

EASTERN SHORE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)
DAPHNE, ALABAMA
January 17, 2023
9:00 AM

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE/INVOCATION.

- Sarah Sislak called the meeting to order at 9:07 A.M.
- Invocation was said by Chairman Jeff Hudson.
- Pledge was led by all.

ROLL CALL

Mrs. Sislak called the roll.

- **Members present:** Mr. Payton Rogers (Virtual), City of Daphne; Mr. Jeff Hudson, City of Fairhope; Mr. Gary Gover, City of Fairhope; Mr. Jeff Sheldon, City of Spanish Fort; Mr. Raymond Lovell, City of Loxley; Mr. Mark Wetzel, City of Daphne; Mrs. Liz Thomson, Baldwin County; Mr. Will Ervin, Baldwin County.
- **Members absent:** Ms. Brooke Flowers, Town of Loxley; Mr. Paul Ammon, City of Fairhope; Mrs. Gail Yongue, Baldwin County; Mrs. Katie Bolton, City of Fairhope; Mr. Jeff Sheldon, City of Spanish Fort; Mrs. Nancy Johnson, Baldwin County; Ms. Kathie LaRose, City of Spanish Fort;
- **Others present:** Mrs. Sarah Sislak, MPO Coordinator; Ms. Jessica Mayo, MPO Admin. Support Specialist; Mr. Vince Beebe, ALDOT.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: By Mr. Lovell to approve the October 2022 minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mark Wetzel.

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

NEW BUSINESS

1. Action – Adoption of Performance Measures and Targets

Mrs. Sislak explained Performance Measures and Targets were required by the FAST ACT and carried on through the Infrastructure and Jobs Act (IIJA). MPO Staff recommends supporting the statewide Measures and Targets. Mrs. Sislak further stated there are currently no repercussions for not meeting these targets, but the MPO will give good faith effort to fund projects that support these targets.

MOTION: By Mr. Will Ervin to recommend the Policy Board adopt the statewide Performance Measures and Targets. The motion was seconded by Mr. Raymond Lovell.

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

2. Action – State Amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) (All)

Mrs. Sislak reminded members that the TIP is the MPO's four-year planning 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.

- Project: 100076263 (PE) Federal aid number: BR 0042; County: Baldwin; Project Description: Culvert Repair and Extension (BIN 9719) Over Fly Creek on SR-42; Target Start Date: 03/01/2023; Engineers Estimate: \$400,000.00
- Project: 100076265 (UT) Federal aid number: BR 0042; County: Baldwin; Project Description: Culvert Repair and Extension (BIN 9719) Over Fly Creek on SR-42; Target Start Date: 06/01/2023; Engineers Estimate: \$500,000.00
- Project: 100076264 (CN) Federal aid number: BR 0042; County: Baldwin; Project Description: Culvert Repair and Extension (BIN 9719) Over Fly Creek on SR-42; Target Start Date: 09/23/2023; Engineers Estimate: \$3,000,000.00

MOTION: By Mr. Lovell to recommend the Policy Board adopt the State Amendments to the FY20-23 TIP. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ervin.

- Discussion: Committee member inquired if they are enlarging the culvert, Mrs. Sislak responded they are only repairing existing and in the future, they may replace the culvert. Committee member stated the City of Fairhope has obtained the Dyas Triangle property and will be changing it into a natural space and education facility; Fly Creek flows through those culverts and it is being looked at by Thompson Engineering in changing the hydrology of Fly Creek so marine life can migrate upstream pass these culverts and felt it is something to be considered when doing these repairs. Mrs. Sislak stated Mr. Matt Ericksen and Mayor Sullivan were at the Policy Board Work Session and spoke about this project and how this culvert has given them challenges over the years and are trying to get it back to a place that is safe. There are conversations between ALDOT and City of Fairhope regarding how this location will tie-in with the Triangle project.
- Abstain: None
- In favor: All
- Opposed: None
- Result: Passed

3. Discussion – County Connectivity Plan (All)

Mrs. Sislak stated the MPO was approached in 2021 to assist in efforts to develop a

county-wide connectivity plan to identify future bike/ped connections. Mrs. Sislak further stated in April of 2022 MPO staff presented a proposed draft of the map to the Advisory Committees and Policy Board for feedback and are presenting it again for final feedback. She explained this map will be used to guide future decisions for locations of sidewalks and bicycle facilities. She further explained MPO staff will be reconvening with the Planners from the municipalities to give final input and work on a Resolution of Support for adoption by Councils and ESMPO. Staff anticipates bringing that back to the MPO for adoption in April.

MOTION: No action required

- Discussion: Committee member stated they would like to see goals and objectives like a master plan. Mrs. Sislak responded that it was the desire by the municipalities to have a simple page map for usability sake. Committee member also inquired if municipalities Land Use Plans have been reflected in the County Connectivity map, Mrs. Sislak responded that staff has been in communication with the municipalities and County Planning Director, Matthew Brown, who is doing the County's Master Plan; she explained the bike/ped shapefiles have been exchanged between MPO staff and County/Municipal Planning staff.
- Abstain: N/A
- In favor: N/A
- Opposed: N/A
- Result: N/A

4. Discussion – FY2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) (All)

Mrs. Sislak stated the MPO funds projects through the adoption of a four-year project list, the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Projects are usually selected from the Financially Constrained List of the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan. Mrs. Sislak stated the Baldwin County Economic Alliance has approached the MPO for consideration of funding for charging stations; ESMPO currently receives 1.6 million a year in Surface Transportation Funds, and an additional \$192,000 in Carbon Reduction Funds. These funds should increase based on the new Census Bureau data. Several projects from the FY20-23 TIP are still on-going and will need additional funding to get through construction. MPO staff is looking for discussion and feedback on inclusion and prioritization of projects in the FY24-27 TIP.

MOTION: No action required.

- Discussion: Committee member inquired about Bedrock Blvd and the needed bridge connection; has this been mentioned or added to the list? Mrs. Sislak stated it has not been added, but she had spoken to Mayor Teal and Mr. Matt Ericksen at ALDOT on the matter and the Mayor is in favor of the project and is exploring funding options. She further explained it is an unclassified road which is ineligible for MPO funding. . The City of Loxley is actively working on getting the road classified to make it eligible for federal funding. Committee member inquired about CR-64 expansion and when it will start, Mrs. Sislak responded it will be around a 2-year process to acquire the needed right-a-way. Committee member inquired if Carbon Reduction Funds can be used towards solar panels or lights, Mrs. Sislak responded it would have to tie-in to transportation improvements, but traffic signal upgrades are eligible.

- In favor: N/A
- Opposed: N/A
- Result: N/A

5. Information – MPO Coordinator's Report

- **ALDOT Project Update:**
 - **SR 181 (104 to 64)**
 - Continuing various items of work including miscellaneous drainage items and widening layers; anticipate opening to 4-lanes of traffic in 1-2 months.
 - **Mobile River Bridge and Bayway Project**
 - Two teams have submitted proposals for Project 1 (MRB). Selection of one proposal anticipated in February, currently anticipate construction to begin early 2024. Project 2 (Bayway) proposals currently anticipated to be received in April, construction anticipated in Mid-2024.
- **MPO Project Update:**

Mrs. Sislak presented project updates.

 - **Fairhope Transit Project**
 - Making good progress, will work around Mardi Gras and Arts and Crafts Festival, 6-month project with a NTP issued on December 5th.
 - Discussion:* Committee member inquired in the scope of the project, will there be a service between this new transit facility and the existing one. Mrs. Sislak stated there will not be a fixed route between the two hubs, but there will be an inner-city golf-cart type shuttle.
 - **Loxley Transit Project**
 - Recently completed the Independent Cost Estimate. Waiting on ALDOT approval on that and are preparing to put out for bid.
 - **Gayfer Turning Lanes**
 - All drainage and widening work complete; intersection is open in its new configuration with temporary striping; signal equipment is suffering supply chain delays; expect that work is 60 days out.
 - Discussion:* Committee member stated the bike-lane is not known as a bike-lane or break-down lane, people are using it improperly for right turns on red, and people come high-speed on Gayfer, creating a hazard for the users of the crosswalk. Mrs. Sislak stated she made a note and will speak with ALDOT about the matter.
 - **CR 13/44 Roundabout**
 - Construction scheduled to begin in March
 - **US 98 Access Management Project**
 - Submitted Final Back Check plans (90%) to ALDOT (1/6/23), preparing bid for signal poles and mast arms.
 - **CR 64 Resurfacing and Intersection Improvements at Pollard Road**
 - Submitted supplemental PS&E (85%) plans to ALDOT (1/11/23).
 - **CR 64 Widening and Intersection Improvements (SR181-Montilucia Way)**
 - ROW acquisition underway, utility coordination started
 - **Realign Intersection of US 31 and Old Hwy 31**
 - Construction has started

- **Pleasant Road Extension**
 - Working on environmental document & 85% plans
- **Roundabout at Flower Clock**
 - Volkert has presented 35% plans to the City; received comments and proceeding with design. Volkert is coordinating connecting design elements with the Team Designing the Triangle Park Property.
 - Discussion:* Committee member inquired if this project includes pedestrian crossing, Mrs. Sislak responded there are pedestrian considerations, but this is just for the roadway portion.
- HSIP Award – The Baldwin County Commission was awarded an HSIP grant for an R-Cut at County Road 64 and BBE
- TAP Award – City of Fairhope was awarded
- 2020 Census – Updated Urban Boundary
- Memo from ALDOT RE: I-10 Mobile River Bridge and Bayway Project
- Advisory Committee Vacancies
 - Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
 - City of Daphne (2)
 - Citizens Advisory Committee
 - City of Daphne (1)
- Planning and Development Update

Ms. Jessica Mayo presented quarter four and the entire year of 2022 P&D update. The 2022 data presented is available on our website (easternshorempo.org) under Other Planning Documents.

NEXT MPO MEETINGS (All)

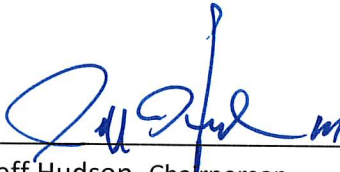
- **Policy Board Work Session:** Wednesday, January 11, 2023; 10:00 AM; Daphne City Hall
- **BPAC Meeting:** Tuesday, January 17, 2023; 9:00 AM; Daphne City Hall
- **CAC Meeting:** Tuesday, January 17, 2023; 1:00 PM; Daphne City Hall
- **TAC Meeting:** Wednesday, January 18, 2023; 10:00 AM; Daphne City Hall
- **Policy Board Meeting:** Wednesday, January 25, 2023; 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 Mr. Lovell to adjourn meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ervin.
Meeting adjourned at 9:55 AM.



Jeff Hudson, Chairperson

Date: 4-17-23