

Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization (SCTPO) Governing Board Meeting



Center for Collaboration

1100 Rockledge Blvd., Rockledge, Florida 32955

Meeting Date: July 11, 2024

MEETING MINUTES

Agenda

- 1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**
- 2. Public Comment** (non-agenda items only)
Anyone wishing to make a comment on an item not on the agenda should complete a "speaker card" at the sign-in desk. For items on the agenda, please fill out a "speaker card" and you will be called upon when the item is discussed. Comments are limited to three minutes.
- 3. Reports**
 - A. Executive Director's Report
 - B. Technical and Citizen's Advisory Committees (TAC/CAC) Report
 - C. Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Trails Advisory Committee (BPTAC) Report.
 - D. Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (TDLCB) Report
 - E. Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Report
- 4. Consent Agenda**
(The entire Consent Agenda will be passed in one motion and read aloud for the record)
 - A. Approval RE: TPO Governing Board Meeting Minutes – May 16, 2024
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 - B. Approval RE: Committee Appointments
 - C. Approval RE: Finance and Budget
 1. Resolution 25-03, Unified Planning Work Program Amendment
 2. Draft FY 25 Operating Budget
 3. FY 24 2nd Quarterly Report
 - D. Approval RE: Resolution 25-04, Transportation Disadvantaged Planning Grant
 - E. Approval RE: Work Order 25-15K, 2024-25 Traffic Data Report and Analysis
- 5. Action Items**
 - A. Adoption RE: Resolution 25-01, FY 25 – 29 Transportation Improvement Program
 - B. Approval RE: Resolution 25-02, FY 24 – 28 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment
 - C. Adoption RE: FY 2025 List of Project Priorities
- 6. Presentations**
 - A. Malabar Road PD&E
 - B. Best Foot Forward Program Update from Bike/Walk Central Florida
 - C. FDOT Central Florida Safety Strategic Plan
- 7. Adjourn**

SCTPO Governing Board Members Present:

Mayor Michael Blake; *City of Cocoa*
Councilmember Herman Cole; *City of Titusville*
Commissioner Rob Feltner; *BOCC District 4*
Councilmember Donny Felix; *City of Palm Bay*
Deputy Mayor Frank Forester; *City of Rockledge*
Councilmember Stuart Glass; *South Beaches Coalition*
Councilmember Mimi Hanley; *City of Melbourne*
Mayor Rob Medina; *City of Palm Bay*
Vice Mayor Yvonne Minus; *City of Melbourne*
Vice Mayor Joe Robinson; *City of Titusville*
Councilmember Andrea Young; *City of West Melbourne*
Councilmember Skip Williams; *North Beaches Coalition*

Others Present:

Adkins, Jack; *FDOT Director*
Alward, Keith; *Brevard County*
Bobo, Loreen; *FDOT*
Carter, Laura; *Space Coast TPO staff*
Chandler, John; *AECOM*
Fine, Siasosi; *FTE*
Flynn, Debbie; *Space Coast TPO staff*
Freeman, Jack; *Kittelson & Associates*
Fusscas, Peter; *Citizens Advisory Committee*
Garrison, Andrew; *Kittelson & Associates*
Gillette, Georganna, *Space Coast TPO staff*
Hills, Travis; *Kittelson & Associates*
John, Jillian; *Space Coast TPO staff*
Jordan, Terry; *Space Coast Area Transit*
Koppernolle, Chuck; *FDOT*
Councilmember Lorraine Koss; *City of Cocoa (Alternate)*
Kraum, Sarah; *Space Coast TPO staff*
McKinney, Melissa, *FDOT*
McNeely, Zoe; *Space Coast TPO staff*
Musser, Bob; *Canaveral Port Authority*
Phillips, Suzanne; *FDOT*
Spencer, Anna; *Canaveral Port Authority*
Stoll, Gregg; *Citizens Advisory Committee*
Sullivan, Sandra; *Citizen*
Tyler, John; *FDOT*
Villatoro, Shelby; *Space Coast TPO staff*
Council Member Don Willis; *North Beaches Coalition (Alternate)*

Agenda Items:

Item 1. Call to Order of the Space Coast TPO Governing Board and Pledge of Allegiance

SCTPO Governing Board Chair, Andrea Young called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 2. Public Comment

Sandra Sullivan commented on a fiscal cliff in 2025 with low gas revenues, concerns about Brightline rail crossing management and fiscal performance, and disappointment with the Shape Your Station survey.

Reports:

Item 3A. Executive Director's Report

Georganna Gillette, SCTPO Executive Director, shared a recent Dangerous by Design report of the most dangerous metro areas by population. The Palm Bay – Titusville metro area is 1 of 2 areas that saw a decrease in their percentage of pedestrian deaths per 100,000 people, Florida has a total of 8 out of 20 top metro areas that are the most dangerous. Gillette also reported on the recent Florida Today Transportation Safety Series which featured fifteen articles including an op-ed about Transportation Safety.

Abby Hemenway, Public Information & Outreach Manager, reported on recent organization highlights including the 2024 Staff Retreat Brightline experience, the Shape Your Station survey, and the 2024 Fast Forward community workshops.

Skip Williams asked if the Brightline station will be built or maintained by FDOT. Georganna Gillette replied that Brightline is a private organization and will be responsible for the operations of the station.

Frank Forester asked who is going to own the station. Gillette replied that Brightline will own the station. Gillette mentioned the CRISI grant applied for by City of Cocoa as the lead applicant. Forester asked if the CRISI Grant funds come from taxpayer dollars. Gillette replied that yes, it is taxpayer funding through USDOT Federal Railroad Administration, but the purpose of the grant is for rail operators and that Brightline is an eligible applicant.

Skip Williams asked about the hypothetical scenario of Brightline closing the station due to underperformance and how Brevard County taxpayers can avoid a financial burden in that case. Paul Gougelman replied that he does not have an exact answer but, the Federal Government could include claw back provisions as a part of their grant agreement, but it will probably be up to the Federal Rail Administration to do so.

Michael Blake commented that the station will not only survive but thrive due to the increase of individuals traveling from Orlando to Port Canaveral and the thriving industries in Brevard County.

Item 3B. Technical and Citizen's Advisory Committees (TAC/CAC) Report

Georganna Gillette reported on the actions taken by the Technical Advisory and Citizens Advisory Committee at their meeting on July 8, 2024. The TAC/CAC recommended approval unanimously on all action items.

Item 3C. Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Advisory Committee (BPTAC) Report

Sarah Kraum reported that the BPTAC met on June 24, 2024, to review the FY 2025 List of Project Priorities (LoPP) and to receive a presentation on Brevard County's Housing & Human Services Sharpes Trail.

Item 3D. Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (TDLCB) Report

There was no report for the Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board. Georganna Gillette commented that the highlights from the May 13, 2024, TDLCB meeting can be found in the agenda package.

Item 3E. Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Report

Secretary John Tyler, FDOT District 5, reported to the Space Coast TPO Governing Board the status of various construction projects and engineering studies currently in progress in District Five. Topics and projects that were highlighted include: the NASA Causeway, Space Commerce Way, Brevard County Traffic Management Center, Ellis Road Widening, Melbourne Orlando International Airport, a Work Program overview, and the 2055 Florida Transportation Plan Update.

Mayor Rob Medina asked about FDOT influence on Florida Highway Patrol and acting as a deterrent for bad behavior on the I-95/Malabar Interchange. Secretary Tyler replied that FDOT is using technology to monitor driver behavior, once the data can be measured then they can start designing a solution to involve Florida Highway Patrol.

Frank Forester asked for clarification on Beachline projects and if consideration is being given to open the water flow of the lagoon under the highway. Secretary Tyler responded that for SR 528, the portion over the Banana River does include a longer bridge that will facilitate someone else to remove the causeway underneath in the future. He mentioned that FDOT is working with St. Johns River Water Management District and Brevard County on septic to sewer conversion for homes that still have septic tanks near and along the banana river.

Yvonne Minus asked if the \$800 million for the SR 528 widening is already funded. Secretary Tyler replied that no, the \$800 million is the total amount needed for construction for all of 528 and the 401 Bridge replacement. Minus asked for the funding progress on Ellis Road. Secretary Tyler replied that the project is in the ballpark of \$40-50 million but there is not an exact number due to cost estimates rising. FDOT is working with Brevard County to do a value engineering study of Ellis Road, which requires reevaluating the design to see if there is anything that can be removed or if any other design choices are available at a lower cost. Secretary Tyler mentioned that several funding strategies are being utilized for this project. He clarified that 2025 is the year when the clearing and grubbing but the goal is to fully fund the remainder in fiscal year 2026.

Sandra Sullivan made public comment for the FDOT report agenda item. She commented that Port Canaveral should commit to removing the causeway on the SR

528 project because the Port owns the causeway and leases to FDOT. She commented that the South Patrick Shores project should be delayed due to utility improvements. She commented that I-95 surface pavement is in bad shape in the Southern area of the county and could be a safety issue. She commented that state statutes for low speed vehicles and golf carts should be merged. She commented her concerns on funding for capacity needs and concern regarding Space Florida expansions. She also commented concerns with flooding in Merritt Island affecting affordable housing.

Consent Agenda:

Georganna Gillette 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: TPO Governing Board and Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – May 16, 2024

Item 4B. Approval RE: Committee Appointments

Item 4C. Approval RE: Finance and Budget

Item 4C.1 Resolution 25-03, Unified Planning Work Program Amendment

Item 4C.2 Draft FY 25 Operating Budget

Item 4C.3 FY 24 2nd Quarterly Budget

Item 4D. Approval RE: Resolution 25-04, Transportation Disadvantaged Planning Grant

Item 4E. Approval RE: Work Order 25-15K, 2024-25 Traffic Data Report and Analysis

Motion by Yvonne Minus, second by Rob Medina, to approve the Consent Agenda. Hearing no objections, the motion passed unanimously.

Action Items:

Item 5A. Adoption RE: Resolution 25-01, FY 2025 – 2029 Transportation Improvement Program

Georganna Gillette, Executive Director, presented Resolution 25-01, FY 2025 – 2029 Transportation Improvement Program. The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a federally required multi-year program that prioritizes transportation improvement projects for federal, state, and local matching funds to be implemented in Brevard County over the next five years.

It lists specific projects and anticipated schedules and costs. The TIP puts the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) into action and is also the capital improvement element of the LRTP. Once approved by the Space Coast TPO Governing Board, projects in the TIP must be financially constrained, have undergone a series of evaluations, and include input and suggestions from the public.

An open house took place on June 12, 2024, at the Center for Collaboration to discuss TIP projects, answer questions and listen to citizens. The Final TIP document for FY 25 – FY 29 and video recording from the Open House can be found at the following link:

[Transportation Improvement Program](#)

Motion by Michael Blake, second by Yvonne Minus to approve Resolution 25-01, FY 2025 – 2029 Transportation Improvement Program. Hearing no objections, the motion passed unanimously via roll call vote 12-0.

Item 5B. Approval RE: Resolution 25-02, FY 24 – 28 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment

Georganna Gillette, Executive Director, presented Resolution 25-02, FY 24 – 28 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment. The Florida Department of Transportation has requested an amendment to the adopted FY 24 – FY 28 Transportation Improvement Program to align with the Department's Work Program.

A project must be included in the approved TIP and State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for the FHWA and the FTA to participate in the cost of any federally funded transportation project.

The TIP reflects the TPO's priorities, consistent with port and aviation master plans, transit development plans and local government comprehensive plans, and are selected in part based on the public comment received under the TPO's Public Participation process. Projects in the amendment include US 1 from Myers Drive to Crane Creek Bridge and I-95 Northbound from Malabar Road to north of Fiske.

***Motion by Rob Medina, second by Michael Blake to approve Resolution 25-02, FY 2024 – 2028 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment.
Motion passed unanimously via roll call vote 12-0.***

Item 5C. Adoption RE: FY 2025 List of Project Priorities

Sarah Kraum, Senior Transportation Planner, presented an overview of the FY 2025 List of Project Priorities. Pursuant to s. 339.175(8), Florida Statutes, the Space Coast TPO must annually adopt a list of transportation system priority projects and transmit the list to FDOT for use in developing the next draft Five-Year Work Program and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). After TPO Adoption, the prioritized list is transmitted to FDOT for funding consideration for the FY 26 through FY 30 Tentative Work Program.

The SCTPO Priority Projects are consistent with the goals, objectives, and values of the TPO's adopted Long Range Transportation Plan. Annually the TPO solicits requests for state and federally funded candidate projects from local governments and transportation agencies. Projects are then scored and ranked based upon the most currently adopted criteria.

The SCTPO Transportation Subcommittee met on May 1, 2024, to review the draft list of projects and recommended the project list presented today, be considered for adoption. The draft list was presented to the TAC/CAC on May 6, 2024, Governing Board on May 16, 2024, and BPTAC on June 24, 2024. The TPO also held its annual Open House on June 12, 2024, to receive input on proposed projects from the public.

Skip Williams asked for clarification regarding the funding for SR 520 Cocoa Beach Causeway Vulnerability Analysis. Sarah Kraum replied that the project is in the very beginning stages and the information including funding numbers will be updated in the Project Priorities list. Skip Williams also asked about a few blank spaces on the Project Priorities list and Kraum replied that the blanks are intentional the next steps on these projects are to be determined.

Frank Forester commented on the flood resiliency and sustainability on SR 528.

Motion by Stuart Glass, second by Skip Williams to adopt the FY 2025 List of Project Priorities. Hearing no objections, the motion passed unanimously.

Presentations:

Item 6A. Malabar Road PD&E

Travis Hills, Kittelson & Associates, presented the Malabar Road PD&E presentation. The City of Palm Bay began working on the Project Development and Environmental (PD&E) phase of widening Malabar Road from the St. Johns Heritage Parkway to Minton Road in late 2019. This project is funded in part with federal funds and under the Local Agency Program (LAP).

The purpose of the PD&E study is to evaluate alternatives addressing the long-term transportation needs of Malabar Road. The alternatives being considered involve widening Malabar Road from two to four lanes, the addition of bicycle and pedestrian features, and intersection and safety improvements.

The PD&E Study process involves a combination of engineering evaluations, environmental analysis, and public involvement. A virtual public meeting was held on September 24, 2020, to provide citizens an opportunity to review study progress made to date. The final public meeting will be scheduled in the fall of 2024.

A summary of the project, initial alternatives being evaluated, and schedule will be presented by the consultant. For more information, please visit the City of Palm Bay's project website at the following link: [Malabar Road PD&E](#)

Donny Felix commented his appreciation to FDOT, the Kittelson & Associates firm, and the Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization for their support of the project.

Item 6B. Best Foot Forward Program Update from Bike/Walk Central Florida

Vince Dyer, Bike/Walk Central Florida, presented on the Best Foot Forward (BFF) Pedestrian Safety Program, which uses engineering, enforcement, and education to get more drivers stopping for people in crosswalks. Over the past decade, driver yield rates at BFF-monitored Central Florida crosswalks have increased from 17% to 50%.

In 2024, in collaboration with FDOT's Target Zero initiative, BFF expanded its program operations into Brevard County. During their presentation, they will review their program methodology and highlight recent crosswalk enforcement efforts across the Space Coast. More information about the BFF program and their results can be found on their website at www.iyield4peds.org.

Item 6C. FDOT Central Florida Safety Strategic Plan

Loreen Bobo, FDOT District Five Safety Administrator, presented on Central Florida's Safety Strategic Plan (CFSSP) which provides a bold framework on how we can work even more collaboratively across the district to address our safety challenges on both state and local roads. The CFSSP is built around three core themes of: increased collaboration, thinking beyond infrastructure, and continued focus on safety.

Over the past six months, partners from across the region gathered in numerous workshops with District 5 staff to identify successes, challenges, and action steps that will help us “get to zero” fatalities and serious injuries. These action steps have been organized under the three themes listed above. This action-oriented plan enables FDOT to prioritize resources and create focus areas as we work together to advance our annual work programs.

Item 8. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 3:36pm.