

OKALOOSA – WALTON TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (TCC)

MEETING MINUTES

Chautauqua Building, 95 Circle Drive in DeFuniak Springs.

May 21, 2026

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Kristen Shell - Chair	Okaloosa County
Latilda Hughes-Neel - Vice Chair	Freeport
Jayce Vanderford	Crestview
Kyle Lusk	Crestview
Jeff Cozadd	Destin
Chris Frassetto	Niceville
Scott Davidson	Hurlburt Field
Roy Petrey	Okaloosa County
Chance Powell	Walton County

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Chris Wallace	DeFuniak Springs
Alex Blanco-Castano	Eglin Air Force Base
Tim Gibson	Fort Walton Beach
Robert Herbsteith	Mary Esther
Van Fuller	Mid-Bay Bridge Authority
Johnathan Laird	Niceville
Joseph J. Fulghum	Okaloosa County
Elliot Kampert	Okaloosa County
Tracy Stage	Okaloosa County Airports
Robert Rogers	Okaloosa County Airports
Dustin Keith	Okaloosa County School District
Joel Paul	Tri-County Community Council
Joseph Preston	Walton County
Anna Hudson	Walton County
Michelle B. Doggett	Walton County School District

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Bryant Paulk	FDOT
Christy Johnson	FDOT
Cory Wilkinson	HDR
Carol Kent Smith	Gund Management Group
Mary Beth Washnock	Gund Management Group
Samantha Graves	City of Freeport
Anna Hudson	Walton County
Chance Powell	Walton County

EMERALD COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL STAFF:

Kandase Lee
Tiffany Bates
Rae Emary
Jill Nobles
Leandra Meredith
Gabrielle McVoy
Gary Kramer
Virtual Attendance
Tammy Neal

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

PUBLIC FORUM

FDOT Update -

Bryant Paulk, FDOT, provided an update regarding an upcoming resurfacing project on U.S. 90 in Walton County, reporting that the project extends from just west of U.S. 331 eastward to the Holmes County line and consists of a standard resurfacing project. A virtual public information opportunity will be available beginning July 22, 2026, through FDOT's Northwest Florida Roads website. Construction is anticipated to be let in late calendar year 2027. Committee members discussed future resurfacing needs along U.S. 98 through Destin. Bryant Paulk indicated he would follow up regarding the scheduling of those improvements.

FDEP UPDATE

Cassidy Haney provided an update on statewide trail planning efforts, including updates to the Regional Trail Corridor maps and the U.S. 90 Trail Corridor. She discussed efforts to establish a U.S. 90 Trail Corridor Alliance to improve coordination, close trail gaps, and expand the regional trail network.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. ALL COMMITTEES: Approval of the February 2026 Meeting Minutes**
- 2. ALL COMMITTEES: Consideration of Resolution O-W 26-09 Adopting the Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 – FY 2028 Okaloosa-Walton Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**
- 3. ALL COMMITTEES: Consideration of Resolution O-W 26-15 Supporting the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Receipt of Section 5310 Funding to Continue Transit Services**

Latilda Hughes-Neel moved to approve the February 2026 TCC minutes as presented, and to recommend that the TPO approve the remaining consent agenda items. Kyle Lusk seconded the motion, and it was unanimously

approved.

ACTION ITEMS:

- 1. ENCLOSURE A – ALL COMMITTEES – ROLL CALL VOTE - Consideration of Resolution O-W 26-10 Amending the FY 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program to Add the Preliminary Engineering (PE) Phase for I-10 from 1.85 Miles West of the SR 81 Interchange to the Holmes County Line – the Walton County I-10 Median Barrier Project Phase II for Financial Project Identification (FPID) Number 457026-2 in FY 2025/2026 at a Total Cost of \$306,020 - *Bryant Paulk, AICP, FDOT***

Chair Shell noted that Resolutions O-W 26-10 through O-W 26-14 were all TIP amendments presented by FDOT. By consensus of the committee, the five TIP amendment resolutions were considered together and would be voted on as a single action item.

Bryant Paulk presented Resolution O-W 26-10, explaining that the amendment would add construction funding for the North Walton County Multi-Use Trail Project. The project will provide enhanced bicycle and pedestrian connectivity within the area and support implementation of regional trail network goals. Committee members discussed the continued importance of expanding multimodal transportation opportunities throughout Walton County and recognized the project's contribution to improving pedestrian and bicycle safety.

- 2. ENCLOSURE B – ALL COMMITTEES – ROLL CALL VOTE - Consideration of Resolution O-W 26-11 Amending the FY 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program to Add the Preliminary Engineering (PE) Phase for SR 30 (US 98) from Doodles Forest Road to the Forestry Station, a Capacity Project, for Financial Project Identification (FPID) Number 4371798 in FY 2026/2027 at a Total Cost of \$5,280,000 - *Bryant Paulk, AICP, FDOT***

Bryant Paulk presented Resolution O-W 26-11, explaining that the amendment would add construction funding for a shared use path along John Sims Parkway. The project will enhance connectivity for pedestrians and bicyclists while supporting multimodal transportation options within the Niceville area.

- 3. ENCLOSURE C – ALL COMMITTEES – ROLL CALL VOTE - Consideration of Resolution O-W 26-12 Amending the FY 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program to Add the Preliminary Engineering (PE) Phase for SR 30 (US 98) from Forestry Station to West of Phillips Inlet, a Bridge Capacity Project, for Financial Project Identification (FPID) Number 4371799 in FY 2026/2027 at a Total Cost of \$4,800,000 - *Bryant Paulk, AICP, FDOT***

Bryant Paulk presented Resolution O-W 26-12, explaining that the amendment would add funding for Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSM&O) improvements intended to enhance traffic operations, improve system efficiency, and support congestion management throughout the region.

- 4. ENCLOSURE D - ALL COMMITTEES - ROLL CALL VOTE - Consideration of Resolution O-W 26-13 Amending the FY 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program to Add the Right-of- Phase for S.R. 85 from S.R. 123 to S.R. 210 (McWhorter Avenue), a Capacity Project, for Financial Project Identification (FPID) Number 2201714 in FY 2025/2026 at a Total Cost of \$50,000- *Bryant Paulk, AICP, FDOT***

Bryant Paulk presented Resolution O-W 26-13, explaining proposed safety improvements. The amendment would provide funding for intersection improvements intended to reduce crash potential and improve traffic operations.

- 5. ENCLOSURE E - ALL COMMITTEES - ROLL CALL VOTE - Consideration of Resolution O-W 26-14 Amending the FY 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program to add the Right-of-Way Phase for SR 85 from SR 210 (McWhorter Avenue) to South of Live Oak Church Road, a Capacity Project, for Financial Project Identification (FPID) Number 2201715 in FY 2026/2027 at a Total Cost of \$800,300 - *Bryant Paulk, AICP, FDOT***

Bryant Paulk presented Resolution O-W 26-14, explaining that the action would add additional funding and programming adjustments necessary to advance transportation projects within the Okaloosa-Walton TPO planning area.

Roy Petrey moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution O-W 26-10, Resolution O-W 26-11, Resolution O-W 26-12, Resolution O-W 26-13, and Resolution O-W 26-14 amending the FY 2026-2030 TIP. Jayce Vanderford seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

- 6. ENCLOSURE F - ALL COMMITTEES - ROLL CALL VOTE - Consideration of Resolution O-W 26-06 Adopting the Okaloosa-Walton TPO FY 2027-2031 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) - *Gary Kramer, ECRC Staff***

Gary Kramer presented the FY 2027-2031 TIP, which identifies transportation projects programmed for funding over the next five years. He noted that the TIP was developed using the adopted Project Priorities and FDOT's Tentative Work Program.

Latilda Hughes-Neel moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution O-W 26-06 adopting the FY 2027-2031 Transportation Improvement Program. Anna Hudson seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

7. ENCLOSURE G – ALL COMMITTEES – ROLL CALL VOTE- Consideration of Resolution O-W 26-07 Adopting the Okaloosa-Walton TPO FY 2028 – FY 2032 Project Priorities – Jill Nobles, ECRC Staff

Gary Kramer presented the FY 2028–2032 Project Priorities and reviewed the recommended rankings. Rae Emary summarized public outreach efforts and noted that congestion, safety, emergency evacuation, and east-west mobility were among the primary concerns identified. Committee members discussed several project rankings, including Around-the-Mound, the Forest Connector Road, U.S. 98 improvements, and military-related transportation needs.

Roy Petrey moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution O-W 26-07 adopting the FY 2028–2032 Project Priorities. Kyle Lusk seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

8. ENCLOSURE H – ALL COMMITTEES – Consideration of Resolution O-W 26-08 Adopting the Okaloosa-Walton TPO 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan System Performance Report – Jill Nobles, ECRC Staff

Josh DeVries presented the 2025 System Performance Report and explained that federal transportation regulations require metropolitan planning organizations to periodically evaluate the performance of the transportation system and measure progress toward established national performance goals. The report includes measures related to safety, pavement and bridge condition, congestion management, freight movement, and system reliability.

Josh DeVries reviewed several key performance measures and explained how transportation investments programmed through the TPO support achievement of federal performance targets. He noted that the report demonstrates continued progress in several areas while also identifying opportunities for future improvement.

Anna Hudson moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution O-W 26-08 adopting the 2025 System Performance Report. Latilda Hugh-Neel seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

9. ENCLOSURE I – ALL COMMITTEES – Consideration of Resolution O-W 26-16 Authorizing the TPO Chair to Sign a Letter of Support for State Road (S.R.) 85 from S.R. 123 to U.S. 98 Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Designation Change Request- Bryant Paulk, AICP,FDOT

Kandase Lee presented Resolution O-W 26-16, explaining that the resolution would provide formal support for designation of State Road 85 as part of Florida's SIS. She noted that SR 85 serves as a critical transportation corridor supporting military

installations, regional economic activity, freight movement, and emergency evacuation operations.

Roy Petrey moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution O-W 26-16 supporting SIS designation of State Road 85. Jayce Vanderford seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

10. ENCLOSURE J – ALL COMMITTEES – Consideration of Resolution O-W 26-17 Amending the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 – FY 2026 Okaloosa-Walton Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to De-obligate PL and CM Funds – *Kandase Lee, ECRC CEO*

Kandase Lee presented Resolution O-W 26-17, a routine amendment to close out the current Unified Planning Work Program and reprogram funds for future planning activities while maintaining compliance with federal funding requirements.

Latilda Hughes-Neel moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution O-W 26-17 de-obligating PL and SU funds. Kyle Lusk seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

11. ENCLOSURE K – ALL COMMITTEES – Nomination and Election of TPO Board, TCC, and CAC Chair and Vice Chair for FY 2027 – *Kandase Lee, ECRC CEO*

Kyle Lusk moved to elect Latilda Hugh-Neel as chair of the OW TCC for Fiscal Year 2027 and Kristen Shell as vice chair. Chance Powell seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

PRESENTATION ITEMS

1. ENCLOSURE L – ALL COMMITTEES – Review of the Okaloosa-Walton TPO 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan Congestion Management Process Plan (CMPP) - *Jill Nobles, ECRC Staff*

Jill Nobles presented an overview of the Congestion Management Process Plan (CMPP) being developed as part of the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan update. Joshua DeVries reviewed existing transportation conditions and identified approximately 91.8 miles of the network operating below adopted level of service standards.

2. ENCLOSURE M- ALL COMMITTEES - Review of the Okaloosa-Walton TPO 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Draft Needs List - *Jill Nobles, ECRC Staff*

Joshua DeVries presented the Draft Needs List for the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan, which includes roadway, multimodal, transit, freight, safety, and operational improvements. He explained that the list will serve as the foundation for

developing the Cost Feasible Plan.

3. ENCLOSURE N - ALL COMMITTEES - Review of Existing Conditions and Proposed Networks for the Okaloosa-Walton TPO Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Trail Master Plan Update – *Jill Nobles, ECRC Staff*

Joshua DeVries presented an update on the Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Trail Master Plan. The presentation included a review of existing bicycle and pedestrian facilities, identified network gaps, and proposed improvements intended to enhance connectivity throughout the region. Joshua DeVries explained that the update focuses on creating a more connected and accessible transportation network for pedestrians and bicyclists while supporting safety, recreation, tourism, and alternative transportation opportunities. Proposed improvements include shared-use paths, sidewalks, bicycle facilities, trail connections, and other multimodal enhancements.

INFORMATION ITEMS (no presentation necessary):

1. TCC and CAC February 2026 Meeting Minutes
2. Amendment to the FY 2026-2030 TIP Letters
3. FDOT MPO Joint Certification
4. 2026 O-W TPO Meeting Schedule

OTHER BUSINESS: The next Okaloosa Walton Transportation Planning Organization meeting will be held on August 20, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. The CAC will meet at 9:30 a.m. and the TCC will meet at 1:30 p.m. All meetings will be held at the Niceville Community Center, 204 Partin Dr N, Niceville, FL

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