

EASTERN SHORE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
POLICY BOARD
DAPHNE, ALABAMA
April 24, 2024
10:00 AM

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE/INVOCATION.

- Chairman councilman Jack Burrell called the meeting to order at 10:03 A.M.
- Invocation was said by Mayor Robin LeJeune.
- Pledge was led by Mr. Troy Strunk.

ROLL CALL

Mrs. Sislak called the roll.

- **Members present:** Mr. Richard Johnson (as proxy for Mayor Sherry Sullivan), City of Fairhope; Mr. Troy Strunk (as proxy for councilmember Ron Scott), City of Daphne; Mayor Robin LeJeune, City of Daphne; Commissioner Matt McKenzie, Baldwin County; Mr. Mark Acreman (as proxy for Commissioner Matt McKenzie), Baldwin County; Brian Aaron (as proxy for Mr. Matt Ericksen), ALDOT Southwest Region; Councilman Jack Burrell, City of Fairhope; Mr. Jonathan Smith (proxy for Mayor Richard Teal), City of Loxley; Mr. Frank Lundy (as proxy for Commissioner Billie Jo Underwood), Baldwin County.
- **Members absent:** Mayor Mike McMillan, City of Spanish Fort
- **Others present:** Mrs. Sarah Sislak, MPO Director; Ms. Jessica Mayo, MPO Transportation Planner; Mr. Kevin Harrison, SAIN Associates; Mr. Curt Fonger; Mr. James Watkins, Fairhope Times; Mr. Buford King; Mr. Seth Peterson; Mr. Stephen Worley.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: By Mayor Robin LeJeune to approve the January 2024 minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mark Acreman.

- Discussion: None
- Abstain: None
- In favor: All
- Opposed: None
- Result: Passed

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Action** – State Amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) (**All**)
Mrs. Sislak reminded members that the TIP is the MPO's four-year document; projects included have funding identified. She stated these projects are State requested and MPO dollars are not involved, but the projects do have to be on the TIP because there are federal dollars on the projects.

MOTION: By Mr. Brian Aaron to adopt State amendments to the FY24-27 TIP. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jonathan Smith.

- Discussion: None
- Abstain: None
- In favor: All
- Opposed: None
- Result: Passed

2. Action – Amending FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) (All)

Mrs. Sislak reminded members that the TIP is the short-term four-year plan that includes funded projects. The FY24-27 will be amended as follows:

- Accelerate design of Corte Rd Signal
- Intersection improvements on Jimmy Faulkner Dr
- Move intersection improvements on Jimmy Faulkner Dr (design and construction) from Carbon reduction Funds to Surface Transportation Funds.
- Increase Carbon Reduction Funds for sidewalks and street lighting improvement on East Relham Dr. and First Ave. in Loxley.

MOTION: By Mayor LeJeune to adopt amendments to the FY24-27 TIP. The motion was seconded by Mr. Troy Strunk.

- Discussion: None
- Abstain: None
- In favor: All
- Opposed: None
- Result: Passed

3. Action – Adopting Performance Measures and Targets (All)

Mrs. Sislak stated the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act requires MPO Transportation plans incorporate performance measures and targets for urbanized areas. Transit targets had recently been updated since January's meeting. MPO staff suggest adopting and supporting the updated statewide targets.

MOTION: By Mr. Frank Lundy to adopt updated statewide targets. The motion was seconded by Mr. Acreman.

- Discussion: None
- Abstain: None
- In favor: All
- Opposed: None
- Result: Passed

4. Action – County Wide Multimodal Connectivity Vision Plan (All)

Mrs. Sislak explained that the connectivity plan has been discussed by the Advisory and Policy Board in past meetings. MPO staff have been collaborating with municipalities and counties to finalize the connectivity vision plan and are now seeking feedback for its adoption. It is important to note that no specific funding has been secured for the plan, as it is intended to serve as a general guideline.

MOTION: By Mayor LeJeune to adopt the County Wide Multimodal Connectivity Vision Plan. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith.

- Discussion: None
- Abstain: None
- In favor: All
- Opposed: None
- Result: Passed

5. Action – Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant (SS4A) (All)

Mrs. Sislak indicated that this is a grant program under the IIJA intended for safety improvements. However, in order to secure funding for implementation/construction, an Action Plan must be developed first. The MPO staff will work towards obtaining the Action Plan grant, involving member governments with the exception of Fairhope, who has already received a grant to complete Action Plan, and potentially Daphne, who has a pending application.

MOTION: By Mr. Lundy to authorize MPO staff to apply for SS4A Action Plan Grant. The motion was seconded by Mr. Strunk.

- Discussion: None
- Abstain: None
- In favor: All
- Opposed: None
- Result: Passed

6. Information – MPO Coordinator’s Report

- ALDOT Project Update:
 - **SR 181 (SR 104 to CR 32)**
-Environmental documents must be reevaluated, currently no funding for the reevaluation.
 - **Mobile River Bridge and Bayway Project**
-ALDOT has issued a 60-day pause to explore cutting costs, as the project cost has risen to 3.5 billion due to inflation.
 - **US-31 Corridor Study**
-Project has been authorized, negotiating fees and kick-off meeting will happen in the next few weeks.
 - **SR 181 at Corte-Austin Rd Signal**
- The agreement has been sent to the City of Daphne for review. Once it is executed, the project can be authorized, and the design process can begin.
- MPO Project Update:
Mrs. Sislak presented project updates.
 - **Fairhope Transit Project**
-Project is down to final punch list items. A ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled May 10th.
 - **Loxley Transit Project**
-Bids received; currently being reviewed and approved by ALDOT, they should issue a Notice to proceed in the coming days.

- **US 98 Access Management Project**
 - Project is at 27% based on quantities and 13% based on elapsed contract time.
 - Contractor has completed the temporary driveway to Justice Center and shifted traffic to the temporary driveway.
 - Contractor will be completing lavender Lane (new buildup portion/overlying existing portion) and installing traffic signal through July.
- **CR 64 Resurfacing and Intersection Improvements at Pollard Road**
 - Contract has been executed and the project was awarded to H.O Weaver.
 - Utility work is beginning now and will take approximately 6 months to complete.
 - Drainage and other work will also take place during the next 6 months.
- **CR 64 Widening and Intersection Improvements (SR181-Montilucia Way)**
 - Acquiring right-of-way, plans at 85%, utility estimates and utility plans in progress and should start working in utility agreements soon.
 - ROW acquisition in progress (75% finished, should be complete by September 30th.)
- **Pleasant Road Extension**
 - in design, exploring alternative drainage design
- **Roundabout at Flower Clock**
 - 90% plans are complete, ALDOT and City/Volkert working through comments and utility relocations.
- **Planning and Development Update**
 Ms. Jessica Mayo presented quarter one of 2024 P&D update. The data presented is available on our website (easternshorempo.org) under Other Planning Documents.

NEXT MPO MEETINGS (All)

- **Policy Board Work Session:** Wednesday, July 10, 2024; 10:00 AM; Daphne City Hall
- **BPAC Meeting:** Monday, July 15, 2024; 9:00 AM; Daphne City Hall
- **CAC Meeting:** Monday, July 15, 2024; 1:00 PM; Daphne City Hall
- **TAC Meeting:** Tuesday, July 16, 2024; 10:00 AM; Daphne City Hall
- **Policy Board Meeting:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024; 10:00 AM; Daphne City Hall

PUBLIC FORUM (All)

- **Members of the Public:** No comments
- **Members of the Press:** No comments
- **Board/Committee Members:** No comments

ADJOURNMENT (All)

MOTION: By Mayor LeJeune to adjourn meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lundy.
 Meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.


 Jack Burrell, Chairperson

Date: 7-24-24