



**Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization (SCTPO)  
Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)  
Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)**

Center for Collaboration

1100 Rockledge Blvd., Rockledge, Florida 32955

Meeting Date: February 5, 2024

**MEETING MINUTES**

***Agenda***

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- 1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**
- 2. Public Comment**
- 3. Executive Director's Report**
- 4. Consent Agenda**

(The entire Consent Agenda will be passed in one motion and read aloud for the record)

  - A. Approval RE: TAC/CAC Meeting Minutes – December 11, 2023
  - B. Approval RE: Resolution 24-14, Acceptance and Approval to Execute SUN Trail Grant Award, Work Order 24-10K, North Merritt Island Pioneer Trail Scope of Services, and FY 24 Operating Budget Amendment
  - C. Approval RE: Resolution 24-12, SCTPO Performance Measure Targets: Safety (PM1)
  - D. Approval RE: Work Order 24-11K, Ellis Road Sub Area Model Development Scope of Services
- 5. Actions**
  - A. Adoption RE: Resolution 24-13, SCTPO Vision Zero Action Plan Update
- 6. Presentations**
  - A. Member Orientation (Transportation Planning 101)
- 7. Reports**
  - A. Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Report
  - B. Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Trails Advisory Committee (BPTAC) Report
  - C. Space Coast Area Transit Report
  - D. Public Engagement Report
  - E. Local Government Report
- 8. Adjourn**

### **Technical Advisory Committee Members Present:**

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Black, Karen (ALT); *Brevard County School Board*  
Bostel, Steven (ALT); *Space Florida*  
Corwin, Todd (ALT); *City of Melbourne*  
Eliadis, Chris; *BoCC Emergency Management*  
Fischer, Christy (ALT); *City of West Melbourne*  
Francis, Jared; *City of Cocoa Beach*  
Graham, Cliff; *Melbourne Orlando Airport*  
Harley, Ken; *Space Coast Area Transit*  
Jarusiewick, Michael (ALT); *City of Rockledge*  
Mahaney, Jason; *Town of Grant-Valkaria*  
Miller, Lexi; *City of Cape Canaveral*  
Morgan, Abigail (ALT); *City of Cocoa*  
Musser, Robert (ALT); *Canaveral Port Authority*  
Ofosu, Kwabena; *City of Titusville*  
Possinger, Lauren (ALT); *BoCC Emergency Management*  
Szabo, Steve; *Space Florida*  
Swanson, Devin; *Brevard County Public Works*  
Watanabe, Frank (ALT); *City of Palm Bay*

### **Citizen Advisory Committee Members Present:**

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DeBlauw, Arlyn (ALT); *North Beaches Coalition*  
Fielding, Eric; *City of Melbourne*  
Fusscas, Peter; *BoCC District 4*  
Friedlander, Terri (ALT); *BoCC District 4*  
Honeycutt, Rodney; *BoCC District 1*  
Gautreaux, Mike; *Canaveral Port Authority*  
Morin, Henry; *City of Palm Bay*  
Petyk, Pete; *City of Titusville*  
Ramirez, Gil; *City of West Melbourne*  
Stoll, Greg; *City of Cocoa*  
Tucker, Guy; *City of Melbourne*  
Twigg, Ginger; *BoCC District 5*  
Vinci, Dana; *BoCC District 4*  
Vollmer, Bill; *BoCC District 2*  
Weinberg, Philip; *City of Palm Bay*  
Wrazen, Michael; *Canaveral Port Authority*

### **Others Present:**

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Carter, Laura; *Space Coast TPO staff*  
Cannon, Jim; *SJRWMD*  
Flynn, Debbie; *Space Coast TPO staff*  
Gillette, Georganna, *Space Coast TPO staff*  
John, Jillian; *Space Coast TPO staff*  
Koppernolle, Chuck; *FDOT*

Kohler, Rich; *Town of Malabar*  
Kraum, Sarah; *Space Coast TPO staff*  
McNeely, Zoe; *Space Coast TPO staff*  
Villatoro, Shelby; *Space Coast TPO staff*  
Zuhlic, Morgan; *Cocoa Beach*

### **Agenda Items:**

#### **Item 1. Call to Order of the Technical and Citizen Advisory Committees and Pledge of Allegiance**

Technical Advisory Committee Chair, Cliff Graham, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and welcomed those in attendance. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **Item 2. Public Comment**

None.

#### **Item 3. Executive Director's Report**

Georganna Gillette, SCTPO Executive Director, advised the Committees of any pertinent items not covered on the agenda. Perfect attendance for the 2023 TAC/CAC meetings was acknowledged. The TAC members were Bob Musser, Jared Francis, Frank Watanabe, KB Ofosu, and Cliff Graham. The CAC members were Rodney Honeycutt, Adam Kohler, Peter Fuscas, Michael Wrazen, and Arlyn Deblauw.

The SCTPO offered technical assistance to Brevard County to apply for an Infrastructure Grant for the widening of Ellis Road, the SCTPO's top priority. Brevard County did not receive this award. SCTPO will assist with another application for the grant this year. SCTPO is coordinating with Brevard County and consultants to update modeling information that will help the development of the application.

Gillette provided an update on the carbon reduction program funding. The state of Florida has told the US DOT that it will not comply with setting performance targets for greenhouse gas emissions and developing a carbon reduction plan. This may affect Brevard County because Florida was set to get roughly \$320 million from the federal government from the infrastructure bill for the carbon reduction program. SCTPO's budget has carbon reduction funds programmed on quite a few projects. SCTPO receives roughly \$1.5 million per year from the infrastructure bill and has been very aggressively programming it on various projects. SCTPO will continue to work with DOT partners and seek guidance from DOT District 5 office. February 1<sup>st</sup> was the deadline for the department to set those targets and it has now been extended to March 29<sup>th</sup>. MPOs have 180 days to set targets after the DOT adopts their target. The DOT does not plan on adopting a target which means the MPOs will have to discuss how to move forward.

Gillette wanted to highlight a transportation bill, Senate bill 1032. It is a very broad transportation bill. This bill has significant impacts to MPOs and statewide transportation planning. This will require the DOT to review each MPOs long range transportation plan to ensure there is connectivity between people and freight and to ensure that it is

progressively implemented. If the plan is found to be unsatisfactory, the DOT will return the plan to the MPO for revision. It will also require DOT to set policy performance metrics and a minimum acceptable score to rate each MPOs service to its communities, taking into consideration traffic congestion, the utilization rate of multimodal transportation facilities, resident satisfaction, and efficiency of the transportation system. Any MPO that does not achieve the minimum acceptable score could potentially be taken over by the DOT secretary who would appoint a new Executive Director and a new Chair of the TPO Governing Board, potentially restructure the Governing Board, and potentially merge MPOs. If the MPO gets the top score, they will receive a \$5 million prize to go toward any project. The bill would also abolish the MPO Advisory Council and the Florida Transportation Commission that recommends the DOT secretary to the Governor. This house bill is moving through several committees. No one knows where this bill is coming from, but it is being discussed in detail.

Pete Petyk commented about a potential financial motive behind the bill.

Christy Fischer asked if FDOT is being held accountable similar to the MPOs? Gillette replied that this bill would put DOT in a terrible position. Gillette stated, as MPOs we control some federal funding but certainly not all funding. There is a very long priority list with projects that are not moving, majority of them on state road. The department is not taking a position on this, but it is hard to imagine that DOT would want to take over an MPO. Florida has one of the best transportation systems in the country because of the collaboration between MPOs and the department.

Philip Weinberg recommended that if any members of the TAC/CAC have interactions with any legislative delegation to express total opposition to SB 1032.

Ginger Twigg asked if anyone has spoken to the Senator that proposed the bill. Gillette replied that letters have been sent to the Senator and that Mark Reichert met with Representative McFarland but was not able to get any information. If someone knows where this bill is coming from, they are not saying. It is possible that the bill could be from a lack of understanding MPOs contributions.

### ***Consent Agenda:***

Cliff Graham read aloud the Consent Agenda. The entire Consent Agenda will be passed in one motion and read aloud for the record.

**Item 4A. Approval RE: TAC/CAC Meeting Minutes – December 11, 2023**

**Item 4B. Approval RE: Resolution 24-14, Acceptance and Approval to Execute SUN Trail Grant Award, Work Order 24-10K, North Merritt Island Pioneer Trail Scope of Services, and FY 24 Operating Budget Amendment**

**Item 4C. Approval RE: Resolution 24-12, SCTPO Performance Measure Targets: Safety (PM1)**

**Item 4D. Approval RE: Work Order 24-11K, Ellis Road Sub Area Model Development Scope of Services**

***TAC motion by Christy Fischer, second by Frank Guertin, to approve all items of the Consent Agenda. CAC motion by Arlyn Deblauw, second by Henry Morin, to concur with the TAC motions. Hearing no objections, the CAC motion passed unanimously. The TAC motion passed unanimously.***

### ***Action Items:***

#### **Item 5A. Adoption RE: Resolution 24-13: SCTPO Vision Zero Action Plan Update**

The SCTPO's vision of providing a safe, multimodal, innovative, and resilient transportation system for all requires improving the safety of Brevard County's transportation system. The SCTPO has a long history of supporting safety efforts to increase awareness, including the adoption of resolution of support for Vision Zero and the development of the 2020 Vision Zero Action Plan in 2019.

Vision Zero's philosophy is that traffic fatalities and serious injuries can be prevented, and the absolute minimum acceptable number is zero. Vision Zero is a data driven, multi-disciplinary approach bringing together diverse and necessary stakeholders to address this complex problem and requires a fundamental change in the way we think about traffic safety and planning.

As the 2020 Vision Zero Action Plan strategies and goals were accomplished, the SCTPO began the task of updating the Plan. This 2024 Vision Zero Action Plan focuses on the next phase of efforts to achieve zero fatalities and serious injuries on our roadways, and better serves our community through the development of new strategies, targets, and best practices identified in recent years.

TPO staff have prepared a resolution adopting the updated 2024 Vision Zero Action Plan to further guide their efforts towards zero traffic deaths and serious injuries on Brevard County roads. The resolution serves as a commitment to the 2024 Action Plan, establishes the SCTPO's first target goal of 2050, and encourages local municipalities to consider developing and adopting Action Plans for their respective jurisdictions.

A full draft of the 2024 Vision Zero Action Plan can be reviewed at:

[www.spacecoasttpo.com/what-we-do/planning/vision-zero](http://www.spacecoasttpo.com/what-we-do/planning/vision-zero).

Christy Fischer commented that inexpensive things can be done to intersections with paint and if working with the County is possible to implement this type of improvement. Shelby Villatoro replied that this is something that TPO encourages but it falls to the agencies to implement.

Gregg Stoll commented that he would like to see a safety pop-up in relation to rail crossing safety. He asked if Georganna Gillette if she could speak to any potential grants for additional safety measures to implement at the crossings that meet FRA specifications but could be enhanced. Georganna Gillette replied that the SCTPO is in contact with Brightline. There is an item for the TPO Governing Board, with their approval the SCPTO is going to potentially take the lead on applying for a grant for safety improvements on the ten rail crossing locations that do not have certain safety improvements. The SCTPO is in coordination with Brevard County, the City of Melbourne, and the City of Cocoa but we must wait for the Grant Opportunity to come

out. There is also a RAISE grant where DOT and Brightline partnered together that is in the works to add delineators and low cost improvements.

Pete Petyk commented that he would like to see more pedestrian crossings and pavement markings. He also commented that there should be strict enforcement against those who do not stop for pedestrians in a crosswalk. Gillette commented that enforcement is a big part of safety. Engineering and education are important, but people have potentially trespassed across rail crossing for years and the problem now is that the train is moving too fast to get away with that.

Eric Fielding asked if the Vision Zero Action Plan is published annually. Villatoro replied that the SCTPO uses the Action Plan to do an annual report that provides updates on the tracked progress and the Action Plan is updated as needed.

Shelby Villatoro commented to Petyk's comment about enforcement and mentioned that the County just partnered with Best Foot Forward to do crosswalk enforcement and will be deliberately going out and writing tickets for people that do not stop at crosswalks.

***TAC motion Devin Swanson, second by Christy Fischer to adopt the SCTPO Vision Zero Action Plan Update. CAC motion by Gregg Stoll, second by Arlyn Deblauw, to concur with the TAC motions. Hearing no objections, the CAC motion passed unanimously. The TAC motion passed unanimously.***

### **Presentations:**

#### **Item 6A. Member Orientation (Transportation Planning 101)**

Each year, the SCTPO provides a Member Orientation to familiarize new and existing members with functions, priorities, and strategic plan objectives.

SCTPO Executive Director Georganna Gillette will provide an overview of the nature of SCTPO, what we do, and your role as a member of the committee or governing board.

Pete Petyk commented on homeless citizens losing their lives near railroad crossings. Gillette replied that the SCTPO is coordinating with local governments about the grant mentioned, the county or the cities will have to provide a 20% non-federal match and once the improvements are put in, upon receipt of an award, they are also going to have to maintain those improvements.

Ginger Twigg asked about remote attendance and if it will be offered in the future. Gillette replied that during the COVID-19 pandemic, remote meetings took place, but it was a process to set up the equipment and found that there was not a lot of participation in Brevard County, most members wanted to meet in person.

### **Reports:**

#### **Item 7A. Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Report**

Chuck Koppennolle, FDOT MPO Liaison, reported to the Space Coast TPO Governing Board the status of various construction projects and engineering studies currently in progress in Brevard County.

Ginger Twigg asked if any LPI signals will be included in the intersections that have right turn lane additions. Koppernolle will find out and report back.

Jared Francis commented that at a recent Commission meeting in Cocoa Beach, it was voted to remove the raised crosswalks except for Northbound at South 21<sup>st</sup> Street.

Pete Petyk commented that raised crosswalks are intended to slow drivers down and he is disappointed that the City of Cocoa Beach is removing something that would benefit the pedestrians because of political expediency.

#### **Item 7B. Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Advisory Committee (BPTAC) Report**

Sarah Kraum reported on Bicycle, Pedestrian, & Trails Advisory Committee (BPTAC) and related Space Coast TPO activities.

At the most recent BPTAC Meeting of December 4<sup>th</sup>, the annual election of officers was held, the Long-Range Transportation Plan goals and objectives were presented, and the annual member orientation was held for the BPTAC. An upcoming visioning workshop was discussed and will be held on February 26, 2024.

#### **Item 7C. Space Coast Area Transit Report**

Space Coast Area Transit provided an update on recent activities and any changes of the transit system. Ken Harley reported that there have been increases in fixed route ridership. The Community Transportation Coordinator annual evaluation with Space Coast TPO was recently completed.

#### **Item 7D. Public Engagement Report**

The Space Coast TPO's Public Involvement Officer, Abby Hemenway, was absent from the meeting but the agenda package includes the updates on public participation efforts and initiatives.

#### **Item 7E. Local Government Report**

Reports on transportation related topics within any jurisdiction of interest to other jurisdictions or agencies may be presented under this item.

#### **Item 8. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 10:53 am. The next meeting is March 11, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.