

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

February 27, 2025 1:00 PM – 3:15 PM

Facilitated by the Honorable Mayra Uribe, Governing Board Chair

TIME	ITEM	PRESENTER
1:00 PM	Call to Order and Welcome	<i>Chair Uribe</i>
	» Pledge of Allegiance	
	» Roll Call	
	» Approval of Minutes – October 24, 2024	
	» Moment of Silence to Remember Paul Gougelman	
	» Remarks from the Chair	
1:15 PM	Public Comment	<i>Chair Uribe</i>
1:25 PM	Hiring of a New Executive Director and Managing the Transition	<i>Chair Uribe</i>
	» Interview Process Update	
1:40 PM	Elections of Chair and Vice Chair	<i>Kristin Ottinger, MPOAC General Counsel</i>
2:00 PM	Overview of MPOAC Roles and Responsibilities	<i>David Hutchinson, Staff Directors Chair</i>
2:30 PM	FDOT and FHWA Updates	<i>Dana Reiding, FDOT, and Karen Brunelle, PE, FHWA</i>
2:55 PM	Passenger Rail Priorities Program (PRPP)	<i>Nick Torres, AICP, Whitehouse Group</i>
3:05 PM	Member Comments	<i>Chair Uribe</i>
3:15 PM	Adjourn	<i>Chair Uribe</i>

Dana Reiding, Interim Director

Office of Policy Planning

Florida Department of Transportation

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Please join us for dinner after the Executive Committee Meeting at Oh! Que Bueno Restaurant Grill
8128 S Orange Blossom Trail, Orlando, FL 32809



FLORIDA METROPOLITAN PLANNING
ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Governing Board Meeting

February 27, 2025, 1:00 PM – 3:15 PM

Facilitated by the Honorable Mayra Uribe, Governing Board Chair

Agenda

Time	Topic	Speaker
1:00 pm – 1:15 pm	Call to Order and Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pledge of Allegiance • Roll Call • Approval of Minutes – October 24, 2024 • Moment of Silence to Remember Paul Gougelman • Remarks from the Chair 	Chair Uribe
1:15 pm – 1:25 pm	Public Comment	Chair Uribe
1:25 pm – 1:40 pm	Hiring of a New Executive Director and Managing the Transition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview Process Update 	Chair Uribe
1:40 pm – 2:00 pm	Elections of Chair and Vice Chair	Kristin Ottinger, MPOAC General Counsel
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Overview of MPOAC Roles and Responsibilities	David Hutchinson, Staff Directors Chair
2:30 pm – 2:55 pm	FDOT and FHWA Updates	Dana Reiding, FDOT Karen Brunelle, PE, FHWA
2:55 pm – 3:05 pm	Passenger Rail Priorities Program (PRPP)	Nick Torres, AICP, Whitehouse Group
3:05 pm – 3:15 pm	Member Comments	Chair Uribe
3:15 pm	Adjourn	Chair Uribe

Call to Order and Welcome

Chair Uribe

Pledge of Allegiance



Roll Call

- In-person
- Virtual

Approval of Minutes

- October 24, 2024

**Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council
Governing Board Meeting
Florida Hotel – Orlando, Florida
October 24, 2024**

ATTENDEES

GOVERNING BOARD

IN-PERSON:

Andrea Young, Space Coast TPO
Dick Rynearson, Okaloosa-Walton TPO
Jim Hilty, Ocala/Marion County TPO
Joseph Nuender, Sarasota/Manatee MPO
Josh Street, Bay County TPO (Alternate)
Mayra Uribe, MetroPlan Orlando
Sara Roberts McCarley, Polk TPO
Stephanie Morgan, St. Lucie TPO
Tim Stanley, Heartland Regional TPO
William (Bill) McDaniel, Collier MPO
Yvette Colbourne, Broward MPO
Eric Sander, River to Sea MPO

VIRTUAL:

Charles Klug, Hillsborough TPO (Alternate)
Christopher Constance, Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO (Alternate)
Ken Cornell, Gainesville MTPO (Alternate)
Nick Maddox, Capital Region TPA
Maria Marino, Palm Beach TPA (Alternate)

OTHERS

IN-PERSON:

Alex Trauger, MetroPlan Orlando (Alternate)
Anne McLaughlin, Collier MPO
Kandase Lee, Bay County TPO
Kandase Lee, Florida/Alabama TPO
Beth Beltran, Martin MPO
Chris Rosenberg, Miami-Dade TPO (Alternate)
Colleen Nicoulin, River to Sea MPO
Curlene Thomas, FHWA
David Hutchinson, Sarasota/Manatee MPO
Donna Green, FDOT
Gary Huttman, MetroPlan Orlando

Georganna Gillette, Space Coast TPO
Greg Stuart, Broward MPO
Jeff Kramer, CUTR
Jennifer Fortunas, FDOT
Johnny Wong, Hillsborough TPO
Lisa Stone, MPOAC
Mark Reichert, MPOAC
Marybeth Soderstrom, Heartland Regional TPO
Nicole Estevez, Renaissance Planning
Paul Gougelman, MPOAC General Counsel
Peter Buchwald, St. Lucie TPO
Rob Balmes, Ocala/Marion County TPO
Ronique Bishop, FHWA
Ryan Kordek, Polk TPO
Scott Ferry, Pasco County MPO (Alternate)
Whit Blanton, Forward Pinellas

VIRTUAL:

Amy Beckmann, FDOT
Andrew Uhlir, Palm Beach TPA (Alternate)
Dana Reiding, FDOT
Gerald Goosby, FDOT
Maria Tery Vilches, Miami-Dade TPO
Robert Esposito, Hernando/Citrus MPO

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – GOVERNING BOARD & STAFF DIRECTORS

Chair Uribe called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. All introduced themselves and rose for the pledge of allegiance. Commissioner Bill McDaniel motioned to allow online participants to participate; Commissioner Sara Roberts McCarley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JULY 24, 2024

The members reviewed the July 24, 2024, meeting minutes. Commissioner Sara Roberts McCarley motioned to approve the minutes; Commissioner Yvette Colbourne seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Chair Uribe introduced the Executive Director's performance evaluation, noting it was approved during the Executive Board meeting earlier. Chair Uribe summarized the Executive Committee's discussions, noting that the Executive Committee agreed for Mark Reichert to conduct a self-evaluation to identify

areas for improvement or concerns. In addition, because some of the Executive Committee members only see the Executive Director during board meetings, Chair Uribe underscored the importance of the Executive Director and his role and responsibilities, especially given his position in Tallahassee as the primary liaison to FDOT. Chair Uribe emphasized the need for clear communication and alignment before the upcoming legislative session to avoid missteps and ensure the organization is well-prepared. A follow-up Executive Committee meeting will be held, likely in early December, to refine the Executive Director's role and actions in representing the MPOAC in Tallahassee. Members were encouraged to participate to ensure consistency and preparedness for the challenges ahead. The board concluded the agenda item without additional comments or questions.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS PLAN APPROVAL

The board discussed the final approval of the Strategic Directions Plan, emphasizing its importance for guiding the organization's future actions. Chair Uribe acknowledged the significant efforts over the past year to develop the plan, which was conditionally approved in July, pending its transition from a presentation format to a final document. Mark Reichert, the Executive Director, confirmed that the updated plan includes an annual work plan to be presented each January to ensure continued progress toward implementing the organization's strategic goals.

Peter Buchwald raised concerns regarding including language in the plan addressing the ongoing evaluation of the MPOAC's organizational structure, referencing discussions from the July meeting. The board discussed whether these concerns could be incorporated into the work plan or if the strategic plan itself required further revision. Legal counsel Paul Gougelman provided background on why certain organizational changes, such as virtual meeting capabilities, are restricted by state law.

Board members debated the urgency of adopting the plan versus postponing approval to include additional language. Ultimately, a motion was made to approve the Strategic Directions Plan as presented, understanding that the work plan would address organizational evaluation and related concerns. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Commissioner Stephanie Morgan moved to approve the Strategic Directions Plan as presented, with the condition that the work plan includes specific actions to evaluate the MPOAC's organizational structure. Commissioner Sarah Roberts McCarley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Uribe expressed gratitude for the staffs' and consultant's efforts on the plan and emphasized the importance of moving forward to ensure legislative preparedness and organizational progress. Chair Uribe concluded the discussion by noting the importance of communicating the MPOAC's value to stakeholders and the legislature.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

Mark Reichert presented the MPOAC Budget Report, noting that expenditures through the first quarter of the fiscal year were at 18.5 percent of the operational budget, excluding upfront payments for dues to NARC and AMPO. The board expressed satisfaction with the organization's financial health.

Mark announced that Chair Mayra Uribe received the 2024 AMPO Outstanding Elected Official Leadership Award, marking the second recognition for a Florida representative in three years. The announcement highlighted the strong representation of Florida MPOs at the AMPO conference.

The 2024 MPOAC Annual Report was introduced, summarizing the past year's accomplishments. Members were encouraged to share the report with stakeholders to demonstrate MPOAC's value and achievements.

Mr. Reichert reviewed the MPOAC's plan for Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) reviews in contiguous urbanized areas, as required by House Bill 425. He outlined three tasks: identifying MPOs in contiguous areas, surveying MPOs on their LRTP coordination and data consistency, and providing an annual report to the Florida Transportation Commission. Mr. Reichert also discussed a recent research project on best practices for prioritizing MPO projects, which would soon be available on the MPOAC website, and solicited ideas for future research initiatives.

RESULTS OF MPOAC SURVEY

Chair Uribe opened the discussion by thanking participants for their input, noting a 52 percent overall response rate and a 70 percent response rate among governing board members. Mark Reichert presented an analysis of survey results, highlighting the consensus on several core priorities:

- Maintaining dedicated MPOAC staff to implement activities.
- Coordinating with FDOT on legislative and program decisions.
- Ensuring representation from USDOT and FDOT.
- Holding decision-driven and topically focused in-person meetings.

Lower-priority items included maintaining a governing board of elected officials and locating the MPOAC office within an FDOT facility. Mark pointed out differences between board members and staff directors, with board members emphasizing strategic goals and staff directors focusing on operational items.

Chair Uribe shared insights from a recent meeting with Secretary Perdue, emphasizing the importance of strong partnerships with FDOT and clear communication with the legislature. She highlighted the need to demonstrate MPOAC's value and proactively address any concerns about the organization.

The board discussed the survey results as a foundational tool for guiding future plans, particularly in light of last year's legislative challenges. Commissioners stressed the importance of preparing for potential legislative changes, fostering collaboration among MPOs, and focusing on common solutions to statewide transportation issues.

The survey results were acknowledged as a valuable resource for refining the MPOAC's strategic goals and ensuring alignment with member priorities. Chair Uribe concluded the discussion by reiterating the board's commitment to strengthening the organization's position before the legislative session.

PARTNERING WITH THE FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

Davin Suggs, Deputy Executive Director of the Florida Association of Counties (FAC), and Eric Poole, Executive Director of FAC's Institute of County Government, presented an overview of their organization and partnership opportunities with the MPOAC. Mr. Suggs explained that FAC represents all 67 Florida counties and supports county commissioners and staff through legislative advocacy, training, and certification programs. He emphasized FAC's guiding principles, prioritizing home rule and opposing preemption, and outlined their legislative process, including developing an annual legislative plan approved at their December meeting. FAC also operates a Legislative Executive Committee to provide nimble decision-making during legislative sessions.

Mr. Suggs highlighted FAC's collaborative approach on topics like transportation, emergency management, and growth management. He described FAC's role in influencing legislative outcomes through advocacy and behind-the-scenes efforts. Eric Poole elaborated on FAC's training programs, including Transportation 101 for county commissioners, which integrates expertise from Florida planning professionals. Mr. Poole emphasized FAC's openness to partnerships for education, outreach, and training on transportation-related issues.

Mark Reichert noted the need to reestablish pre-COVID collaboration between MPOAC and FAC, particularly in providing MPO-related training to FAC members. Mr. Poole welcomed the opportunity, expressing FAC's commitment to partnering with MPOAC to enhance transportation education and foster collaboration. Both organizations affirmed their shared goals and commitment to supporting Florida's transportation and policy priorities.

AGENCY REPORTS

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT)

Donna Green, FDOT's Statewide MPO Administrator, highlighted findings from interviews with MPOs regarding the List of Priority Projects (LOPP) process. Feedback emphasized improving collaboration, transparency, and trust through more frequent meetings and better communication.

Jennifer Fortunas expanded on the findings, confirming they aligned with a concurrent CUTR research study. She stressed the importance of fostering trust through joint workshops, field tours, and clear communication. She recommended setting a minimum of three touchpoints for LOPP discussions annually but acknowledged feedback that additional engagement before March may be necessary as MPOs develop their draft project lists. In addition, she introduced polling questions to gather further input on meeting timing, purpose, and training needs. FDOT will share best practices and update progress at the spring MPOAC meeting.

Jennifer Fortunas also presented an update on the Florida Transportation Plan (FTP) 2055, a 30-year statewide blueprint under development. She highlighted the plan's goals: safety, multimodal connectivity, infrastructure resilience, and economic support. Opportunities for engagement include

focus groups, webinars, and community outreach events, with the next steering committee meeting scheduled for November 13. She encouraged members to get involved via the FTP website.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

Ronnie Bishop, FHWA Acting Planning Team Leader, announced the approval of Florida's adjusted urban area boundary maps. Functional classification maps require signatures by December. MPOs were encouraged to sign promptly, and amendments are available for future changes. In addition, she summarized FHWA's approval of Florida's 2024-2028 STIP and highlighted recent grant awards:

- Bridge Investment Program: Hillsborough County received \$1.67M for planning.
- Safe Streets and Roads for All (Round 2): Florida secured \$49.77M across 21 grants, including awards to Fort Lauderdale, CRTPA, Pinellas County, and others.
- Innovative Finance Program: \$4M awarded to Jacksonville, Tampa, and North Miami for technical assistance.
- INFRA Grants: Awards included the Long Key Bridge Replacement (FDOT Monroe County), Port Tampa Bay expansion, and Port Miami electrification.
- IBishop summarized FHWA's approval of Florida's 2024-2028 STIP, highlighting three commendations:

Curlene Thomas, FHWA Senior Planner, announced 2025 TMA certification review schedules, starting with Tampa Bay MPOs in January and continuing statewide through July. Adjustments to Sarasota-Manatee MPO's schedule are pending due to conflicts with MPOAC meetings. In addition, she highlighted several active Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs):

- Bridge Projects (Closes Nov. 1, 2024).
 - Low Carbon Transportation Materials (Closes Nov. 25, 2024).
 - National Scenic Byways (Closes Dec. 16, 2024).
- Contact information and application links were provided.

SIS COST FEASIBLE PLAN

Gerald Goosby, SIS Planning Manager for FDOT, presented an update on the 2050 SIS Cost Feasible Plan (CFP) and upcoming development of the SIS Multimodal Unfunded Needs Plan:

1. Overview of SIS Funding Strategy: The CFP outlines financially feasible capacity improvements for the next 25 years, leveraging \$28.5 billion in forecasted revenues. Projects not currently feasible are identified in the Multimodal Unfunded Needs Plan for future consideration.
2. Development Process: District staff provided project recommendations, supplemented by statewide analysis. Feedback from MPOs, TPOs, and local partners shaped the final plan, which was approved in July 2024.

3. Coordination with MPOs: The CFP aligns with MPO priorities and state goals, facilitating TIP and LRTP development and ensuring consistency for project implementation. Collaboration between FDOT and MPOs remains a key focus.
4. Modal Set-Asides and Highlights:
 - o 20 percent of funding is reserved for non-highway modes, including airports, seaports, railways, and transit.
 - o \$20.4 billion is allocated for 233 projects statewide.
 - o The plan also accounts for P3 project payments and contingency reserves.
 - o Projects in the "Moving Florida Forward" initiative were removed from the CFP, with funds reallocated to other priorities.
5. Next Steps: FDOT will begin updating the 2050 SIS Multimodal Unfunded Needs Plan, addressing projects not included in the CFP. A kickoff meeting is scheduled for November 2024.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Commissioner McDaniel revisited the topic of MPOAC's role in reviewing MPOs LRTPs. Given the widespread growth across regions, he emphasized the importance of consistent population data used by individual MPOs and TPAs. Mark Reichert acknowledged the comment, confirming that consistency in data usage will be a focus during the review process.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the MPOAC Governing Board and Staff Directors' Advisory Committee will be on January 23, 2025. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Moment of Silence to Remember Paul Gougelman



Remarks from the Chair

An aerial photograph of a city skyline, likely Atlanta, Georgia, featuring several prominent skyscrapers and a river in the foreground. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. A white rounded rectangle is positioned in the center, containing the main title and subtitle.

Public Comment

Chair Uribe

Hiring of a New Executive Director and Managing the Transition

Chair Uribe



Elections of Chair and Vice Chair

Kristin Ottinger, MPOAC General Counsel

Election of Officers

- Chair
- Vice Chair



Overview of MPOAC Roles and Responsibilities

David Hutchinson, Staff Directors Chair

Roles and Responsibilities

<i>Organizational</i>	Establish and review bylaws
	Employ Executive Director and staff
	Fiscally align with FDOT. Function independently in control and direction
<i>Purpose</i>	Support the planning process
	Deliver training on requirements and procedures
<i>Compliance</i>	Serve as clearinghouse for the FTP
	Verify LRTP alignment with the FTP and report to FTC
	Adopt a strategic plan

FDOT and FHWA Updates

Dana Reiding, FDOT, and Karen Brunelle, PE, FHWA

FTP Goals



FTP Objectives

1 Eliminate transportation-related fatalities and serious injuries

2 Reduce the number and severity of crashes and safety incidents

3 Strengthen transportation infrastructure and supply chains

4 Prioritize timely and efficient response and recovery times for natural disasters, threats, and hazards

5 Prevent cybersecurity and other risks to transportation users, assets, and supply chains

6 Maintain transportation infrastructure in a state of good repair for all modes

7 Increase the reliability and efficiency of people and freight trips through congestion relief and technology

8 Enhance transportation system connections between and within communities with respect to Florida's natural environment and community characteristics

9 Improve economic development opportunities through integrated land use and transportation planning

10 Increase transportation options that improve access to jobs, education, health, and other services

11 Develop and retain skilled transportation workforce

Goals and Objectives

2055 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION PLAN GOALS



2055 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION PLAN OBJECTIVES

1. Eliminate transportation-related fatalities and serious injuries
2. Reduce the number and severity of crashes and safety incidents
3. Strengthen transportation infrastructure and supply chains
4. Decrease response and recovery times for natural disasters, threats, and hazards
5. Prevent cybersecurity and other risks to transportation users, assets, and supply chains
6. Maintain transportation infrastructure in a state of good repair for all modes
7. Increase the reliability and efficiency of people and freight trips through congestion relief and technology
8. Enhance transportation system connections between and within communities with respect to Florida's natural environment and community characteristics
9. Improve economic development opportunities through integrated land use and transportation planning
10. Increase transportation options that improve access to jobs, education, health, and other services
11. Develop and retain skilled transportation workforce

MPOAC Statutory Requirements and Strategic Directions Plan

Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) - Charting Forward

MPOAC Statutory Requirements (339.175)(11)(c)			
The Powers and Duties of the Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council are to:			
Subcategory	Frequency	Status	Status Date
<p style="text-align: center;">Subcategory 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish bylaws by action of its governing board providing procedural rules to guide its proceedings, or; • Adopt rules to implement provisions of law. 	Review every two years	MPOAC Bylaws were last updated in November 2022. The bylaws should be reviewed in 2025.	January 2025
<p style="text-align: center;">Subcategory 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist MPOs in carrying out the transportation planning process by serving as the principal forum for collective policy discussion. 	Continuous	Please see the Strategic Directions Plan Action items below.	January 2025
<p style="text-align: center;">Subcategory 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serve as a clearinghouse for MPOs to review and comment on the Florida Transportation Plan (FTP) and other issues required to comply with federal or state law. • Report annually to the Florida Transportation Commission (FTC) on the alignment of MPO long-range transportation plans (LRTPs) with the Florida Transportation Plan. 	Annually	Eight MPOs have adopted LRTPs; FDOT staff reviewed these for alignment with the FTP. This will be presented for review to the MPOAC Governing Board on January 23, 2024. Also, the MPOAC Executive Director reported to the FTC in October 2024.	January 2025

MPOAC Statutory Requirements and Strategic Directions Plan

Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) - Charting Forward

MPOAC Statutory Requirements (339.175)(11)(c)			
The Powers and Duties of the Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council are to:			
Subcategory	Frequency	Status	Status Date
<p style="text-align: center;">Subcategory 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employ an executive director and other staff to adequately perform the Council's functions within budgetary limitations. • The Council is assigned to the Department of Transportation for fiscal and accountability purposes but will otherwise function independently of the control and direction of the department. 	As Needed	The MPOAC Executive Director position was advertised from December 30, 2024 - January 13, 2025. Interviews of top candidates are scheduled with the MPOAC Executive Committee on January 24, 2025.	January 2025
<p style="text-align: center;">Subcategory 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver training on federal and state program requirements and procedures to MPO board members and staff. 	Quarterly	Please see the Strategic Directions Plan Action items below.	January 2025
<p style="text-align: center;">Subcategory 6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt an agency strategic plan that prioritizes steps the Council will take to carry out its mission within the context of the state comprehensive plan and any other statutory mandates and directives. 	Bi-Annually	The MPOAC Governing Board reviewed an updated Strategic Directions Plan at their October 24, 2024 meeting.	January 2025

MPOAC Statutory Requirements and Strategic Directions Plan

Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) - Charting Forward

Strategic Directions Plan			
Description of Action	Frequency	Status	Status Date
Goal 1: Represent the interests and priorities of MPOs with FDOT, federal and state partners, and other organizations to ensure policies and programs encompass MPOs' needs and perspectives.			
Strategy 1.1: Confirm the Needs of MPOs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a structured approach to consistently gather and prioritize MPO needs through direct communication and engagement. Regularly poll MPOs and organize their inputs to strategically align MPOAC efforts to advocate for MPO priorities with key partners, such as FDOT and federal agencies. Ensure that the collective voice of the MPOs remains central to policy discussions and program development. 			
1. Poll the MPOs on their current and upcoming interests, ideas, concerns, and/or initiatives.	Annually	A survey was distributed from January 8 to January 16, 2025, to the MPOAC Staff Directors. The results will be presented to the MPOAC Staff Directors and Governing Board by FDOT staff at their January 23, 2025 meeting.	January 2025
2. Organize and prioritize the MPO interests and needs.	Ongoing		January 2025
3. Integrate priorities into engagement efforts with FDOT and federal partners, like the FMPP meetings.	Ongoing	FDOT will work with the MPOAC and FHWA to create a training plan for 2025, based on the results of the January 8, 2025 survey.	January 2025

MPOAC Statutory Requirements and Strategic Directions Plan

Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) - Charting Forward

Strategic Directions Plan			
Description of Action	Frequency	Status	Status Date
Goal 1: Represent the interests and priorities of MPOs with FDOT, federal and state partners, and other organizations to ensure policies and programs encompass MPOs' needs and perspectives.			
Strategy 1.2: Continue to Engage State and Federal Partners. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and enhance relationships with state and federal partners by engaging in regular dialogue, inviting partners to participate in MPOAC Quarterly Meetings, and exploring new opportunities for collaboration. • Share MPO insights and identify funding opportunities to strengthen partnerships supporting MPO goals and drive progress on shared transportation initiatives. 			
1. Schedule periodic updates or briefings to share MPO perspectives and interests with partner agencies.	Quarterly	FDOT and FHWA will continue to provide updates at quarterly MPOAC Staff Director and Governing Board meetings. The MPOAC Executive Director will continue attending the quarterly Florida Metropolitan Planning Partnership meetings hosted by FDOT. Other coordination opportunities will be identified when a new Executive Director is hired.	January 2025
2. Continue to include state and federal partners in MPOAC Quarterly Meetings.	Quarterly; As Needed		January 2025
3. Identify other opportunities, as needed, for engaging state and federal partners with MPOs.	Quarterly; As Needed		January 2025
4. Identify transportation funding opportunities for MPOs.	Quarterly; As Needed	Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFO) for Federal Grants are shared with the MPOS as they are posted.	January 2025

MPOAC Statutory Requirements and Strategic Directions Plan

Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) - Charting Forward

Strategic Directions Plan			
Description of Action	Frequency	Status	Status Date
Goal 1: Represent the interests and priorities of MPOs with FDOT, federal and state partners, and other organizations to ensure policies and programs encompass MPOs' needs and perspectives.			
Strategy 1.3: Engage National and Statewide Organizations and Associations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify key entities that align with MPO interests and goals, facilitating collaboration and information exchange opportunities. • Create partnerships that strengthen the MPOAC's role in driving meaningful progress for MPOs and the broader transportation community by sharing best practices and exchanging resources. 			
1. Identify key organizations and associations that align with the interests and goals of MPOs.	Quarter 1	Awaiting the new Executive Director. MPOAC is a member of the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations, the National Association of Regional Councils, the Floridians for Better Transportation, the Florida Public Transportation Association and Intelligent Transportation Society of Florida.	January 2025
2. Explore opportunities for collaboration, partnership, information exchange, and to inform on MPOs and the MPOAC.	Quarter 1		January 2025
3. Identify ways the MPOAC and the organizations can participate in each other's events, conferences, and forums. In addition to sharing best practices, resources, and relevant updates.	Ongoing	The MPOAC hosts the MPOAC Noteworthy Practices Showcase to provide MPOs an opportunity to display their activities, best practices and resources.	January 2025

MPOAC Statutory Requirements and Strategic Directions Plan

Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) - Charting Forward

Strategic Directions Plan			
Description of Action	Frequency	Status	Status Date
Goal 2: Enhance knowledge and capacity to aid decision-making and strengthen the understanding of metropolitan planning practices.			
Strategy 2.1: Continue to Offer the MPOAC Weekend Institute to Elected Officials. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain the MPOAC Weekend Institute as a cornerstone educational initiative to enhance the knowledge and capacity of elected officials and other MPO governing board members involved in metropolitan planning. Strengthen the skills and knowledge base of those guiding the future of metropolitan transportation planning by providing learning opportunities up to two times per year. 			
1. Continue to offer in-person Weekend Institute sessions for elected officials.	Up to two times per year	An in-person Weekend Institute is tentatively scheduled for May 16-17, 2025 in Tampa, pending Board approval.	January 2025
Strategy 2.2: Offer Training on Advanced or Specialized Topics. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify relevant subjects that address emerging trends and complex aspects of transportation planning. Make learning accessible year-round by offering training virtually and on-demand, allowing participants to expand their knowledge and stay current with best practices in the field. 			
1. Identify other training topics that offer advanced topics or specialized topics.	On-demand, year-round, as needed	FDOT will work with the MPOAC and FHWA to create a training plan for 2025.	January 2025
2. Provide virtual training opportunities for identified topics.	On-demand, year-round, as needed		January 2025

MPOAC Statutory Requirements and Strategic Directions Plan

Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) - Charting Forward

Strategic Directions Plan			
Description of Action	Frequency	Status	Status Date
Goal 2: Enhance knowledge and capacity to aid decision-making and strengthen the understanding of metropolitan planning practices.			
Strategy 2.3: Offer Training Opportunities to MPO Staff. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the specific training needs of MPO staff and develop tailored programs that address their technical and professional development. Provide flexible learning options that enhance the knowledge and skills of MPO staff, fostering a more effective and well-equipped workforce. 			
1. Conduct a thorough assessment of the training needs and skill gaps among MPO staff through surveys and consultations.	Annually, or as needed		January 2025
2. Develop specialized training programs and courses that address MPO staff's technical and professional development needs.	Annually, or as needed		January 2025
3. Deliver training sessions through various formats, including in-person workshops, webinars, and on-demand modules.	Annually, or as needed		January 2025

MPOAC Statutory Requirements and Strategic Directions Plan

Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) - Charting Forward

Strategic Directions Plan			
Description of Action	Frequency	Status	Status Date
Goal 2: Enhance knowledge and capacity to aid decision-making and strengthen the understanding of metropolitan planning practices.			
Strategy 2.4: Collaborate with Other Partners, Agencies, and Educational Institutions to Expand Training Resources and Opportunities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish strategic partnerships and share training materials, courses, and expertise to broaden the scope of available training for MPO staff and stakeholders. Promote cross-training and knowledge exchange and host joint training events to create a richer learning environment that supports the continuous professional growth of metropolitan planning professionals. 			
1. Establish partnerships with organizations and associations to access additional training resources.	Ongoing	FDOT will work with the MPOAC and FHWA to create a training plan for 2025. This will include training resources from other sources.	January 2025
2. Share training materials, courses, and expertise to broaden the range of available training.	Ongoing		January 2025
3. Promote cross-training and knowledge exchange.	Ongoing		January 2025
4. Host joint training events and workshops.	Ongoing		January 2025

MPOAC Statutory Requirements and Strategic Directions Plan

Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) - Charting Forward

Strategic Directions Plan			
Description of Action	Frequency	Status	Status Date
Goal 3: Lead and support collaboration, innovation, and knowledge sharing among MPOs for continuous improvement of transportation planning products.			
Strategy 3.1: Maintain a Webpage to Share Best Practices and Resources. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create and maintain a dedicated online resource for MPOs to promote continuous improvement and innovation in metropolitan transportation planning that serves as a centralized hub where MPOs can access best practices, templates, guides, and case studies from local and national sources. Make resources accessible and provide MPOs with the tools and knowledge to develop effective planning products. 			
1. Maintain a dedicated webpage for MPOs to access best practices, resources, templates, and guides by topic area.	Ongoing	The MPOAC website is up-to-date.	January 2025
2. Populate the webpage with relevant content, including best practice guides and case studies. Content could include local and national best practices.	Ongoing	The MPOAC website is up-to-date. The new Executive Director should research additional resources for best practices.	January 2025
3. Provide training and support to MPOs for using the webpage effectively.	Ongoing		January 2025

MPOAC Statutory Requirements and Strategic Directions Plan

Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) - Charting Forward

Strategic Directions Plan			
Description of Action	Frequency	Status	Status Date
Goal 3: Lead and support collaboration, innovation, and knowledge sharing among MPOs for continuous improvement of transportation planning products.			
Strategy 3.2: Host Knowledge-Sharing Webinars and Workshops. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foster collaboration and knowledge sharing by organizing regular webinars and workshops focused on topics of interest to MPOs. Provide a platform for exchanging insights, discussing best practices, and distributing relevant materials, helping MPOs stay informed and continuously improving their planning efforts. 			
1. Plan and organize regular webinars or workshops that address a topic of interest.	Semiannual	FDOT will work with the MPOAC and FHWA to create a training plan for 2025.	January 2025
2. Distribute relevant presentations, guides, and any other information post-meeting.	Semiannual		January 2025
3. Poll participants about the effectiveness of webinars and workshops after each event.	Semiannual		January 2025



Passenger Rail Priorities Program (PRPP)

Nick Torres, AICP, Whitehouse Group



Passenger Rail Priorities Program

Powered by the Hillsborough TPO

2024 Application Cycle

February 27, 2025

Overview

Results
Summary



Project Types
Received



Passenger Rail
Service Types



Project
Descriptions



Next Steps



Summary

Six Applications Received

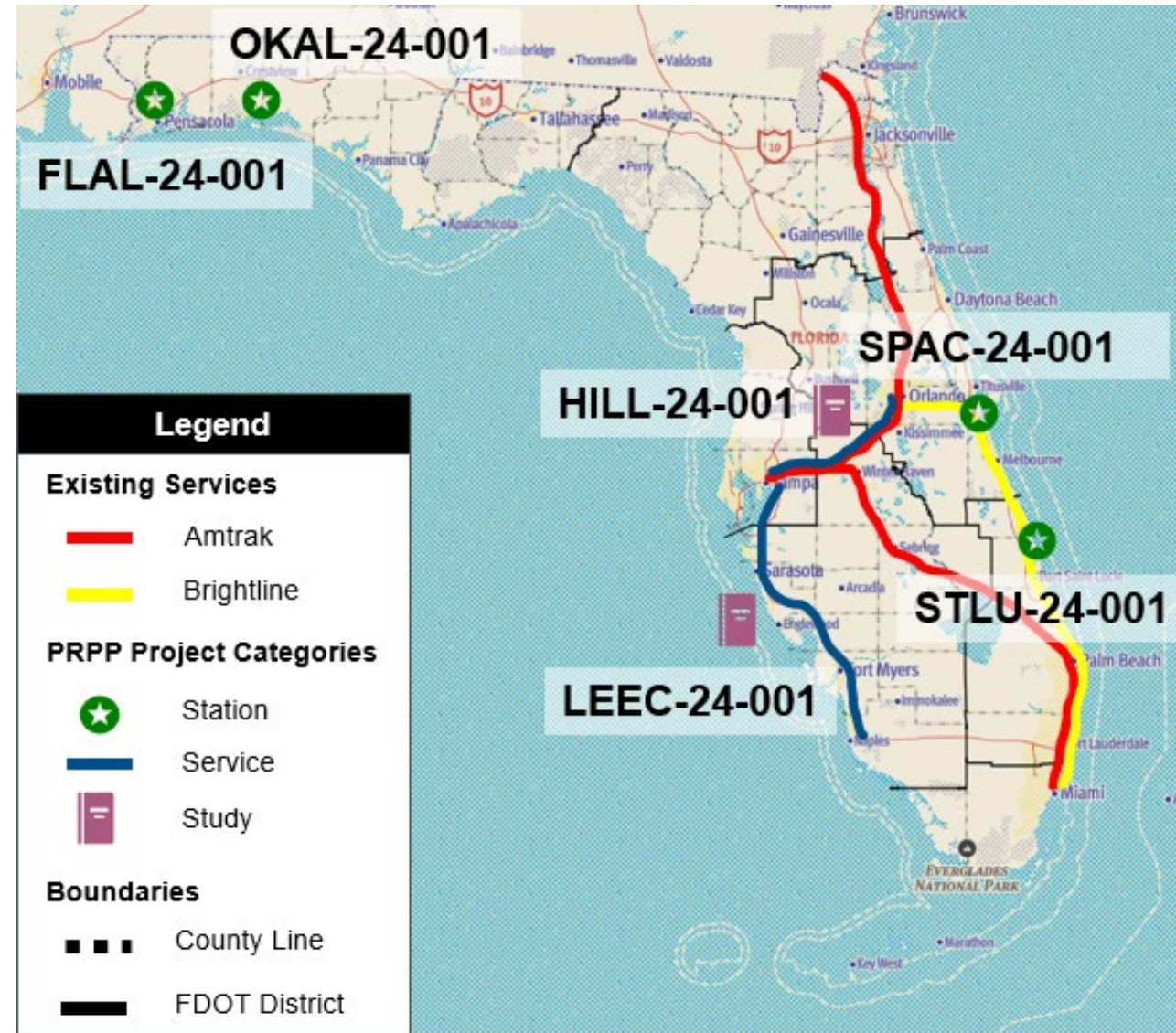
- Four Individual Applications
- Two Joint Applications

Eight Participating MPOs

Most FDOT Districts Represented



Three projects seek to **develop new services**, while two aim to **restore services**, and one project will **enhance services**.



Orlando to Tampa Intercity Passenger Rail

Enhance intercity passenger mobility between Tampa and Orlando

Sponsoring MPO	Hillsborough TPO
Project Type	Enhance Existing Services
Project Elements	Corridor
Requested Action	Passenger Rail Corridor Feasibility Study
State Rail Plan Corridor	Orlando – Tampa (Tier I)
Previously Identified	FDOT State Rail Plan

Cocoa Intermodal Passenger Rail Station

A new intermodal passenger rail station in the City of Cocoa, Brevard County

Sponsoring MPO	Space Coast MPO
Project Type	Develop New Services
Project Elements	Station
Requested Action	Construction for a New Station
State Rail Plan Corridor	Miami – Orlando (Tier I), Miami – Tampa (Tier I)
Previously Identified	MPO Transportation Plan, Transit Development Plan

Treasure Coast Regional Passenger Rail Station

A new intermodal passenger rail station in the City of Fort Pierce, St. Lucie County

Sponsoring MPO	St. Lucie TPO
Project Type	Develop New Services
Project Elements	Station
Requested Action	Construction for a New Station/Existing Station Improvements
State Rail Plan Corridor	Miami – Orlando (Tier I), Miami – Tampa (Tier I)
Previously Identified	MPO Transportation Plan, Regional Long-Range Transportation Plan, Fort Pierce Downtown Master Plan

Restore Amtrak Service in the Okaloosa-Walton TPO Area

Construct an Amtrak station in Crestview or DeFuniak Springs

Sponsoring MPO	Okaloosa-Walton TPO
Project Type	Develop New Services
Project Elements	Station
Requested Action	Construction for a New Station
State Rail Plan Corridor	Jacksonville – Mobile – New Orleans (Tier II)
Previously Identified	FDOT State Rail Plan, Amtrak Connects US

Restore Amtrak Service in the Florida-Alabama TPO Area

Restore the City of Pensacola Amtrak station

Sponsoring MPO	Florida-Alabama TPO
Project Type	Restore Former Services
Project Elements	Station
Requested Action	Restore an Existing Station
State Rail Plan Corridor	Jacksonville – Mobile – New Orleans (Tier II)
Previously Identified	FDOT State Rail Plan, Amtrak Connects US

Southwest Florida Rail Feasibility Study

Evaluate the feasibility of running an intercity passenger rail service along I-75 between Collier and Hillsborough counties

Sponsoring MPO	Lee MPO
Project Type	Develop New Services
Project Elements	Corridor
Requested Action	Passenger Rail Corridor Feasibility Study
State Rail Plan Corridor	Miami – Naples – Tampa (Tier III)
Previously Identified	FDOT State Rail Plan, Other Transportation Plan/Study

Next Steps




- **Recommendation to Adopt the 2024 Priority Project List**
- **Submit 2024 List to Staff Directors and Governing Board for Approval**

Departures

CURRENT TIME:
12:30 PM

Southbound

DEPARTS	DESTINATION	TRACK	
12:54 PM	WPB / FTL / AVE / MIA	1	
1:54 PM	WPB / BOC / FTL / AVE / MIA	2	On Time
2:54 PM	WPB / FTL / AVE / MIA	2	On Time
3:54 PM	WPB / FTL / AVE / MIA	2	On Time
4:54 PM	WPB / BOC / FTL / AVE / MIA	2	On Time
6:54 PM	WPB / FTL / AVE / MIA	2	On Time
8:54 PM	WPB / BOC / FTL / AVE / MIA	2	On Time

End of Daily Services



Questions?



Member Comments

Chair Uribe



Adjourn

Chair Uribe

Thank you for attending!

- Next meeting will be **April 24, 2025**