

BAY COUNTY CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)
EMERALD COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL (Designated Staff)
Bay County Transit Office
1010 Cone Ave, Panama City, FL 32401
August 27, 2025

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Ali C. Frohlic, CHAIR
Walter R. Akins
Paul Bohac
Marty Kirkland

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

James Pretlow, VICE-CHAIR
Brandy Mankin
Stanley Parron
Thomas Robinson, MD
Patty J. Strohmenger
Robert Waddell
Robert Wood
Guy York

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Bryant Paulk	FDOT
Harrison Neilly	Trnasdev
Kaylor Collins	FDOT
Cassidy Haney	NWFL Greenways and Trails
Ben Faust	DRMP
Sarah Harris	Port of Panama City
Chris Sponseller	Bay County
<u>Virtual Attendance:</u>	
Brian Graham	Kimley-Horn
Lamar Hobbs	BayWay

EMERALD COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL STAFF:

Kandase Lee
Tiffany Bates
Jessica Walton
Leandra Meredith
Gary Kramer
Roshita Taylor
Tammy Neal
Elizabeth Marino

Virtual Attendance:

Rae Emary

Gabrielle McVoy

CALL TO ORDER / INVOCATION / PLEDGE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Tiffany Bates stated that Item 4 on the was removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of Lamar Hobbs.

PUBLIC FORUM – There were no speakers.

FDOT UPDATE

Bryant Paul provided an update on the U.S. 231/Star Avenue realignment project. The contract was executed in June 2025, with construction anticipated to begin in late August or early September. The project is scheduled as a 700-day contract with Roberts & Roberts as the awarded contractor. Bryant Paul thanked Bay County for contributing local funds and expressed optimism that the project would be delivered under budget.

Bryant Paulk reported that the Tyndall Flyover Project is nearing completion, with final punch list items being resolved and signalization work in progress. Segments of Panama City Beach Parkway remain under construction but are moving forward on schedule, and the additional capacity will be welcomed once completed.

Chair Frohlic asked about the status of the “Malfunction Junction”. Bryant Paulk stated that the “Malfunction Junction” project remains funded in the outer years of the SIS plan, currently in the 2034–2035 timeframe. FDOT continues to advocate for advancing the project should revenues allow. He confirmed that most right-of-way has already been acquired.

Chair Frohlic questioned property impacts along Thomas Drive and Panama City Beach Parkway. Bryant Paulk clarified that recent eminent domain activity near a CVS and Taco Bell was related to roadway widening and drainage needs, not the flyover project. He emphasized that the final segment of the parkway widening would still include improvements to the eastbound flyover approach, potentially allowing for two lanes.

FDEP Update - *Cassidy Haney, Florida Department of Environmental Protection Office of Greenways and Trails*

Cassidy Haney reported that statewide status maps for trail corridors are being updated. For Bay County, this includes the Great Northwest Coast Connector and the U.S. 90 Trail Corridor. Updated maps will reflect trail segments that have advanced from “gap” status into acquisition, funding, or completion. The maps are expected by the end of 2025.

Cassidy Haney also described efforts to form alliances along trail corridors to bring municipalities and stakeholders together to coordinate acquisitions and funding to close existing gaps. Cassidy Haney invited members to reach out for more details.

PLANNING AND TRANSIT CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **ALL COMMITTEES:** Approval of the May 2025 Meeting Minutes
2. **ALL COMMITTEES:** Consideration of Addition of Quest Corporation of America, Inc. as a Subcontractor to the TPO's Consultant Contract
3. **TPO ONLY:** Consideration of the Membership Certification for Bay County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
4. ~~**ALL COMMITTEES:** Consideration of Resolution Bay 25-21 Approving the Updated BayWay Title VI Non-Discrimination Program Including Limited English Proficiency (LEP) for FY2025 thru FY2028~~
5. **ALL COMMITTEES** – Consideration of Resolution of BAY 25-20 Adopting the Intergovernmental Coordination and Review and Public Transportation Coordination Joint Participation Agreement

Walter Akins moved to approve the minutes and to recommend that the TPO approve consent agenda items 2 and 5. Paul Bohac seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

PLANNING ACTION ITEMS:

1. **ENCLOSURE A – ALL COMMITTEES – Consideration of Resolution BAY 25-17 Adopting the Bay County TPO 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Evaluation Criteria – Gary Kramer, ECRC Staff**

Gary Kramer, ECRC, and Brian Graham, Kimley-Horn, presented proposed evaluation criteria for the 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Criteria categories included transportation safety, multimodal choices and connections, system efficiency and preservation, sustainability and livability, economic vitality, transportation security, and congestion management. The highest weights (20% each) were given to safety and congestion management. Brian Graham outlined specific measures under each category, including crash severity, multimodal connections, environmental and economic factors, emergency response, and level-of-service data.

Paul Bohac moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution Bay 25-17 adopting the Bay County TPO 2050 LRTP Evaluation Criteria. Walter Akins seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

2. ENCLOSURE B - ALL COMMITTEES - Consideration of Resolution BAY 25-18 Adopting the Bay County TPO 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Congestion Management Process (CMP) - Gary Kramer, ECRC Staff

Brian Graham then presented the updated CMP, which sets objectives to reduce travel demand, improve safety, support active transportation, improve reliability, and preserve the system. Networks analyzed included approximately 450 miles of roadway, Bayway's 89 miles of fixed transit routes, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and 285 miles of designated freight corridors. Performance measures showed that Bay County is meeting or exceeding most targets, including carpooling, pedestrian and bicycle facility coverage, and system preservation. However, challenges remain in reducing serious injuries and fatalities, and in commuting trends where more than 75% of residents still drive alone.

Marty Kirkland moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution Bay 25-18 adopting the Bay County TPO 2050 LRTP CMP. Walter Akins seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

3. ENCLOSURE C - ALL COMMITTEES -Consideration of Resolution Bay 25-19 Adopting the Bay County TPO 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Financial Resources - Gary Kramer, ECRC Staff

Brian Graham presented the Bay County TPO 2025 LRTP Financial Resources. Brian Graham highlighted that available revenues for the 2050 Plan are lower than in the 2045 update, meaning fewer projects can be fiscally constrained. Key sources include the local option gas tax, currently collecting approximately \$7 million annually but with potential to generate up to \$12 million, and the half-cent local infrastructure sales tax, currently producing \$32 million annually but with potential to double if increased to one cent.

Paul Bohac moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution Bay 25-19 adopting the Bay County TPO 2050 LRTP Financial Resources. Walter Akins seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

PRESENTATIONS

1. ENCLOSURE D - ALL COMMITTEES - Draft Bay TPO 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Needs Plan Update - Gary Kramer, ECRC Staff

Brian Graham presented an update on the development of the Needs Plan. The plan will evaluate completed and ongoing projects from the 2045 LRTP, current TIP projects, identified roadway deficiencies, and stakeholder input. Brian Graham

reviewed completed and partially completed projects, as well as projections showing growing congestion on SR 77, SR 79, and the Panama City Beach Parkway. Stakeholder input highlighted priorities for the Port of Panama City, the airport, Bayway transit, the Navy Base, and Tyndall Air Force Base. Suggested projects included improvements to SR 389, SR 388 east of the airport, SR 22, and additional access to military installations.

Chair Frohlic asked that Philip Griffiths Parkway Phases 3 and 4 be included in the plan and raised questions about Naval Base access points. Gary Kramer confirmed these items would be addressed in upcoming Steering Committee meetings and stated that the Needs Plan will return for further review in November and final approval in February.

2. ENCLOSURE E - ALL COMMITTEES - RideOn Commuter Services Program Update
- Elizabeth Marino, ECRC Staff

Elizabeth Marino provided an overview of the RideOn Commuter Services Program, a FDOT-funded initiative covering 16 counties. Elizabeth Marino explained that the program provides a free app offering ride-matching, trip logging, commuter rewards, and tax benefits of up to \$325 per month for participating commuters and employers.

Elizabeth Marino emphasized the program's potential for reducing congestion, lowering commuting costs, and benefiting local businesses. She noted its relevance for Bay County's military, hospitality, and medical sectors. Members received flyers and were encouraged to download the app, promote it through their municipalities, and explore employer participation.

PLANNING INFORMATION ITEMS (no presentation necessary):

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

TRANSIT UPDATE

LEGAL UPDATE – *Burke, Blue, Hutchison, Walters & Smith, P.A.*

OTHER BUSINESS – None

Tiffany Bates reminded members about the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan Update survey, which closes on Sunday, August 31. Over 500 responses have been received, and members were encouraged to continue sharing the survey link.

The next Bay TPO meeting will be held on November 05, 2025, at 3:30 p.m. The TCC will meet at 11:00 a.m. and the CAC at 1:30 p.m. All meetings will take place at the Bay County Transit Office, 1010 Cone Ave Panama City, FL 32401.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.