

BAY COUNTY TRANSPORTATION CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
EMERALD COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL (Designated staff)
Bay County Transit Office
1010 Cone Ave, Panama City, FL 32401
May 28, 2025

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

James Pretlow, Vice Chair
Walter Akins
Paul Bohac
Marty Kirkland
Robert Wood

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Ali Frohlich, Chair
Brandy Mankin
Stanley Parron
Thomas Robinson
Patty Strohmener
Robert Waddell
Guy York

OTHER IN ATTENDANCE:

Bryant Paulk, FDOT
Lamar Hobbs, BayWay
David Griggs, Callaway Commission

EMERALD COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL STAFF:

Kandase Lee
Tiffany Bates
Annie Arguello
Leandra Meredith
Gary Kramer
Roshita Taylor
Virtual Attendance
Gina Watson
Rae Emary
Jill Nobles
Howard Vanselow

CALL TO ORDER / INVOCATION / PLEDGE

Vice Chair Pretlow called the meeting to order. A prayer was said, and Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA TPO Only

PUBLIC FORUM: None

FDOT UPDATE: FDOT Update - *Bryant Paulk, AICP Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Urban Liaisons*

Bryant Paulk announced an upcoming public workshop for the PD&E study for a multiuse trail along US 98 and a section of 15th Street in Mexico Beach to be held at the Latter Day Saints Church.

Back Beach Road, Tyndall AFB Flyover, and Gulf Coast Parkway constructions all remains on schedule.

PLANNING AND TRANSIT CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. ALL COMMITTEES - Approval of February 2025 Meeting Minutes**
- 2. ALL COMMITTEES** - Consideration of Resolution of Bay 25-11 Adopting the FY 2025 – FY 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Year 2 (FY 2026) Amendment –
- 3. TPO ONLY** - Consideration of Resolution Bay 25-15 Authorizing the Surplus of Rolling Stock
- 4. TPO ONLY** - Consideration of Resolution Bay 25-16 Authorizing Sale of the Commercial Land Site Located on Douglas Road

Paul Bohac moved to approve the February 2025 TCC meeting minutes and consent item #2. Robert Wood seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

PLANNING ACTION ITEMS:

- 1. ENCLOSURE A – ALL COMMITTEES – ROLL CALL VOTE** - Consideration of Resolution Bay 25-12 Amending the FY 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program update the Construction Cost for Scott's Ferry Road Over Bear Creek Bridge Replacement Project for Financial Project Identification (FPID) Number 439380-1 in FY 2025/2026 at a Total Cost of \$10,374,991
- 2. ENCLOSURE B - ALL COMMITTEES - ALL COMMITTEES – ROLL CALL VOTE** - Consideration of Resolution Bay 25-13 Amending the FY 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program Add the Construction Phase for SR 77 from 23rd Street to CR

2312 (Baldwin Road) Sidewalk Project, Financial Project Identification (FPID) Number 445564-3 in FY 2025/2026 at a Total Cost of \$4,715,700

3. **ENCLOSURE C** - Consideration of Resolution Bay 25-14 Amending the FY 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program to Change the Mileage for Lake Drive from SR 30 (US 98) to South Berthe Avenue Sidewalk Project for Financial Project Identification (FPID) Number 453604-1

It was agreed to address Enclosures A-C as one.

Bryant Paulk provided a brief description of the requested amendments. Enclosures A and B need to be amended due to both being let earlier than scheduled. The project listed in Enclosure C needs to be amended to adjust the length of the project in its description.

Paul Bohac moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution Bay 25-12, Resolution Bay 25-13, and Resolution Bay 25-14 amending the FY 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program. Robert Wood seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

4. **ENCLOSURE D - ALL COMMITTEES - ROLL CALL VOTE AND PUBLIC HEARING**
Consideration of Resolution Bay 25-10 Adopting the Bay County TPO FY 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Gary Kramer explained the TIP's place in the process of development of projects from conception to construction, then noted that the complete draft plan, along with comments received during the public input period were sent to the committee members earlier in the month for review.

Paul Bohac moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution Bay 25-10 adopting the Bay County TPO FY 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program. Robert Wood seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

5. **ENCLOSURE E - ALL COMMITTEES** - Consideration of Resolution Bay 25-09 Adopting the Bay County TPO FY 2027-2031 Project Priorities

Gary Kramer explained the role of Project Priorities in the process of developing transportation projects, from conception to construction. The draft project priorities were presented by category, and Gary Kramer explained the available interactive map, which contains details for each project.

Gary Kramer highlighted three suggested changes to the priorities as a result of comments received during the two public workshops. 1) Non-SIS Priority #9, The City of Panama City Beach requested to change the pedestrian overpass project to a feasibility study for an underground structure instead, 2) a request to swap SIS Priorities #3 and #4 (#3 currently being US 231 from Pipeline to Penny, and #4 being SR 390 from SR 77 to US 231), and 3) a request to change the name of SIS Priority #5 from Thomas Drive to Navy Boulevard.

Leandra Meredith presented the public input that was collected over the past weeks regarding the Project Priorities. Surveys were widely distributed through social media channels, emails, word of mouth, and through the cooperation of area stakeholders. Staff received 108 responses, most of which took the opportunity to provide open-ended comments. Leandra Meredith thanked those stakeholders in the community who helped distribute the survey.

Survey results noted peak hour congestion as the highest contributor to traffic problems. School start/release times and tourist season also ranked high, but accident/crash occurrences and delays did not rank as high.

Survey-takers noted that road surface conditions are a problem, along with signalization synchronization needs.

Of the 73 open ended comments received, most mentioned major congestion issues on US 231 and SR 22 in Callaway and Bayou George. Respondents also expressed concerns for bicycle and pedestrian safety and long construction schedules.

Tiffany Bates stated that the TCC recommended the TPO approve the draft Project Priorities with the three changes mentioned by Mr. Kramer.

Marty Kirkland moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution Bay 25-09 adopting the Bay County TPO FY 2027-2031 Project Priorities with the three changes listed above. Robert Wood seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

6. ENCLOSURE F - ALL COMMITTEES - Nomination and Election of TPO Board, TCC, and CAC Chair and Vice Chair for FY 2026

Discussion resulted in a recommendation to keep the current officers. Jim Pretlow accepted the nomination but noted that he would only like to serve one more year.

Paul Bohac moved to elect Ali Frohlich to serve as TCC Chair for FY 2026 and Jim Pretlow to serve as Vice Chair. Robert Wood seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

OTHER BUSINESS - None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.