

FLORIDA-ALABAMA TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (TPO)

MEETING MINUTES

EMERALD COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL (Designated Staff)

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

August 13, 2025

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Steven Barry, Chair	Escambia County
Kerry Smith	Santa Rosa County
Charles F. Gruber	Baldwin County
Ashley Hofberger	Escambia County
Steve Stroberger	Escambia County
Mike Kohler	Escambia County
Charles Bare	City of Pensacola
Allison Patton	City of Pensacola
Rhett Rowell	Santa Rosa County
Ray Eddington	Santa Rosa County

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Lumon May	Escambia County
JB Schluter	City of Gulf Breeze
Heather Lindsay	City of Milton
Jerry Johnson	Orange Beach
Casey Jones	City of Pensacola
Jared Moore	City of Pensacola
Delarian Wiggins	City of Pensacola
Colten Wright	Santa Rosa County
Bobby Burkett	Santa Rosa County

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Bryant Paulk	FDOT
Christy Johnson	FDOT
Vince Beebe	ALDOT
Cory Wilkinson	HDR
Scott Davidson	Hurlburt Field
Deston Taylor	DRMP
Keith Bower	FL-AL CAC
Chris Phillips	Jacobs
Jessica Francis	Quest
Cassidy Handey	NWFL Greenways and Trails
Wendy Gavin	City of Pensacola
Don Christian	Escambia County
Robert Simantel	Quest

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Jared Kirkland	FDOT
Jeff Huggins	City of Gulf Breeze
Chirsty Johnson	FDOT
Olen Pettis	FDOT
Lindsay Slautterback	Kimley-Horn
Macy Falcon	Kimley-Horn
Allison Fluitt	Kimley Horn
Drew Holmer	Escambia County
Hassan Hilb	Escambia County
Caitlin Cerame	City of Pensacola
Sydney Black	FDOT
Cray Holley	FDOT
Thomas Coggins	Port of Pensacola
Ben Faust	DRMP
Melanie Luna	Escambia County BOCC
<u>Virtual Attendance:</u>	
Colby Cleveland	FDOT
Kaylor Collins	

EMERALD COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL STAFF

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

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

Chair Berry called the meeting to order. Commissioner Gruber delivered the invocation and Commissioner Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Kohler moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hofberger, and it was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC FORUM

Deston Taylor, DRMP, provided a traffic and beach monitoring update following the Blue Angels Air Show. Deston Taylor noted that traffic reached record levels, with over 3,000 additional vehicles recorded during the event. Overnight arrivals and mass-exit congestion—primarily due to pedestrian crossings—created challenges, though on-site coordination with law enforcement and emergency services produced positive results. Deston Taylor recommended the future use of digital message boards and enhanced public communication strategies to help manage the flow of vehicles and pedestrians. Deston Taylor also raised concerns about potential traffic increases as the Pensacola Beach Gateway Project advances. On the economic side, the Pensacola Beach Chamber reported an estimated \$31 million in economic impact, making this possibly the busiest Blue Angels weekend on record.

1. FDOT/ALDOT UPDATES

Bryant Paulk addressed the Whiting Field SIS Analysis, noting an increase in personnel but confirming that the numbers still fall below the 4% threshold required for designation. Bryant Paulk encouraged the City of Milton and Santa Rosa County to keep FDOT informed of any new resources allocated to Whiting Field, as ongoing monitoring will be necessary.

Braynt Paulk also discussed the State Road 292 PD&E Study, announcing that a hybrid public hearing is scheduled for September 25, 2025, at The Point Church (13801 Innerarity Point Rd, Pensacola). The study aims to analyze existing roadway characteristics, evaluate community needs and impacts, and propose conceptual improvements. Considerations include widening the 5.6-mile segment of Sorrento Road from two lanes to four and adding a multi-use path for pedestrians and cyclists.

During discussion, Commissioner Stroberger suggested a motion to conduct a safety analysis on Sorrento Road, extending from Navy Boulevard through Gulf Beach Highway. Bryant Paulk provided clarification on the differences between traffic studies (focused on capacity) and safety analyses (focused on crash prevention). Funding for the safety study will be drawn from the FDOT district budget queue.

Commissioner Stroberger moved to recommend FDOT conduct a safety study on Sorrento Road from Navy Boulevard through Gulf Beach Highway. Commissioner Kohler seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

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

Vince Beebe reported that the State Route 180 roadway project is approximately 90% complete, with intersection upgrades at SR 180 and SR 161 now underway. Pedestrian improvements are also planned along SR 182. Vince Beebe further shared that the Mobile River Bridge project design is about 70% complete. Construction is targeted for early

2026, with costs estimated between \$2–4 billion. Funding will come in part from toll revenues and federal grants.

3. FDEP Update – *Cassidy Haney, NWFL Greenways and Trails*

Cassidy Haney reported that statewide trail status maps are currently being updated and highlighted the launch of the US-90 Trail Corridor Alliance, a new partnership aimed at improving trail connectivity 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**

Commissioner Kohler moved to approve the consent agenda items. Commissioner Stroberger 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***

Cory Wilkinson, HDR, presented the 2050 Florida-Alabama TPO LRTP Cost Feasible Plan stating that staff recommends approval of adopting the 2050 Florida-Alabama TPO Long-Range Transportation Plan Cost Feasible Plan and a motion authorizing staff to convert the projects into project phases for the following fiscal year groupings 2024-2030 (TIP); 2031-2035; 2036 -2040; and 2041-2050 using “year of expenditure dollars”.

Staff also recommended approval of a motion that recognizes the following items have been approved by the TPO and will be summarized in the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan Final Report: Goals Objectives - Resolution FL-AL 24-11 adopted on April 10, 2024; Financial Resources - Resolution FL-AL 24-26 adopted on December 11, 2024; Evaluation Criteria - Resolution FL-AL 24-27 adopted on December 11, 2024; Congestion Management Process Major Update - Resolution FL-AL 24-25 adopted on

December 11, 2024; 2050 Needs Plan Resolution - FL-AL 25-06 adopted on May 14, 2025; and 2050 Cost Feasible Plan - Resolution FL-AL 25-21 adopted on August 13, 2025.

Councilmember Patton moved to authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution FL-AL 25-13, Resolution FL-AL 25-21 adopting the 2050 Florida-Alabama TPO Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Cost Feasible Plan. Commissioner Kohler seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Chair Barry	Yes
Commissioner Smith	Yes
Commissioner Gruber	Yes
Commissioner Hofberger	Yes
Commissioner Stroberger	Yes
Commissioner Kohler	Yes
Council Member Bare	Yes
Council Member Patton	Yes
Commissioner Rowell	Yes
Commissioner Eddington	Yes

The motion was unanimously approved.

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

Allison Fluitt and Macy Falcon, Kimley Horn, presented the Congestion Elimination Plan. Macy Falcon stated that the draft Congestion Elimination Plan identifies the roadways within the TPO area with congestion and suggests strategies to address this congestion. This plan aligns with the previously adopted ECRC Safety Action Plan and the Florida-Alabama TPO Smart Regions Plan and includes technology infrastructure improvements that can also address safety improvements and fiber connectivity along with congestion. Projects are intended to reduce congestion in the TPO region. Allison Fluitt discussed different strategies in the plan, as well as the project list.

Commissioner Gruber moved to authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution FL-AL 25-22 adopting the Congestion Elimination Plan. Commissioner Kohler 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*

Jill Nobles presented the Intergovernmental Coordination and Review (ICAR) and Public Transportation Coordination Joint Participation Agreement.

Jill Nobles explained that the Intergovernmental Coordination and Review and Public Transportation Coordination Joint Participation Agreement (ICAR) describes the process for coordination of TPO planning activities with ECRC, local government comprehensive plans and operators of publicly owned transportation systems. The Florida-Alabama TPO's ICAR was last updated on June 9, 2010, reaffirmed on April 8, 2015, and reaffirmed again on May 13, 2020. Jill Nobles stated that the ICAR outlines the process for planning coordination, forwarding recommendations, and project program consistency between the parties to the agreement. The execution of the ICAR will be led by the TPO working with the operators of the publicly owned transportation systems.

Commissioner Kohler moved to authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution FL-AL 25-23 adopting the Intergovernmental Coordination and Review and Public Transportation Coordination Joint Participation Agreement. Councilmember Patton seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

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 is regarding the scope of services and the issuance of a notice-to-proceed task order for an update to the Advanced Transportation Management System (ATMS). Kandase Lee explained that the original ATMS master plan was developed between 2015 and 2017, and since that time, significant advancements have been made both in the technology itself and in the implementation of the plan. Kandase Lee noted that each member had been provided with a handout titled ATMS Implementation, which included a map outlining the projects currently underway. Kandase Lee described the initiative as a "flagship" effort, expressing pride in its success to date. As an example of progress, Kandase Lee highlighted the Transportation Management Center project, reporting that Escambia County has released it for construction bids. Kandase Lee acknowledged the county's partnership, as well as the tireless contributions of the ATMS working group and supporting staff who meet monthly to advance the effort. Kandase Lee emphasized that while the ATMS has achieved notable progress, it is now time to formally update the plan, therefore staff requested approval of the scope of services and authorization to issue a task order to a consultant for the development of the update.

Commissioner Kohler moved to 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. Councilmember Patton 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, ECRC CEO, stated that this item is requesting the reallocation of \$450,000 from a designated line item at the Department of Transportation. The funds are currently held in a reserve account for engineering professional services and would be transferred to an existing open agreement line item with the department.

Kandase Lee explained that this open project supports the Local Agency Program (LAP) design project for the Regional Transportation Management Center (TMC). The reallocated funds will supplement the agreement by covering post-design architectural services during the construction of the TMC, which is expected to continue for the next 18–24 months.

Kandase Lee emphasized that the Department specifically requested this action due to the complexity of the facility, highlighting the importance of having architectural staff available to support the contractor and Escambia County throughout the project's delivery.

Councilmember Patton moved to authorize the TPO chair to sign 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 RTMC. Commissioner Eddington 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 CMPP Minor Update. Jill Nobles stated that the annual CMPP minor update reflects the accomplishments in terms of congestion mitigation expected

by the TPO by evaluating performance measures, Level of Service (LOS) tables, the truck traffic map, and by producing a Corridor Management Plan on a segment recommended through the annual Project Priorities process. Adoption will be requested at the November TPO meeting.

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

Elizabeth Marino gave an update on the RideOn Commuter Services Program and gave a summary of the program. Elizabeth Marino stated that the program's mission is to reduce reliance on single-occupant vehicles (SOVs) by promoting alternative transportation, federal tax programs, and developing innovative solutions that benefit both employers and commuters. This is achieved through strong partnerships with local businesses, organizations, higher learning institutions, government entities, and community members. Elizabeth Marino stated that there was a recent update to both the website and app to better facilitate the communication loop with stakeholders.

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- 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