

**BAY COUNTY CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**EMERALD COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL (Designated staff)**  
**Bay County Transit Office**  
**1010 Cone Ave, Panama City, FL 32401**  
**April 24, 2024**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Ali Frohlich  
Walter Akins  
Paul Bohac  
Larry Messinger  
Robert Wood

**MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:**

James Pretlow  
Willa Hodge  
Marty Kirkland  
Brandy Mankin  
Stanley Parron  
Thomas Robinson  
Joanne Stone  
Patty Strohmenger  
Robert Waddell  
Guy York

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Bryant Paulk	FDOT
Lamar Hobbs	BayWay
Harrison Neilly	Transdev
Brandon Curtis	Transdev
Cory Wilkinson	HDR
Gene Keen	BayWay

**EMERALD COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL STAFF:**

Mary Beth Washnock  
Angela Bradley  
Leandra Meridith  
Tiffany Bates  
Virtual Attendance  
Austin Mount  
Gabrielle McVoy  
Katie Fults  
Gary Kramer

Howard Vanselow

Gina Watson

Tammy Neal

### **CALL TO ORDER / INVOCATION / PLEDGE**

Chair Frohlic called the meeting to order. Mr. Akins led the prayer. The pledge was recited.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mary Beth Washnock stated that there was a letter received from the City of Callaway that needed to be added to the agenda for discussion and that the TCC had voted to table acting on Enclosure C under the consent agenda.

**Paul Bohac moved to approve the agenda as amended. Walter Atkins seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.**

**PUBLIC FORUM:** There were no speakers.

### **FDOT UPDATE:**

1. **FDOT Update - *Bryant Paulk, AICP Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Urban Liaison***

Bryant Paulk stated that FDOT is in the initial phases of a PD&E study on SR 20 from SR 79 to US 231. FDOT will look at safety improvements and capacity improvements. There will be a virtual project update on June 20<sup>th</sup>. The finalization of the PD&E and a public hearing will be held in the fall of this year. At that time the TPO will need to incorporate what they would like to see move forward in this project into the LRTP.

Due to safety concerns, Walter Atkins asked for the possibility of installing additional signage on the eastbound right lane of the Thomas Drive Bridge flyover to alert motorists that the lane is ending. Bryant Paulk stated that he will bring this request to the TPO.

Larry Messinger discussed the traffic issues on Highway 98 during spring break and the back up traffic on Nautilus due to barriers on 98. Bryant Paulk stated that FDOT will check that section and see if something can be done to resolve that issue.

### **PLANNING AND TRANSIT CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. **ALL COMMITTEES - Approval of January 31, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

2. **ENCLOSURE A – TPO ONLY - Consideration of Resolution BAY 24-10 Amending the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 – FY 2024 Bay County Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to De-obligate PL Funds**
3. **ENCLOSURE B - ALL COMMITTEES – Consideration of Resolution BAY 24-09 Adopting the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 – FY 2026 Bay County Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

**Paul Bohac moved to approve the consent agenda items 1, 2, and 3. Walter Akins seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.**

4. **ENCLOSURE C – ALL COMMITTEES- Consideration of Resolution Bay 24-13 Issuing a Letter of Support for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Prioritization Process Pilot Program (PPPP) Discretionary Grant Application**

**Action on this item was tabled.**

#### **PLANNING ACTION ITEMS:**

1. **ENCLOSURE D – ALL COMMITTEES - ROLL CALL VOTE - Consideration of Resolution Bay 24-08 Amending the FY 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program to Add the Planning Study for Panama City Rails with Trails from 23<sup>rd</sup> Street to Frankford Avenue for Financial Project Identification (FPID) Number 4536011 in FY 2024/2025 at a Total Cost of \$406,000 – *Bryant Paulk, AICP, FDOT***

Bryant Paulk presented the TIP amendment.

**Paul Bohac moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chairman to sign Resolution Bay 24-08 amending the FY 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program to add the Planning Study for Panama City Rails with Trails from 23<sup>rd</sup> Street to Frankford Avenue for FPID number 4536011 in FY 2024/2025 at a total cost of \$406,000. The motion was seconded by Walter Akins and was unanimously approved.**

2. **ENCLOSURE E - ALL COMMITTEES – Consideration of Resolution Bay-24-07 Adopting the 2024 Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set-Aside Ranked Projects for FDOT District 3 Fiscal Year 2026 – 2030 Tentative Work Program- *Angela Bradley, ECRC Staff***

Angela Bradley presented the 2024 TA set-aside ranked projects for FY 2026-2030 and stated that the final priority ranking is due to FDOT on April 26<sup>th</sup>. ECRC staff will submit

the final ranking from the TPO to FDOT.

**Robert Wood moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chairman to sign Resolution Bay-24-07 adopting the 2024 TA Set-Aside ranked projects for FDOT District 3 Fiscal Year 2026 – 2030 Tentative Work Program. The motion was seconded by Walter Akins and was passed unanimously.**

3. **ENCLOSURE F - ALL COMMITTEES – Consideration of Resolution Bay 24-11 Amending the Bay County Transportation Planning Organization and Advisory Committee Bylaws – *Austin Mount, ECRC Staff***

Mary Beth Washnock presented the recommended Bylaw changes.

**Robert Wood moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chairman to sign Resolution Bay 24-11 amending the Bay County Transportation Planning Organization and Advisory Committee Bylaws, with the officers serving a one year term. The motion was seconded by Paul Bohac and was passed unanimously.**

4. **ENCLOSURE G - ALL COMMITTEES – Consideration of Resolution BAY 24-06 Adopting the Scope of Services for the Bay County TPO 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan Update – *Gary Kramer, ECRC Staff***

Mary Beth Washnock presented the scope of services for the Bay County TPO 2050 LRTP update.

**Robert Wood moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chairman to sign Resolution BAY 24-06 adopting the scope of services for the Bay County TPO 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan update. The motion was seconded by Paul Bohac and was passed unanimously.**

5. **ENCLOSURE H - ALL COMMITTEES – Appointment of Bay County TPO 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan Steering Committee Members- *Gary Kramer, ECRC Staff***

Mary Beth Washnock stated that the TPO needed to appoint steering committee members for the Bay County 2050 LRTP.

**Robert Wood moved to recommend the TPO appoint Bay CAC members Paul Bohac and James Pretlow to the Bay County TPO 2050 LRTP Steering Committee.**

**The motion was seconded by Walter Akins and was passed unanimously.**

**ADD ON ITEM:**

Mary Beth Washnock stated that the Callaway Planning Board sent a letter to the TPO and advisory committees regarding the widening project on Highway 22, approximately 1.3 miles from Star Avenue to Park Place Road. The letter stated that currently over 460 homes, four commercial businesses, one church, and the Callaway Sports Complex exist within this area and require the primary use of this stretch of roadway. Park Place is being developed to house over 200 new homes when completed, and zoning has been approved for the additional developments of 272 multifamily units and 340 single family homes. The letter concluded by stating the extension would be a great start to tying into the Gulf Coast Parkway from US 98 (SR 30) to US 231 (SR 75), listed in the 2045 Bay County TPO LRTP and that it would serve well as an additional evacuation route once that project is approved and funded.

**Robert Wood moved to recommend the TPO add the widening of Highway 22 to the upcoming 2050 LRTP. The motion was seconded by Paul Bohac and was passed unanimously.**

**PLANNING PRESENTATIONS ITEMS:**

1. **ENCLOSURE I - ALL COMMITTEES – Introductory Presentation for the Smart Regions Master Plan- *Terry Shaw, P.E., Kimley-Horn***

Terry Shaw presented the Smart Regions Master Plan.

2. **ENCLOSURE J - ALL COMMITTEES – Florida Greenways and Trails (FGT) Presentation- *Angela Bradley, ECRC Staff***

Angela Bradley presented the FGT.

3. **ENCLOSURE K - ALL COMMITTEES – Review of Draft Bay County TPO FY 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)- *Gary Kramer, ECRC Staff***

Mary Beth Washnock presented the draft Bay County FY 25-29 TIP.

4. **ENCLOSURE L - ALL COMMITTEES – Draft Bay County TPO FY 2026-2030 Project Priorities – *Gary Kramer, ECRC Staff***

Mary Beth Washnock presented the draft Bay County TPO FY 2026-2030 Project

Priorities. Leandra Merdith went over the public outreach efforts for the project priorities.

**PLANNING INFORMATION ITEMS** (no presentation necessary):

1. TCC and CAC January 2024 Meeting Minutes
2. Bay TPO Actions Report – January 2024
3. Joint TPO Meeting Summary – February 2, 2004
4. Project Request Letter from the City of Callaway
5. 2024 Bay TPO Meeting Schedule

**TRANSIT AGENDA**

**TRANSIT ACTION ITEMS:**

**1. ENCLOSURE M - ALL COMMITTEES – Consideration of Resolution Bay 24-12 Authorizing the Surplus of the Commercial Land Site Located on Douglas Road**

Lamar Hobbs stated that on May 23, 2008, the Bay County TPO procured an approximate 13.8-acre parcel of vacant zoned commercial land for \$400,000.00. The property was procured using federal grant funds provided by the FTA to build a transit and administrative fleet/maintenance facility. After procuring the property, the TPO chose to consider other locations for the transit facility and made the decision to purchase the property where the current transit facilities are located.

Lamar Hobbs stated that on March 28, 2024, a new property appraisal was ordered at the request of FTA to determine the fair market value. The property appraisal valued the property at \$450,000.00. As the parcel of land has remained unused and will not be used for project purposes in the foreseeable future, the TPO must determine a disposition alternative. In discussions with FTA, it was recommended that the property be competitively marketed and sold to repay FTA the greater of its share of the fair market value.

**Paul Bohac moved to recommend the TPO authorize the TPO chairman to sign Resolution 24-12 authorizing the surplus of the commercial land site located on Douglas Road. The motion was seconded by Robert Wood and was passed unanimously.**

**TRANSIT UPDATE**

Lamar Hobbs informed the committee that House Bill 1091 that was submitted to the legislature this year for the creation of transit authority did not move forward. Lamar Hobbs stated that the staff's recommendation is to submit the legislation again.

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

**OTHER BUSINESS** – The next Bay TPO meeting will be held on **June 26, 2024**, at 3:30 p.m. The TCC will meet at 11:00 a.m. and the CAC will meet at 1:30 p.m. All meetings will be held at the Bayway Public Transit System, Administration and Meeting Facility, 1010 Cone Ave, Panama City, Florida 32401.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Stay up to date with TPO events and activities by subscribing to the Bay County TPO Interested Parties list by clicking here: [Bay County TPO Interested Parties](#)