



*Mayor Susan Haynie  
Chair*

**MPOAC Freight Committee  
Minutes from the July 18, 2016 Meeting**

---

**Committee Members**

Chair Greg Stuart, Broward MPO  
Denise Bunnewith, North Florida TPO  
Vice-Chair Gary Huttman, MetroPlan Orlando  
Bob Herrington, Charlotte County – Punta Gorda MPO  
Dave Hutchinson, Sarasota/Manatee MPO  
Carlos Roa, Miami – Dade MPO  
Lisa Silva, Hillsborough County MPO  
Greg Slay, Capital Region TPA  
Nick Uhren, Palm Beach MPO

**Other Participants**

Karen Brunelle, FHWA  
Alex Carroll, CUTR  
Noranne Downs, FDOT  
Drew Draper, Whitehouse Group  
Steve Ferrell, HDR  
Greg Hall, FHWA  
Leigh Holt, SMMPO  
Lee Ann Jacobs, FHWA  
Jeff Kramer, CUTR  
Marci Larson, North Florida TPO  
Payton McLeod, Sprinkle Consulting  
Executive Director Carl Mikyska, MPOAC  
Mary Ross, Gannett Fleming  
Sean Santalla, FDOT  
Don Scott, Lee MPO  
Sarita Taylor, FDOT  
Mary Beth Washnock, West Florida RPC  
Michael Williamson, Cambridge Systematics

**Discussion Items**

1. Executive Director Carl Mikyska welcomed all participants.
2. The Committee Chair Greg Stuart provided a brief overview of the progress made on behalf of the MPOAC Freight Committee and upcoming events:
  - a. Informed the Committee the State was awarded a Fostering Advancements in Shipping and Transportation for the Long-term Achievement of National Efficiencies (FASTLANE) grant totaling approximately \$11 million.
  - b. The official announcement will be provided shortly and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will present at the October Committee meeting.
3. Carl Mikyska provided an update on the statewide Bluetooth truck tracking research project:
  - a. The effort is on-going and trip readers have been placed at strategic locations where trucks are prevalent, including at several ports.

---

*Carl Mikyska, Executive Director*  
605 Suwannee Street, MS 28B · Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450  
1-866-374-3368 x 4037 or 850-414-4037 · Fax 850-414-4895  
[www.mpoac.org](http://www.mpoac.org)

- b. The process monitors short and long trip characteristics to refine the truck count estimates.
- 4. The Committee discussed the following elements related to the presentation on Prioritizing Statewide Freight Projects:
  - a. Purpose of communicating priorities to the state:
    - i. To be more competitive and potentially secure additional funding for projects that need it the most.
    - ii. Accelerate timeframe for multiple projects with different funding sources (e.g., State, Federal, etc.).
    - iii. Demonstrate to State and Federal agencies a commitment to collaborate on the advancement of freight projects.
    - iv. Understand priorities from other areas around the State and how they may complement each other.
  - b. Establishing minimum standards are key to the process and necessary to ensure consistency with the following:
    - i. Fast Act standards and requirements (performance based planning).
    - ii. The rules that come out of the performance base planning process.
    - iii. The Florida Mobility and Trade Plan (FMTP) and database.
  - c. Developing and advancing priorities:
    - i. Each MPO develops its own priorities based upon the minimal standards (above), and
    - ii. The MPOAC develops a process to screen and select the top priorities on an annual basis. The screening process will likely include a data driven approach that utilizes readily available information and accommodates to a broad range of project types.
  - d. Actions to ensure the priorities have an impact:
    - i. Formal submission of MPO priorities to FDOT/FHWA.
    - ii. Communicate key priorities through District Freight Coordinators.
    - iii. Engage the state in a process to adopt recommendations.
- 5. The Committee briefly discussed that FDOT is seeking a partnership with the MPOAC Freight Committee to develop a Statewide network of critical urban and rural freight corridors, tentatively scheduled to be completed by September 2016.
- 6. Matt Ubben with Floridians for Better Transportation provided an overview of the status of the Panama Canal expansion and challenges faced from construction through the recent opening.
- 7. The Committee Chair called for public comments, and none were provided.
- 8. Meeting adjourned.

### **Action Items**

- 1. Develop a follow-up email to present action items to Committee members.
  - 2. Develop and provide a draft pamphlet for MPO Board members educating the importance of freight in the community.
  - 3. Develop and provide a draft pamphlet for MPO Board members to identify ways MPOs can be more involved with freight.
  - 4. Develop and provide a draft project prioritization framework and policy for MPO Board members.
  - 5. Assist FDOT in designating critical urban and rural freight corridors.
-