

**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**

**June 12, 2024**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Colten Wright, Chair	Santa Rosa County
Charles F. Gruber	Baldwin County
Jeff Bergosh	Escambia County
Mike Kohler	Escambia County
Lumon May	Escambia County
Steven Barry	Escambia County
Cherry Fitch	Gulf Breeze
Charles Bare	Pensacola
Jared Moore	Pensacola
Allison Patton	Pensacola
Ray Eddington	Santa Rosa County
Kerry Smith	Santa Rosa County

**MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:**

Jerry Johnson, Vice Chair	Orange Beach
Roxanne Meiss	Milton
Casey Jones	Pensacola
Delarian Wiggins	Pensacola
James Calkins	Santa Rosa County
Sam Parker	Santa Rosa County

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Bryant Paulk	FDOT
Christy Johnson	FDOT
Vince Beebe	ALDOT
Cory Wilkinson	HDR
Chris Phillips	Escambia County
Ben Kiesler	Brownsville Church
Frank Lundy	Baldwin County
Scott Davidson	Hurlburt Field
Chris Phillips	Escambia County
Zee Osuigwe	Santa Rosa county
Deston Taylor	DRMP
Jenny Coney	Citizen
Samantha Abell	City of Gulf Breeze
Caitlin Cerame	City of Pensacola

## FL-AL TPO Meeting Minutes

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Scott Mosely	ALDOT
Jim Bagley	Congressman Matt Gaetz
<u>Virtual Attendance:</u>	
Carla Hodges	FDOT
Jared Schneider	Kimley Horn
Rob Schiffer	
Jared Kirkland	FDOT

### **EMERALD COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL STAFF**

Mary Beth Washnock  
Tiffany Bates  
Rae Emary  
Leandra Meredith  
Gary Kramer  
Virtual Attendance:  
Austin Mount  
Tammy Neal  
Gina Watson  
Katie Fults  
Jill Nobles  
Jill Strickler  
Howard Vanselow

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

Chair Wright called the meeting to order. The prayer was led, and the pledge of allegiance recited. Mary Beth Washnock called the roll.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Commissioner Barry moved to approve the agenda. Councilmember Bare seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.**

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

Ben Kiesler, Associate Pastor for Brownsville Church, spoke on behalf of Senior Pastor Dr. Evon Horton. Ben Kiesler stated that Dr. Horton wanted to express his strong encouragement to raise priority to complete the full road diet for West Cervantes Street. Dr. Horton's statement read that the traffic calming measures, which were part of the full road diet recommended by the engineering firm, have been extremely effective in eliminating pedestrian fatalities and demonstrated that business development can and does occur with traffic calming. Ben Kiesler further read from Dr. Horton's statement that for Brownsville to succeed as a turnaround community, business rebirthing needed to take

place and could be achieved through the full road diet to include reducing the speed limit from the current 30 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour, reducing lanes from four to two, and adding on-street parallel parking and bike lanes. Dr. Horton recommends that this would be most beneficial for the span of Cervantes Street from Pace Boulevard to Dominguez Street.

**FDOT/ALDOT/ UPDATES:**

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

Bryant Paulk informed the board about an upcoming resurfacing project on SR 292 (Sorrento Road). This resurfacing project is scheduled from Bauer Road, eastward to Gulf Beach Highway. Legislative funds will help add paved shoulders to this corridor. Bryant Paulk stated that this project is under design and there will be a virtual project update on Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>. This project has a letting date of May 2025, and a construction estimate of \$8 million dollars.

**2. ALDOT Update - *Vincent Beebe, P.E., ALDOT***

Vince Beebe informed the board that the Foley Beach Express and Baldwin Beach Express have recently been acquired by ALDOT and are now toll free. Maintenance is working to start removing those toll plazas starting June 16<sup>th</sup>. Vince Beebe reported that the Waterways Bridge is currently under construction and looking to be completed in 2026.

**CONSENT:**

- 1. ALL COMMITTEES: Approval of April 2024 Meeting Minutes**
- 2. ENCLOSURE A - TPO ONLY - Consideration of Membership for the Escambia County and Santa Rosa County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Boards - *Howard Vanselow, ECRC Staff***

**Commissioner Barry moved to approve the consent agenda and to authorize the chair to sign the Escambia County and Santa Rosa County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Membership Certifications. Councilmember Bare seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.**

**ACTION:**

- 1. ENCLOSURE B - ALL COMMITTEES - ROLL CALL VOTE - Consideration of Resolution FL-AL 24-23 Amending the FY 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program to Add the Design Cost for SR 10 (US 90) Davis Highway at SR 10A (US 90) Scenic Highway Intersection Project for Financial Project**

**Identification (FPID) Number 4509831 in FY 2024/2025 at a Total Cost of \$791,000  
– Bryant Paulk, AICP, FDOT**

Bryant Paulk stated that this TIP amendment adds the design costs in FY 2024/2025 for Project ID 4509831, SR 10 (US 90) Davis Highway at SR 10A (US 90) Scenic Highway intersection project at a total cost of \$791,000.

**Commissioner May moved to authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution FL-AL 24-23 to amend the FY 2024-2028 TIP. Mayor Fitch seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote**

Commissioner Wright	Yes
Commissioner Gruber	Yes
Commissioner Barry	Yes
Commissioner Bergosh	Yes
Commissioner Kohler	Yes
Commissioner May	Yes
Mayor Fitch	Yes
Council Member Bare	Yes
Council Member Moore	Yes
Council Member Patton	Yes
Commissioner Eddington	Yes
Commissioner Smith	Yes

**The motion was unanimously approved.**

**2. ENCLOSURE C – ALL COMMITTEES – ROLL CALL VOTE AND PUBLIC HEARING REQUIRED- Consideration of Resolution FL-AL 24-22 Adopting the Florida-Alabama TPO FY 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) - Gary Kramer, ECRC Staff**

Gary Kramer presented the FL-AL TPO FY 2025-2029 TIP.

**Council Member Bare moved to authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution FL-AL 24-13 amending the FY 2024-2028 TIP. Commissioner Bergosh seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote**

Commissioner Wright	Yes
Commissioner Gruber	Yes
Commissioner Barry	Yes
Commissioner Bergosh	Yes
Commissioner Kohler	Yes

Commissioner May	Yes
Mayor Fitch	Yes
Council Member Bare	Yes
Council Member Moore	Yes
Council Member Patton	Yes
Commissioner Eddington	Yes
Commissioner Smith	Yes

**The motion was unanimously approved.**

**3. ENCLOSURE D – ALL COMMITTEES –ROLL CALL VOTE- Consideration of Resolution FL-AL 24-21 Adopting the FL-AL FY 2026-2030 Project Priorities - *Gary Kramer, ECRC Staff***

Gary Kramer presented the FL-AL TPO 2025-2029 TIP. Leandra Meredith presented the comments received and the public outreach portion of the TIP. Gary Kramer presented the recommended changes. Commissioner Smith discussed the lack of participation at the CAC meetings.

Commissioner Bergosh asked Bryant Paulk about the possibility of moving number two, three, and four projects on the non-SIS list to transportation need list. Bryant Paulk stated that the projects could be consolidated so that other projects could also be moved up the list. Commissioner Barry agreed. Councilmember Patton recommended moving Project #24, Davis Highway and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive/ Alcaniz Street to number 10.

The board discussed consolidating project 2, 3, and 4 into one line called other transportation needs, and moving the item up on the list, as well as moving Davis Highway and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive/Alcaniz Street project to number 10. Commissioner Kohler stated that he could not support these changes due to the MLK project having other outlets for traffic compared to projects lower on the list.

**Commissioner Barry moved to authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution FL-AL 24-21 adopting the FY 2026-2030 Project Priorities with the amendments to consolidate project two, three, and four on the Non-SIS list into one item and to move project Number 24 to Number 10. Commissioner Bergosh seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote**

Commissioner Wright	Yes
Commissioner Gruber	Yes
Commissioner Barry	Yes
Commissioner Bergosh	Yes

Commissioner Kohler	No
Commissioner May	Yes
Mayor Fitch	Yes
Council Member Bare	Yes
Council Member Moore	Yes
Council Member Patton	Yes
Commissioner Eddington	Yes
Commissioner Smith	Yes

**The motion was approved with one opposed.**

**4. ENCLOSURE E - ALL COMMITTEES - Consideration of Resolution FL-AL 24-24 Approving the Selection of a Firm for Signal Operations Contract - *Jill Nobles, ECRC Staff***

Jill Nobles stated that two RFQ packets were received by the May 17, 2024, deadline. The deadline was then extended to May 31, 2024, to gain additional submittals. No additional RFQ packets were received. The selection review committee met on June 3, 2024, to rank all proposals. The two firms that submitted RFQ packets were DRMP Inc. and SRF Consulting Group. After reviewing the firms using the presented scoring factors, staff recommended the TPO vote to move forward with DRMP.

**Council Member Bergosh moved to authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution FL-AL 24-24 approving the top ranked firm for Signalization Consultant Continuing Services and authorizing the chair or ECRC CEO to execute the Joint Participation Agreement with Florida Department of Transportation and a memorandum of agreement between the Florida-Alabama TPO and DRMP. Commissioner Barry seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.**

**5. ENCLOSURE F - ALL COMMITTEES - Nomination and Election of TPO Board, TCC, and CAC Chair and Vice Chair for FY 2025**

Chair Wright recommended Commissioner Barry serve as chair and Commissioner Smith as vice chair. Commissioner Gruber volunteered to be nominated as vice chair. Councilmember Bare volunteered to be nominated as chair. There was an understanding that Commissioner Smith would move to vice chair next fiscal year.

**Commissioner Barry moved to elect Escambia Commissioner Steven Barry as TPO Chair and Baldwin County Commissioner Charles Gruber as Vice Chair for FY 2025. Commissioner Bergosh seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.**

**PRESENTATIONS: (no action necessary)**

**1. ENCLOSURE G– ALL COMMITTEES – Emerald Coast Safety Action Plan for the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Grant Update – Jared Schneider, Kimley Horn**

Jared Schneider gave an update on the Emerald Coast Safety Action plan for the Safe Streets for All Grant. Jared Schneider informed the board that as a recipient of an SS4A grant, ECRC will produce a Safety Action Plan. The Safety Action Plan will assist the ECRC and the TPO regions in achieving the target of zero fatalities and serious injuries.

**2. ENCLOSURE H - ALL COMMITTEES - Smart Regions Master Plan Update - Terry Shaw, P.E., Kimley-Horn**

Jared Schneider gave an update on the Smart Regions Mater Plan. Jared Schneider stated that the vision of the plan was to leverage smart technologies to enhance the quality of life of residents and visitors.

**ENCLOSURE I - INFORMATION ITEMS - (no presentation necessary)**

1. TCC and CAC April 2024 Meeting Minutes
2. FL-AL TPO April 2024 Actions Report
3. Hurlburt Field Density Map
4. MPO Joint Certification Statement
5. Two Letters from Colonel Dierig, USAF, Hurlburt
6. Letter of Support to FTA on behalf of ECAT for Bus and Bus Grant Program
7. Letter of Support to FDOT for SR 87 North on the SIS as a Military Access Route
8. 2024 FL-AL TPO Schedule

**OTHER BUSINESS- The next FL-AL TPO meeting IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR August 14, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. The TCC and CAC meetings ARE TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR August 13, 2024. TCC at 10:00 a.m. and the CAC at 1:30 p.m. The location is to be determined.**

**ADJOURNMENT**