN  
**2023**

## **Role of Committee Members: Influencer, Collaborator, Partner**

**The mission of the committee is to build a passenger rail station and identify intermodal connections within Brevard County.**

### **Committee Goals:**

- Generate passenger rail connection discussion, support, and partnerships
- Work to create connections to final destinations
- Understand intermodal grants and funding sources available
- Make informed recommendations to the SCTPO board

### **Committee Outcomes:**

- Approval from SCTPO Board for projects related to intermodal and passenger rail
- Obtain funding for intermodal projects through partnerships
- Better understand benefits and need of passenger rail
- Identify need for modal support including micro-mobility, transit, and non-auto modes

**The Space Coast  
TPO Regional  
Intermodal  
Connections  
Committee is  
responsible for  
collaborating  
and making  
recommendations  
on modal choices  
and passenger  
rail initiatives.**







LAUNCHED IN  
**2023**

## Regional Intermodal Connections Committee Committee & Advisors

### **Erin Akins-VanDyke**

President, Titusville Area Chamber of Commerce

**ALTERNATE:** Brienne Robertson | *Vice Chair, Economic Affairs*

### **Commissioner Jerry Allender**

Canaveral Port Authority

### **Michael Ayers**

President & CEO, Melbourne Regional Chamber of Commerce

### **Jim Britton**

President, Space Coast Association of Realtors

### **Greg Donovan**

Executive Director, Melbourne Orlando Airport Authority

**ALTERNATE:** Cliff Graham | *Director of Operations and Maintenance*

### **John Giantonio**

Assistant Director, Space Coast Office of Tourism

### **Terry Jordan**

Transit Director, Space Coast Area Transit

**ALTERNATE:** Ken Harley | *Special Projects Manager*

### **Dale Ketcham**

Vice President of Government & External Relations, Space Florida

**ALTERNATE:** Steve Szabo | *Vice President of Spaceport Development and Planning*

### **Jimmy Lane**

President and CEO, Cocoa Beach Regional Chamber of Commerce

### **Jim Liesenfelt**

Assistant County Manager of Brevard County

### **Nancy Peltonen**

President & CEO, Greater Palm Bay Chamber of Commerce

### **Troy Post**

Executive Director, North Brevard Economic Development Zone

### **Commissioner Rita Pritchett**

Brevard County BOCC District 1

### **Eva Rey**

Viera Co. VP Community Management and Communications

### **John Thomas**

CEO, Home Builders Association

### **Curt Smith**

Citizen Advocate

### **Greg Stoll**

SCTPO Citizens Advisory Committee

### **Stockton Whitten**

City of Cocoa City Manager

**ALTERNATE:** Samantha Senger | *Assistant to City Manager*

### **Don Whyte**

Vice President, Planning at Deseret Cattle and Citrus

### **Council Member Andrea Young**

SCTPO Chair

### **Representative, TBD**

Space Coast Economic Development Commission

### **Advisors:**

**Representatives from the Florida Department of Transportation, Brightline, and East Central Florida Regional Planning Council**





LAUNCHED IN  
**2023**

## Regional Intermodal Connections Committee Meeting Agenda Outline

### Meeting #1

#### ***Brevard County: Your Home Station, Starting Our Journey***

Wednesday, January 18, 2023 | 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Bill Posey Conference Center of the Florida Department of Health

2555 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera, FL 32940

### Meeting #2

#### ***Mode Choices and Passenger Rail | Trains... Planes and Automobiles***

Wednesday, March 15, 2023 | 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Cocoa Civic Center | 430 Delannoy Ave, Cocoa, FL 32922

### Meeting #3

#### ***Building Partnerships | Getting Your Partnerships Right on Track***

Thursday, April 13, 2023 | 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Center for Collaboration | 1100 Rockledge Blvd, Rockledge, FL 32955

### Meeting #4

#### ***Think Regionally, Act Locally | Passengers on the Train***

Wednesday, May 17, 2023 | 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Brevard Zoo Nyami Nyami Lodge | 8225 N Wickham Rd, Melbourne, FL 32940

### Meeting #5

#### ***Shared Vision | All Aboard***

Wednesday, August 16, 2023 | 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

Port Canaveral | 445 Challenger Road, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920





**MEETING**

**#1**

**Brevard County:  
Your Home  
Station, Starting  
Our Journey**



## Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Regional Intermodal Connections Committee (RICC)

Bill Posey Conference Center of the Florida Department of Health  
2555 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera, FL 32940

Meeting Date: January 18, 2023

### MEETING SUMMARY

#### *Agenda*

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- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Economic Development Commission Video**
- 3. RICC Member Introductions**
- 4. Brightline Safety Message**
- 5. Purpose of Committee**
  - A. Pre-Meeting Survey Results
  - B. Goals, Schedule, Expectations
- 6. Breakout Sessions**
  - A. SOAR (Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations, Results) Sorting Exercise
  - B. Future Brevard Transportation Options – Vision Board
  - C. Destinations Map
- 7. Next Steps**
  - Meeting #2 – Mode Choices and Passenger Rail | Trains...Planes and Automobiles**
  - Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023
  - Time:** 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
  - Location:** Cocoa Civic Center | 430 Delannoy Ave, Cocoa, FL 32922

#### *Regional Intermodal Connections Committee Members*

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Erin Atkins-VanDyke	Titusville Area Chamber	Present
Jerry Allender	Commissioner Canaveral Port Authority	Present
Michael Ayers	Melbourne Regional Chamber	Present
Jim Britton	Space Coast Realtors Association	Absent
Greg Donovan	Melbourne Airport Authority	Absent
John Giantonio	Space Coast Office of Tourism	Present
Cliff Graham (ALT)	Melbourne Airport Authority	Present
Ken Harley (ALT)	Space Coast Area Transit	Absent
Terry Jordan	Space Coast Area Transit	Present
Dale Ketcham	Space Florida	Present
Jimmy Lane	Cocoa Beach Regional Chamber	Present



Caitlin Lewis (ALT)	Canaveral Port Authority	Present
Jim Liesenfelt	Brevard County	Present
Trudy McCarthy	Economic Development Commission	Present
Nancy Peltonen	Greater Palm Bay Chamber	Present
Troy Post	North Brevard Economic Development Zone	Present
Rita Pritchett	Commissioner Brevard County District 1	Absent
Eva Rey	The Viera Company	Present
Brienne Robertson (ALT)	Titusville Area Chamber	Absent
Samantha Senger (ALT)	City of Cocoa	Absent
Cory Skeates (ALT)	Cocoa Beach Chamber	Absent
Curt Smith	Citizen Advocate	Absent
Greg Stoll	SCTPO Citizen Advisory Committee	Absent
Steve Szabo (ALT)	Space Florida	Absent
John Thomas	Home Builders Association	Present
Stockton Whitten	City of Cocoa	Present
Don Whyte	Deseret Cattle and Citrus	Present
Andrea Young	SCTPO Chair/Councilmember West Melbourne	Present

### *Others Present:*

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Laura Carter	Space Coast TPO Staff
Debbie Flynn	Space Coast TPO Staff
Georganna Gillette	Space Coast TPO Executive Director
Abby Hemenway	Space Coast TPO Staff
Jillian John	Space Coast TPO Staff
Sarah Kraum	Space Coast TPO Staff
Nick Lepp	HDR
Amber Lindsey	HDR
Katie Mitzner	Brightline
Bob Musser	Canaveral Port Authority
Melissa Porcaro	HDR
Jo Santiago	FDOT – RICC Advisor

### *Meeting Summary:*

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#### **Item 1. Welcome**

Georganna Gillette welcomed those in attendance and thanked the Regional Intermodal Connections Committee members for coming and participating on the committee. Meeting started at 1:38 p.m.

## **Item 2. Economic Development Commission Video**

A short video was shown, created by the Economic Development Commission, that set the stage for providing an overview of Why Brevard and all the important economic industries that are based here on the Space Coast.

## **Item 3. RICC Member Introductions**

Nick Lepp, HDR consultant facilitated the committee member introductions.

## **Item 4. Brightline Safety Message**

Katie Mitzner provided a presentation on the status of Brightline Passenger Rail construction for Phase II, connecting West Palm to Orlando International Airport. Ms. Mitzner highlighted the economic impact, number of crossings and bridges that Brightline has been upgrading. Important safety messaging was also presented to start outreach campaigns on train operations and safely crossing tracks.

*Figure 1. Brightline Safety Message*



## **Item 5. Purpose of Committee**

Nick Lepp, HDR consultant presented on the purpose, goals and schedule for the RICC. Results of the pre-meeting survey that committee members were asked to complete were also presented. Mr. Lepp reviewed the definition of “what does ‘Intermodal’ mean?” to provide the



RICC with history and background information that will help them accomplish the committee's goals.

## **Item 6. Breakout Sessions**

The RICC members were broken up into groups of four to complete three different exercises:

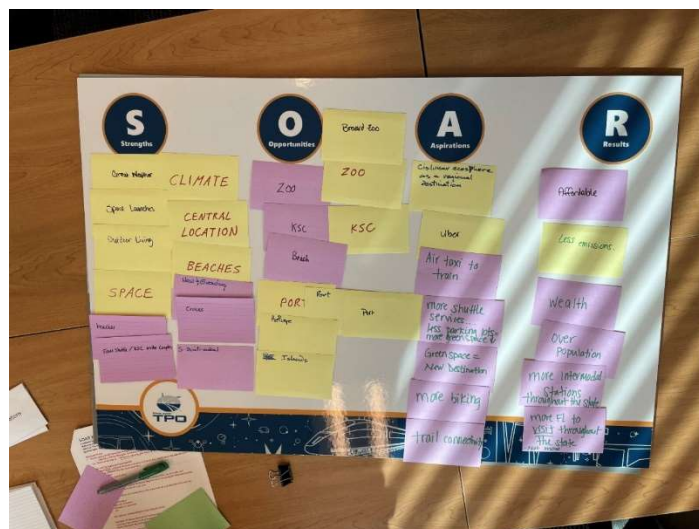
- A. SOAR (Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations, Results) Sorting Exercise
- B. Future Brevard Transportation Options – Vision Board
- C. Destinations Map

### **A. SOAR (Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations, Results) Sorting Exercise**

Facilitators started with Strengths and Opportunities and gave group members blank cards and were instructed to think of 2-3 words they would use to describe Brevard County to someone who has never been here. Facilitators had pre-determined words to utilize in the instance that breakout groups needed guidance with the SOAR categories.

Members discussed the strengths and opportunities they feel Brevard County has before moving on to discuss their aspirations for Brevard County. Finally, they discussed the results they would like to ultimately see achieved.

Figure 2. Breakout Session SOAR Board



### **A. Future Brevard Transportation Options – Vision Board Exercise**

The members of each breakout session were given a group of pictures containing images that fit into either a mode of transportation or an existing place (Modes/Places). Groups were asked to provide feedback on the pictures to develop a vision for Brevard County's transportation system. Each group provided feedback in different ways that included:

- Organizing pictures into “Yes” or “No” categories, featuring what they did or did not like, and what they would like to see in the future of Brevard County;
- Preferred Modes to Places – did not find Place pictures to be exciting;
- Focused heavily on Electric Vehicles (EV) and charging stations. Members cited issues regarding knowing where EV stations are located and how to find them, and issues regarding whether all EV charging stations worked with all EVs or not. There are also issues regarding charging times (such as fast chargers);
- The rendering photos of places were discussed; Regarding one rendering, they noted how utility poles still existed. The group discussed the benefits of putting utilities underground, which would include more space for pedestrians and cyclists, as well as hurricane safety measures, despite the high cost.

Figure 3. Breakout Session Visioning Board Examples



### C. Destinations Map Exercise

All breakout groups were given different colored markers and instructed to think about where they live within Brevard County, and how they would get to destinations within the region if they didn't have access to a car.

Members identified a variety of destinations ranging from tourist attractions such as Brevard Zoo and the Kennedy Space Center Visitors Complex, economic generators such as Melbourne Orlando International Airport, and cultural assets such as Cocoa Village and Downtown Melbourne. Modes discussed were trails, AV shuttles, and rideshare services.



Figure 4. Breakout Session Destinations Map Exercise



### **Item 7. Next Steps**

Laura Carter, SCTPO responded to questions the RICC members had following the breakout sessions.

- Would there be any feedback provided on what all the breakout groups provided during the exercises? Ms. Carter responded that a summary of the meeting will be compiled and provided to all members for their review.
- Has there been other committee's, similar to the RICC, that have been created elsewhere? Ms. Carter stated that there was research conducted on how to get a passenger rail/intermodal station established. There was only one instance where a committee of local community leaders were created to gather support and establish partnerships to solicit Amtrak to restore a station previously used in a mid size town in the northeast. The research did not find any committee's that have been formed to establish new stations, especially those that would need to be partnering with a private rail company such as Brightline. The Space Coast RICC is a first.

Ms. Carter reminded members of the next meeting, "Mode Choices and Passenger Rail | Trains...Planes and Automobiles", will be held on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at the Cocoa Civic Center.

The meeting ended at 3:15 p.m.

**MEETING**  
**#2**

**Mode Choices  
and Passenger  
Rail**

***Planes...Trains  
and Automobiles***





## Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Regional Intermodal Connections Committee (RICC)

Cocoa Civic Center  
430 Delannoy Ave, Cocoa, FL 32922  
Meeting Date: March 15, 2023

### MEETING SUMMARY

#### *Agenda*

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#### 1. Welcome

#### 2. Meeting #1 Recap

#### 3. Modal Panel Presentations

- A. Space Florida: Dale Ketcham, Vice-President Government & External Relations
- B. Melbourne-Orlando Airport: Jack Ryals, Senior Advisor for Local and Regional Affairs
- C. Port Canaveral: Bill Crowe, P.E., Vice President, Engineering, Construction and Facilities
- D. Space Coast Area Transit: Kenneth Harley, Special Projects Coordinator
- E. Space Coast TPO - Georganna Gillette, Executive Director

#### 4. Modal Panel Q & A

#### 5. Committee Roundtable

#### 6. FDOT Intermodal Grant: Feasibility of Intermodal Passenger Rail Station Update

#### 7. Next Steps

**Meeting #3 – Building Partnerships| Getting your Partnerships Right on Track**

**Date:** Thursday, April 13, 2023

**Time:** 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

**Location:** Center for Collaboration| 1100 Rockledge Blvd, Rockledge, FL 32955

#### *Regional Intermodal Connections Committee Members*

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Erin Atkins-VanDyke	Titusville Area Chamber	Absent
Jerry Allender	Commissioner Canaveral Port Authority	Present
Michael Ayers	Melbourne Regional Chamber	Absent
Jim Britton	Space Coast Realtors Association	Absent
Greg Donovan	Melbourne Airport Authority	Absent
John Giantonio	Space Coast Office of Tourism	Present
Cliff Graham (ALT)	Melbourne Airport Authority	Absent
Ken Harley (ALT)	Space Coast Area Transit	Present
Terry Jordan	Space Coast Area Transit	Absent

Dale Ketcham	Space Florida	Present
Jimmy Lane	Cocoa Beach Regional Chamber	Absent
Jim Liesenfelt	Brevard County	Absent
Diane Luensmann	Canaveral Port Authority	Present
Trudy McCarthy	Economic Development Commission	Present
Nancy Peltonen	Greater Palm Bay Chamber	Absent
Troy Post	North Brevard Economic Development Zone	Absent
Rita Pritchett	Commissioner Brevard County District 1	Present
Eva Rey	The Viera Company	Absent
Brienne Robertson (ALT)	Titusville Area Chamber	Absent
Samantha Senger (ALT)	City of Cocoa	Absent
Cory Skeates (ALT)	Cocoa Beach Chamber	Absent
Curt Smith	Citizen Advocate	Absent
Greg Stoll	SCTPO Citizen Advisory Committee	Present
Steve Szabo (ALT)	Space Florida	Absent
John Thomas	Home Builders Association	Absent
Stockton Whitten	City of Cocoa	Present
Don Whyte	Deseret Cattle and Citrus	Present
Andrea Young	SCTPO Chair/Councilmember West Melbourne	Present

### *Others Present:*

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Keith Alward	Brevard County D1 Commissioner
Laura Carter	Space Coast TPO Staff
William Crowe	Canaveral Port Authority
Carlos Colon	FDOT
Alan Dancher	WSP
Brenda Defoe-Surprenant	ECFRPC – RICC Advisor
Debbie Flynn	Space Coast TPO Staff
Georganna Gillette	Space Coast TPO Executive Director
Sarah Kraum	Space Coast TPO Staff
Nick Lepp	HDR
Zoe McNeely	Space Coast TPO Staff
Bob Musser	Canaveral Port Authority
Rick Neale	Florida Today
Melissa Porcaro	HDR
Jo Santiago	FDOT – RICC Advisor
Jim Scherff	Space Coast Area Transit

## **Meeting Summary:**

### **Item 1. Welcome**

Georganna Gillette welcomed those in attendance and thanked the Regional Intermodal Connections Committee members for coming and participating on the committee. Meeting started at 1:35 p.m.

### **Item 2. Meeting #1 Recap**

Laura Carter, SCTPO presented a recap regarding of the first meeting of the Regional Intermodal Connections Committee. Ms. Carter shared an infographic developed from the prior meeting's breakout sessions and confirmed that the summary was accurate and descriptive.

### **Item 3. Modal Panel Presentations**

Modal panel participants included Dale Ketcham, Jack Ryals, Bill Crowe, Kenneth Harley, and Georganna Gillette.

*Figure 1. Modal Panel Participants*





#### **Item 4. Modal Panel Q & A**

Nick Lepp, HDR consultant facilitated the modal panel question and answer session.

- Question for Kenneth Harley: During your presentation, you said you only had fixed routes – are there any unfixed routes? Mr. Harley responded no, and the RICC member asked why not. Mr. Harley said that all transit generally runs on fixed routes, but there are ADA complimentary services for those who cannot utilize the fixed route services. He also emphasized that funding for transit comes from FTA, FDOT, and sometimes Brevard County. The RICC member continued and asked does Space Coast Area Transit have to use a fixed route? Mr. Harley said generally yes, but there are examples of agencies that have deviated fixed routes that can be deviated once or twice, and riders can call ahead to change their route. Mobility on demand is another type of transit service that can deviate.
- Question for Kenneth Harley: Do you have any ridership data that can be shared with the RICC over the last few years? Has ridership been steady or increasing? Mr. Harley responded that ridership numbers from last year will be coming soon, but like most transit agencies ridership was lower during COVID-19 and continues to increase following the pandemic.
- Question for Kenneth Harley and Georganna Gillette: Is transit looking at possibilities for using certain technologies, such as these deviated routes, or improving communities? Or use of AVs? Has anyone looked at the idea of light rail or autonomous people movers? Mr. Harley said that Space Coast Area Transit utilizes real time GPS systems and availability for passengers to use on their phones, and users can buy bus passes on their phones. There is discussion about utilizing AV technology for mobility on demand for certain areas, but studies will need to be completed before they can be implemented. They are considering what other agencies are doing. Ms. Gillette said that SCTPO is monitoring what other communities are implementing, such as AV technology in Lake Nona.
- Question for Dale Ketcham: It was said that there will be over 20,000 new employees to the Space Center, regarding SR 3 and the causeway, how adequate will those roads be, to handle additional employees as well as additional tourists to the Space Center? Mr. Ketcham said that while Space Florida cannot solve the issue themselves, they are working towards implementing the influx of employees in master planning, and one of the biggest issues they're working on addressing is wastewater treatment facilities. The Cape is already at capacity, and Space Florida is working with other organizations to address this.
- Question for Jack Ryals: As tourists come in, is there a way to make us [Brevard County] the final destination? Mr. Ryals said Tui has been helpful with that. Tui is typically a two-week vacation, mostly centered around Orlando at the time of implementation, but leaders have realized there is more to do than just theme parks. They have begun to emphasize the Space Center, the beaches, the zoo, etc. The economic impact will be greater in the future.
- Question for Bill Crowe: There will be approximately 30,000 trucks on the road by 2027, are there ways to alleviate that? Mr. Crowe highlighted the critical nature of two projects mentioned in the presentation, SR 401, and SR 528. With both privately owned vehicles

(POV) and truck traffic, the bridge is a single point of failure, especially when the bridge goes up.

- Follow up question, are all three bridges for SR 401 being replaced? Mr. Crowe said the latest suggestion was replacing two of the three bridges. The Port Authority is aware of the mixing uses of recreational, tourism, industrial and more happening in the area, and are also working on a study along George King Blvd looking at all user safety.
- Question for Kenneth Harley: How will you handle last mile with Brightline at airport? Mr. Harley said that Space Coast Area Transit has busses arriving at the airport already, but they want to enhance the overall quality and service of those trips. Additionally, the use of transportation network companies will help provides services for first and last mile, such as Uber and Lyft. Brightline also has their own first and last mile service.
- Question for Bill Crowe: What is your expectation for addressing sea level rise, and how much are you building for? Mr. Crowe informed the RICC that Port Canaveral was looking at NOAA and FDEP studies. These studies are risked based, they don't give specific instances of water raising (such as 9 inches), but they measure by low, medium, or high risk. Port Canaveral is medium risk due to materials. Many studies also focus on years, such as 100-year windows. For a 35–40-year facility, planning should be done for 12 to 18 inches of water rise. They are also looking at an increase in tropical/named storms and wind driven storms.

Figure 2. Modal Panel Q & A

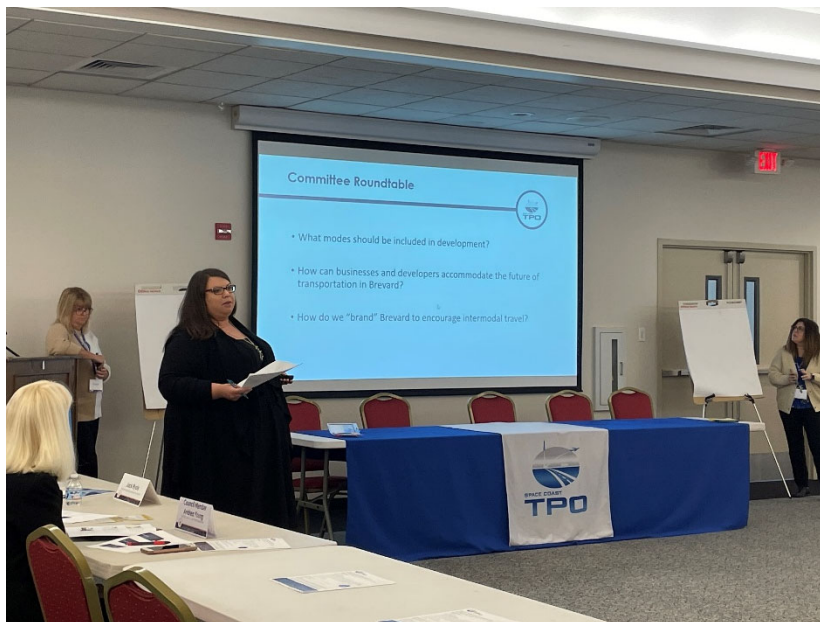


### **Item 5. Committee Roundtable**

Sarah Kraum, SCTPO facilitated the Regional Intermodal Connections Committee Roundtable discussion with a variety of questions asking the following:

- What modes should be included in development?
- How can businesses and developers accommodate the future of transportation?
- What should municipalities be doing to support intermodal connections?
- How do we inspire transportation champions?
- What are the benefits of providing additional mode choices?

Figure 3. Committee Roundtable



### **Item 6. FDOT Intermodal Grant: Feasibility of Intermodal Passenger Rail Station Update**

Laura Carter, SCTPO provided the RICC members an update regarding the status of the FDOT Intermodal Grant that SCTPO applied for in completing the Feasibility of Intermodal Passenger Rail study.

- In the list of stakeholders, why was the Economic Development Council not included? Ms. Carter let the RICC know that the list of stakeholders shown was not the complete list, and that the EDC would be included.



**Item 7. Next Steps**

Laura Carter, SCTPO reminded members of the next meeting, “Building Partnerships | Getting Your Partnerships Right on Track”, will be held on Thursday, April 13, 2023, at the Center for Collaboration.

The meeting ended at 3:46 p.m.

**MEETING**

**#3**

## **Building Partnerships**

***Getting your  
Partnerships Right  
on Track***



## Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Regional Intermodal Connections Committee (RICC)

Center for Collaboration  
1100 Rockledge Blvd, Rockledge, FL 32955

Meeting Date: April 13, 2023

### MEETING SUMMARY

#### *Agenda*

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- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Recap of Previous Meetings**
- 3. Brightline Construction Update**
- 4. Building Partnerships Presentations**
  - A. Cocoa's Vision: Samantha Senger, City of Cocoa
  - B. Economic Benefits of Intermodal Stations: Nick Lepp, HDR
  - C. Brightline Partnerships: Incorporating Rail within your Community: Kim DeLaney, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council
- 5. FDOT Intermodal Grant Update**
- 6. Next Steps**
  - Meeting #4 – Think Regionally, Act Locally | Passengers on the Train**
  - Date:** Wednesday, May 17, 2023
  - Time:** 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
  - Location:** Brevard Zoo Nyami Nyami Lodge | 8225 N Wickham Road, Melbourne, FL 32955

#### *Regional Intermodal Connections Committee Members*

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Erin Atkins-VanDyke	Titusville Area Chamber	Absent
Jerry Allender	Commissioner Canaveral Port Authority	Absent
Michael Ayers	Melbourne Regional Chamber	Absent
Jim Britton	Space Coast Realtors Association	Absent
Greg Donovan	Melbourne Airport Authority	Absent
John Giantonio	Space Coast Office of Tourism	Present
Cliff Graham (ALT)	Melbourne Airport Authority	Present
Ken Harley (ALT)	Space Coast Area Transit	Present
Terry Jordan	Space Coast Area Transit	Present
Dale Ketcham	Space Florida	Present
Jimmy Lane	Cocoa Beach Regional Chamber	Absent
Jim Liesenfelt	Brevard County	Present



Diane Luensmann (ALT)	Canaveral Port Authority	Absent
Trudy McCarthy	Economic Development Commission	Present
Nancy Peltonen	Greater Palm Bay Chamber	Present
Troy Post	North Brevard Economic Development Zone	Present
Rita Pritchett	Commissioner Brevard County District 1	Present
Eva Rey	The Viera Company	Present
Brienne Robertson (ALT)	Titusville Area Chamber	Absent
Samantha Senger (ALT)	City of Cocoa	Present
Cory Skeates (ALT)	Cocoa Beach Chamber	Absent
Curt Smith	Citizen Advocate	Absent
Greg Stoll	SCTPO Citizen Advisory Committee	Present
Steve Szabo (ALT)	Space Florida	Present
John Thomas	Home Builders Association	Absent
Stockton Whitten	City of Cocoa	Present
Don Whyte	Deseret Cattle and Citrus	Present
Andrea Young	SCTPO Chair/Councilmember West Melbourne	Present

### *Others Present:*

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Keith Alward	Brevard County D1 Commissioner
Laura Carter	Space Coast TPO Staff
William Crowe	Canaveral Port Authority
Brenda Defoe-Surprenant	ECFRPC – RICC Advisor
Kim Delaney	Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council
Yesscencia E	FDOT
Debbie Flynn	Space Coast TPO Staff
Georganna Gillette	Space Coast TPO Executive Director
Sarah Kraum	Space Coast TPO Staff
Nick Lepp	HDR
Jack M	FDOT
Zoe McNeely	Space Coast TPO Staff
Yvonne Minus	City of Melbourne
Katie Mitzner	Brightline
Bob Musser	Canaveral Port Authority
Rick Neale	Florida Today
Melissa Porcaro	HDR
Jo Santiago	FDOT – RICC Advisor
Jim Scherff	Space Coast Area Transit
Anna Taylor	FDOT
Don Willis	City of Cape Canaveral

## Meeting Summary:

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### **Item 1. Welcome**

Georganna Gillette welcomed those in attendance and thanked the Regional Intermodal Connections Committee members for coming and participating on the committee. Meeting started at 1:35 p.m. Ms. Gillette revisited the purpose, mission, and goals of the RICC for members to remind them of the importance of the committee.

### **Item 2. Recap of Previous Meetings**

Laura Carter, SCTPO presented a recap regarding of the first two meetings of the Regional Intermodal Connections Committee. Ms. Carter shared an infographic developed from the second meeting's breakout sessions and confirmed that the summary was accurate and descriptive.

### **Item 3. Brightline Construction Update**

Katie Mitzner, Brightline, provided a presentation on the status of Brightline Passenger Rail construction connecting West Palm to Orlando International Airport. This presentation occurred in between the Building Partnerships presentations. Ms. Mitzner highlighted the economic impact, number of crossings and bridges that Brightline has been upgrading since the previous Brightline Update at the RICC Meeting #1. An important safety messaging video was played to emphasize avoiding distractions around train tracks.

- Question for Katie Mitzner: How fast can the train go? Ms. Mitzner informed the RICC that the trains can go up to 150 miles per hour. Follow up question: what are the physical limitations? Ms. Mitzner said that physical limitations included the track, and things like positive train control.

### **Item 4. Building Partnerships Presentations**

Building Partnerships presentations included Samantha Sengar, Nick Lepp, and Kim Delaney. Presentations began with Samantha Sengar, City of Cocoa. Ms. Sengar informed the RICC the goals of the City of Cocoa, roadway improvements and development within the area, and why they hope to gain access to an intermodal station.

Nick Lepp, HDR was the second to present, discussing different types of intermodal stations and their economic benefits.

- Question: Is there a breakdown for where the jobs are that are staying or leaving Brevard County? Mr. Lepp informed the RICC that no, but this is something that the

team will be looking at more during the Feasibility Study. Right now, they were only looking at geography.

- Question: For other stations, are you aware of any economic analysis reports that we can read? Nick said that Kim will go over transit oriented development as developed in South Florida, but the Feasibility Study will look more at the market analysis.

Kim Delaney, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, was the final presenter. The focus of the presentation was regarding incorporating intermodal rail into the community, specifically as it related to Brightline in Boca Raton and Aventura, as well as Tri-Rail in South Florida.

- Question: What is the per mile cost of tri-rail? Ms. Delaney informed the group that she hasn't run commuter rail numbers since pre-Covid-19 and will need to do so, but the pre-Covid-19 number approximately \$30 million a mile. SunRail is another rail to look at, and one of the biggest costs is operations. There is a lot of money available from capital dollars for rail, but not necessarily for operations and maintenance.

Figure 1. Building Partnerships Presentations



### **Item 5. FDOT Intermodal Grant Update**

Laura Carter, SCTPO provided the RICC members an update regarding the status of the FDOT Intermodal Grant that SCTPO applied for in completing the Feasibility of Intermodal Passenger Rail study.

### **Item 6. FDOT Intermodal Grant: Feasibility of Intermodal Passenger Rail Station Update**

Laura Carter, SCTPO reminded members of the next meeting, “Think Regionally, Act Locally | Passengers on the Train”, will be held on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at the Brevard Zoo Nyami Nyami Lodge.

The meeting ended at 3:30 p.m.

**MEETING**  
**#4**

**Think Regionally,  
Act Locally**

***Passengers on  
the Train***





## Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Regional Intermodal Connections Committee (RICC)

Brevard Zoo, Nyami Nyami Lodge  
8225 N Wickham Road, Melbourne, FL 32940  
Meeting Date: May 17, 2023

### **MEETING SUMMARY**

#### *Agenda*

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#### **1. Welcome**

#### **2. Things to Consider for TOD**

#### **3. Think Regionally, Act Locally Presentations**

- A. Linking Land Use and Transportation: Brenda Defoe-Surprenant, ECFRPC
- B. Local Destination: Brevard Zoo: Keith Winsten, Brevard Zoo
- C. Brevard's Tourism Trends: John Giantonio, Space Coast Office of Tourism
- D. Brevard's Economic Development: Trudy McCarthy, The Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast

#### **4. Committee Conclusions, Themes to Integrate into Local Plans**

#### **5. Next Steps**

**Future Meeting** – Intermodal Station Feasibility Study Kickoff Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday, August 23, 2023

**Time:** 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

**Location:** Canaveral Port Authority

#### *Regional Intermodal Connections Committee Members*

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Erin Atkins-VanDyke	Titusville Area Chamber	Present
Jerry Allender	Commissioner Canaveral Port Authority	Absent
Michael Ayers	Melbourne Regional Chamber	Present
Jim Britton	Space Coast Realtors Association	Absent
Greg Donovan	Melbourne Airport Authority	Absent
John Giantonio	Space Coast Office of Tourism	Present
Cliff Graham (ALT)	Melbourne Airport Authority	Present
Ken Harley (ALT)	Space Coast Area Transit	Absent
Terry Jordan	Space Coast Area Transit	Present
Dale Ketcham	Space Florida	Absent
Jimmy Lane	Cocoa Beach Regional Chamber	Absent
Jim Liesenfelt	Brevard County	Present
Diane Luensmann (ALT)	Canaveral Port Authority	Absent

Trudy McCarthy	Economic Development Commission	Present
Nancy Peltonen	Greater Palm Bay Chamber	Present
Troy Post	North Brevard Economic Development Zone	Present
Rita Pritchett	Commissioner Brevard County District 1	Present
Eva Rey	The Viera Company	Absent
Brienne Robertson (ALT)	Titusville Area Chamber	Absent
Samantha Senger (ALT)	City of Cocoa	Absent
Cory Skeates (ALT)	Cocoa Beach Chamber	Absent
Curt Smith	Citizen Advocate	Absent
Greg Stoll	SCTPO Citizen Advisory Committee	Present
Steve Szabo (ALT)	Space Florida	Absent
John Thomas	Home Builders Association	Absent
Stockton Whitten	City of Cocoa	Absent
Don Whyte	Deseret Cattle and Citrus	Absent
Andrea Young	SCTPO Chair/Councilmember West Melbourne	Present

#### ***Others Present:***

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Keith Alward	Brevard County D1 Commissioner
Bob Musser	Canaveral Port Authority
Brenda Defoe-Surprenant	ECFRPC – RICC Advisor
Carlos Colón	FDOT
Keith Winsten	Brevard Zoo
Georganna Gillette	Space Coast TPO Executive Director
Laura Carter	Space Coast TPO Staff
Debbie Flynn	Space Coast TPO Staff
Sarah Kraum	Space Coast TPO Staff
Shelby Villatoro	Space Coast TPO Staff
Jillian John	Space Coast TPO Staff
Abby Hemenway	Space Coast TPO Staff
Zoe McNeely	Space Coast TPO Staff
Nick Lepp	HDR
Amber Lindsey	HDR

## Meeting Summary:

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### **Item 1. Welcome**

Georganna Gillette, SCTPO welcomed those in attendance and thanked the Regional Intermodal Connections Committee members for coming and participating on the committee. Meeting started at 1:35 p.m. Ms. Gillette briefed committee on funding/kickoff for feasibility study, and implementation plan that is to come after the study.

*Figure 1. Meeting Welcome*



### **Item 2. Recap of Transit Oriented Development**

Laura Carter, SCTPO presented a recap regarding themes to consider for Transit Oriented Development (TOD) to the committee. Ms. Carter emphasized that implementing TOD would require advocates and partnerships.

### **Item 3. Think Regionally, Act Locally Presentations**

Think Regionally, Act Locally presentations included Brenda Defoe-Surprenant, Keith Winsten, John Giantonio, and Trudy McCarthy.

Presentations began with Brenda Defoe-Surprenant, ECFRPC. Ms. Surprenant presented to the RICC on the importance of linking regional growth priorities and efficient transportation systems.

Keith Winsten, Brevard Zoo, was the second to present, discussing Brevard Zoo reaching record-number visitors, and the Zoo's long-term plan for their future aquarium – both of which would require multimodal connections to support future visitors.

John Gianonio, Space Coast Office of Tourism, was the third presenter. The focus of the presentation was regarding Brevard County's latest tourism performance trends and the Office of Tourism's outlook on Brevard's tourism industry.

Trudy McCarthy, Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast, was the final presenter. In this presentation, Ms. McCarthy highlighted Brevard County's economic development trends and workforces that are moving into the area.

- Question: What kind of jobs are being created in the County?  
Ms. McCarthy answered that that the Commission is trying to attract jobs from a range of skillsets and talent (GEC to PhD). She emphasized that diversifying Brevard County's talent pool is crucial for economic development opportunities.

### **Item 5. Committee Conclusions - Themes to Integrate into Local Plans**

Nick Lepp, HDR provided the RICC members a summary on the themes that have emerged for an intermodal station from the RICC meetings.

*Figure 2. Committee Conclusions*



### **Item 6. Next Steps**

Laura Carter, SCTPO reminded members of the next meeting, Intermodal Station Feasibility Study Kickoff, that will take place August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, at the Port Canaveral Authority. Ms. Carter concluded with informing RICC members of the next phases for establishing and building an intermodal station, which would include partnerships, visioning, time, and funding.

- Question: Does Brightline want a station here in Brevard County?  
Ms. Carter and Ms. Gillette answered that Brightline wants to see strong community support for an intermodal station. Brevard County can't wait on Brightline, they must have these discussions early and be proactive.



- Question: Many of these decisions are in the hands of the Board of County Commissioners - How can RICC members have an impact on local decision making? Ms. Gillette answered that SCTPO will be taking the RICC discussion themes into the Long Range Transportation Plan. In addition, they will be looking at the County's current local decision-making and zoning practices. She also emphasized that getting the message out to a broad audience is critical in gaining community support.

The meeting ended at 2:50 p.m.

**MEETING**  
**#5**

**Shared Vision**

***All Aboard***



## Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Regional Intermodal Connections Committee (RICC)

Canaveral Port Authority  
445 Canaveral Road, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920  
Meeting Date: August 16, 2023

### MEETING SUMMARY

#### *Agenda*

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- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Keynote Speaker: Brad Thoburn**
  - A. The Evolution of Passenger Rail and Modal Development in Florida
- 3. Summary of Committee Findings**
- 4. Presentations**
  - A. Intermodal Station Feasibility Study
  - B. Long Range Transportation Plan
- 5. Next Steps**

#### *Regional Intermodal Connections Committee Members*

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Erin Atkins-VanDyke	Titusville Area Chamber	Absent
Jerry Allender	Commissioner Canaveral Port Authority	Present
Michael Ayers	Melbourne Regional Chamber	Absent
Jim Britton	Space Coast Realtors Association	Absent
Greg Donovan	Melbourne Airport Authority	Absent
John Giantonio	Space Coast Office of Tourism	Present
Cliff Graham (ALT)	Melbourne Airport Authority	Present
Ken Harley (ALT)	Space Coast Area Transit	Absent
Terry Jordan	Space Coast Area Transit	Absent
Dale Ketcham	Space Florida	Absent
Jimmy Lane	Cocoa Beach Regional Chamber	Absent
Jim Liesenfelt	Brevard County	Absent
Diane Luensmann (ALT)	Canaveral Port Authority	Absent
Trudy McCarthy	Economic Development Commission	Absent
Nancy Peltonen	Greater Palm Bay Chamber	Present
Troy Post	North Brevard Economic Development Zone	Present
Rita Pritchett	Commissioner Brevard County District 1	Absent
Eva Rey	The Viera Company	Absent
Brienne Robertson (ALT)	Titusville Area Chamber	Absent
Samantha Senger (ALT)	City of Cocoa	Absent

Cory Skeates (ALT)	Cocoa Beach Chamber	Absent
Curt Smith	Citizen Advocate	Absent
Greg Stoll	SCTPO Citizen Advisory Committee	Present
Steve Szabo (ALT)	Space Florida	Absent
John Thomas	Home Builders Association	Absent
Stockton Whitten	City of Cocoa	Absent
Don Whyte	Deseret Cattle and Citrus	Present
Andrea Young	SCTPO Chair/Councilmember West Melbourne	Present

### ***Others Present:***

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Keith Alward	Brevard County D1 Commissioner
Bob Musser	Canaveral Port Authority
Kelsea Southwick	Canaveral Port Authority
Brenda Defoe-Surprenant	ECFRPC – RICC Advisor
Tara McCue	ECFRPC – RICC Advisor
Jo Santiago	Florida Department of Transportation – RICC Advisor
Jarrell Smith	Florida Department of Transportation
Christine Kefauver	Brightline – RICC Advisor
Georganna Gillette	Space Coast TPO Executive Director
Laura Carter	Space Coast TPO Staff
Debbie Flynn	Space Coast TPO Staff
Sarah Kraum	Space Coast TPO Staff
Jillian John	Space Coast TPO Staff
Zoe McNeely	Space Coast TPO Staff
Nick Lepp	HDR
Megan Ferguson	HDR
Brad Thoburn	HDR

## Meeting Summary:

### **Item 1. Welcome**

Laura Carter, SCTPO and Georganna Gillette, SCTPO welcomed those in attendance and thanked the Regional Intermodal Connections Committee members for their time and participation throughout the 2023 meetings. Meeting started at 1:30 p.m. Ms. Gillette informed the committee about a Brightline revenue and ridership report published on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023. Brightline mentions two additional stations being considered and specifically mentions Brevard County. Ms. Gillette reinforced SCTPO's commitment to preparing the region for a station. She noted SCTPO has set aside \$17 million for Intermodal Station Development in Fiscal Year 2027-2028 should the station move forward.



Figure 1. Meeting Welcome

### **Item 2. Keynote: Brad Thoburn on the Evolution of Passenger Rail and Modal Development in Florida**

Brad Thoburn, HDR introduced the topic. Mr. Thoburn discussed the robust network in Florida and listed the number of fixed transit routes, seaports, spaceports, airports, and railroads. He noted there are 5 spaceports, but Brevard County has the only operational one. Mr. Thoburn highlighted the types of passenger rail, including urban systems, regional commuter rail, and Amtrak. Mr. Thoburn ended on the future rail systems planned, including the Sunshine Corridor connecting the Orlando International Airport (OIA) to Brightline. He also noted interstate rail coordination such as the Gulf Coast Service and Southeast Corridor.

A question was asked regarding the Brightline Orlando to Tampa and the Brightline West expansion timeline. Mr. Thoburn noted there are segmentation decisions to be made for the Orlando to Tampa route and coordination with FDOT needed since it will be median running along I-4. Mr. Thoburn noted the 2028 Olympics may influence Brightline West.



A question was asked regarding subsidies available. Mr. Thoburn replied that the grants won't fund operations but can fund capital projects. One example is the federal CRISI (Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements) grant program for inner city rail.



Figure 2. Keynote Presentation

### **Item 3. Summary of Committee Findings**

Nick Lepp, HDR stepped through a recap of each previous meeting. Meeting #1 “Setting the Foundation” – identifying Brevard County’s strengths and key destinations. Meeting #2 “Transportation System and Develop the Future” – identifying the connected, futuristic, and multimodal themes. Meeting #3 “Successful Intermodal Stations” – location, access, and transit-oriented development. Meeting #4 “Intermodal Station Themes – identifying mobility, tourism, economic development, and resiliency.

The group took a 10-minute break. Meeting resumed at 2:23 p.m.

### **Item 4. Presentations**

#### **Intermodal Feasibility Study:**

Megan Ferguson, HDR introduced the intermodal station feasibility study. Ms. Ferguson described feasibility as more than the constructability and funding, but whether the area around the station is ready for transit. She noted the schedule was through 2025 and the study is funded through the FDOT Intermodal Grant Program. Ms. Ferguson shared the location being studied (near SR 528, SR 501, US 1) as identified in a previous study. The project purpose, goals, and approach were discussed.

Ms. Ferguson described the engagement envisioned, including a Steering Committee and Stakeholders. Ms. Ferguson asked the RICC members to advise on the potential Steering Committee membership and the Stakeholders. The following comments were made for Stakeholder participation: include Space Florida and Space X, include EFRPC, include the Brevard Zoo (given the future aquarium), consider the EFSC King's Center. A question was asked why Brightline was listed as a Stakeholder and not a Steering Committee member. Ms. Ferguson replied that Brightline is envisioned as an advisor and would be invited to both.

It was asked how the study is reaching the residents of Brevard County and the average "man on the street". Ms. Ferguson replied that public outreach will be conducted throughout the entire study. The engagement plan is being developed to map out potential events, such as farmer's markets where people are already congregated.

A question was asked about gaining feedback from Orlando visitors and to understand their interest in visiting Brevard County. Ms. Ferguson replied that the study has paid, targeted engagement as part of the scope and will discuss applying that to Orlando.

A comment was made to consider the historically disadvantaged population in Cocoa Village. Ms. Ferguson replied that an analysis and outreach will be conducted. Laura Carter, SCTPO added that the team is aware and prepared for coordination with the community.

### **Long Range Transportation Plan:**

Nick Lepp, HDR gave a quick overview describing the planning process. Mr. Lepp also noted that the Transit Development Plan (TDP) is being conducted in parallel with the LRTP. Mr. Lepp reviewed the LRTP/TDP project schedule, highlighting the end date of September 2025.

### **Item 5. Next Steps**

Nick Lepp, HDR closed out the meeting. Laura Carter, SCTPO asked members to visit the boards at the front of the room. One board shows the land use surrounding the intermodal station site and the other board lists commitments requested of RICC members for support on the Intermodal Station Feasibility Study and the Long Range Transportation Plan.

The meeting ended at 2:50 p.m.



**Laura Carter**  
Assistant Director

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