

FLORIDA-ALABAMA TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

EMERALD COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL (Designated Staff)

Gulf Breeze Community Center – 800 Shoreline Drive, Gulf Breeze, Florida 32561

August 12, 2025

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Samantha Abell, Chair	Gulf Breeze
Drew Holmer, Vice Chair	Escambia County
Don Christian	Escambia County
Ronald D. Rivera	Escambia County Sheriff's Office
Tim Milstead	Milton
Griffin Powell	Orange Beach
Victoria D'Angelo	Pensacola
Bill Kimball	Pensacola
Roy Remington	Pensacola International Airport
Thomas "Shep" Coggin	Port of Pensacola
Wendy Gavin	Pensacola
<u>Virtual Attendance</u>	
Leslie Statler	Pensacola
Sarah C. Sislak	Eastern Shore MPO

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Ann Simpson	Baldwin County
Tyler Mitchell	Baldwin County
Jacob Kearley	Emerald Coast Utilities Authority
Max Rogers	Escambia County
Thaddeus Davenport	Escambia County Area Transit
Darlene Hart	Escambia County School District
Tommi S. Lyter	Escambia County Sheriff's Office
Steve Opalenik	Pensacola Naval Air Station
Ted Young	Pensacola State College
Shawn Ward	Santa Rosa County
Jud Crane	Santa Rosa County School District
Virginia Sutler	Santa Rosa County School District
Chip Chism	University of West Florida

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Christy Johnson	FDOT
Vince Beebe	ALDOT
Deston Taylor	DRMP
Lindsay Slautterback	Kimley Horn
Macy Falcon	Kimley Horn

Scott Davidson	Hurlburt Field
Ian Rehrig	City of Milton
Jessica Francois	Quest
Caitlin Cerame	City of Pensacola
<u>Virtual Attendance</u>	
Allison Fluitt	Kimley Horn
Randall Palmer	

EMERALD COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL STAFF

Kandase Lee
Tiffany Bates
Rae Emary
Leandra Meredith
Gary Kramer
Jill Nobles
Howard Vanselow
Tammy Neal
Roshita Taylor
Elizabeth Marino
Virtual Attendance:
Gabrielle McVoy
Gina Watson

CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION/PLEDGE/BOARD MEMBER ROLL CALL

Chair Abell called the meeting to order with confirmation that there were no changes to the agenda and no public comments received.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

PUBLIC FORUM

FDOT/ALDOT/ UPDATES:

1. FDOT Update - *Bryant Paulk, AICP, or Christy Johnson, AICP, FDOT Urban Liaison*

Christy Johnson informed the committee of an upcoming Public Hearing for the Sorrento Road PD&E Study to be held on Thursday, September 25, 2025, at The Point Church, located at 13801 Innerarity Point Road. The study will evaluate capacity widening needs for the corridor and Christy Johnson noted that more information is available through the Northwest Florida Roads website.

2. ALDOT Update – Vincent Beebe, P.E., ALDOT

Vince Beebe reported that the Waterways Project's northern segment, running from Foley Beach Express to County Road 4, is approximately 90 percent complete with two bridges in various stages of construction. The southern segment, which includes a new bridge crossing the canal, is also nearing 90 percent completion. Vince Beebe indicated that both portions should be fully complete by summer 2026.

Vince Beebe stated that there are a few pre-construction projects underway, including a State Route 180 widening project from Beaver Creek Lane to Foley Beach Express, which is currently in the NEPA process with plans 30 to 60 percent complete. A public involvement meeting is expected later in September. Additionally, intersection improvements are being planned at State Route 180 and 161, which remain in the NEPA process and will be brought forward for public review next calendar year. Vince Beebe also mentioned that ALDOT is planning pedestrian improvements on State Route 182, adding new crosswalks from Perdido Pass Bridge to the state line.

Cassidy Haney with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection provided an update from the Office of Greenways and Trails. Cassidy Haney stated that statewide trail status maps are being updated and should be finalized by the end of the year. Cassidy Haney also highlighted the launch of the US-90 Trail Corridor Alliance and Trail town Alliance Program, which will expand opportunities for connectivity and participation in trail development across the region.

CONSENT:

- 1. ALL COMMITTEES: Approval of May 2025 Meeting Minutes**
- 2. TPO ONLY – Consideration of Membership Certifications for the Escambia County and Santa Rosa County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Boards, Howard Vanselow, ECRC Staff**
- 3. ALL COMMITTEES - Consideration of Addition of Quest Corporation of America as a Subcontractor to the TPO's Planning Consultant Contract**
- 4. TPO AND CAC ONLY - Consideration of Resolution FL-AL 25-12 Amending the Florida Alabama Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) Bylaws**

Ronald Rivera moved to recommend the TPO approve consent agenda items 1 and 3. Wendy Gavin seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

ACTION:

1. ENCLOSURE A – ALL COMMITTEES – ROLL CALL VOTE AND PUBLIC HEARING - Consideration of Resolution FL-AL 25-21 Adopting the 2050 Florida-Alabama TPO Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Cost Feasible Plan – *Gary Kramer, ECRC Staff*

Gary Kramer, ECRC, and Corey Wilkinson, HDR, presented the Cost Feasible Plan for the 2050 Florida-Alabama TPO LRTP. Cory Wilkinson explained that the plan outlines available revenues and narrows the broader needs plan to a fiscally constrained list of fundable projects through 2050. Since the May draft review, design phases for certain non-SIS projects were funded, and safety action studies for U.S. 98 and U.S. 90 were added. Cory Wilkinson emphasized that while over \$12 billion in needs have been identified, only \$411 million is available, requiring prioritization and fiscal constraint. The Steering Committee had already recommended approval, and those committee members commended the collaborative effort and detailed work.

Don Christian moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution FL-AL 25-21 adopting the 2050 Florida-Alabama TPO Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Cost Feasible Plan. Ronald Rivera seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

2. ENCLOSURE B – ALL COMMITTEES – Consideration of Resolution FL-AL 25-22 Adopting the Congestion Elimination Plan – *Jill Nobles, ECRC Staff*

Macy Falcon and Allison Fluitt of Kimley-Horn presented. Macy Falcon explained that the plan was designed to align with existing efforts such as the Smart Regions Master Plan, the Safety Action Plan, and the LRTP. The plan identifies congested corridors and applies a “toolbox” of strategies organized around technology solutions, safety and congestion management, and expanded transportation options.

Allison Fluitt elaborated on how the strategies could be combined and adapted for different corridors. Allison Fluitt stressed the importance of aligning congestion solutions with safety and technology initiatives to maximize eligibility for federal, state, and local funding. Discussion included questions about fiber installation on SR 399 and coordination with Escambia County’s gateway and bridge projects.

Don Christian moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution FL-AL 25-22 adopting the Congestion Elimination Plan. Tim Milstead seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

3. **ENCLOSURE C – TPO ONLY– Consideration of Resolution FL-AL 25-23 Adopting the Intergovernmental Coordination and Review (ICAR) and Public Transportation Coordination Joint Participation Agreement – *Jill Nobles, ECRC Staff***
4. **ENCLOSURE D – ALL COMMITTEES – Consideration of Resolution FL-AL 25-24 Adopting the Advanced Transportation Management System (ATMS) Master Plan Update Scope of Services and Authorizing Execution of Consultant Task Work Order – *Jill Nobles, ECRC Staff***

Kandase Lee, ECRC CEO, stated that this item was requesting approval to issue a task order for an updated ATMS Master Plan. Kandase Lee explained that the original master plan, completed in 2015–2017, is outdated given advancements in technology and planning as well as recent funding opportunities. Kandase Lee emphasized that the update is critical for regional coordination and integration with related initiatives.

Roy Remington moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution FL-AL 25-24 adopting the Advanced Transportation Management System Master Plan Update Scope of Services and authorizing execution of Consultant Task Work Order. Drew Holmer seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

5. **ENCLOSURE E – ALL COMMITTEES - Consideration of Resolution FL-AL 25-25 Requesting FDOT Transfer of Funds from FPID#218693-2 to FPID#451524-1 in the Amount of \$450,000 for Post Design Architectural Services for Delivery of the Regional Transportation Management Center (RTMC)– *Kandase Lee, ECRC CEO***

Kandase Lee stated that this item was requesting approval to reallocate \$450,000 from DOT's reserve fund for engineering professional services into an existing open agreement line item. The reallocated funds will support post-design architectural services for the Regional Transportation Management Center (TMC) during its 18–24-month construction phase. Kandase Lee noted that the Department specifically requested this action due to the complexity of the facility, stressing the importance of keeping architectural staff engaged throughout project delivery

Don Christian moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution FLAL 25-25 requesting FDOT transfer of funds from FPID#218693-2 to FPID#451524-1 in the amount of \$450,000 for Post Design Architectural Services for delivery of the RTMC. Roy Remington seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. ENCLOSURE F – ALL COMMITTEES – Congestion Management Process Plan (CMPP) Minor Update – *Jill Nobles, ECRC Staff*

Jill Nobles presented the CMP minor update. The annual update included revised metrics for 2023 covering travel demand reduction, safety, active transportation, reliability, and system preservation. Members were encouraged to review FDOT's interactive level-of-service maps linked in the report. Adoption of the update will be requested at the November meeting.

2. ENCLOSURE G – ALL COMMITTEES – RideOn Commuter Services Program Update, *Elizabeth Marino, ECRC Staff*

Elizabeth Marino, coordinator of the RideOn Commuter Services Program, presented the recently relaunched initiative. Elizabeth Marino explained that RideOn is a grant-funded FDOT program that helps connect commuters with smarter transportation options, including carpools, vanpools, and employer-supported ridesharing benefits. Elizabeth Marino emphasized the potential for significant cost savings through tax incentives and highlighted new features of the program's mobile app, which tracks commutes, provides rewards, and supports employer sub-sites for employees to match rides internally. Elizabeth Marino encouraged members to download and test the app, stressing that awareness is key to expanding participation.

INFORMATION ITEMS - (no presentation necessary)

- 1.** TCC and CAC May 2025 Meeting Minutes
- 2.** Amendment to the FY 2025-2029 TIP Letters
- 3.** 2025 FL-AL TPO Schedule

OTHER BUSINESS-

Deston Taylor provided a traffic and beach monitoring update with a focus on the Blue Angels Air Show. Deston Taylor reported record-setting traffic volumes, including more than 3,000 additional vehicles on Wednesday, making it the busiest show ever recorded. Casino Beach parking lot filled before dawn on Saturday, contributing to severe parking shortages and congestion during the mass exit following the show. While on-site coordination with law enforcement and emergency services was effective, Deston Taylor noted persistent challenges with pedestrian crossings and a need for improved traveler information systems, such as dynamic message boards. Deston Taylor also highlighted the economic impact of the event, estimated at \$31 million, and underscored the urgency of planning for even higher traffic volumes in the future.

The next Florida-Alabama Transportation Planning Organization meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. TCC and CAC will meet on Thursday, November 06, 2025. The TCC will meet at 10:00 a.m. and the CAC will meet at 1:30 p.m. All meetings will be held at the Santa Rosa Auditorium in Milton: 4530 Spikes Way, Milton, FL 32583.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Abell closed by expressing appreciation for the condolences received following the recent passing of Thomas Lambert, Public Works Director, for the City of Gulf Breeze. She thanked attendees for their participation and hospitality. The meeting was adjourned.