

**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**

**February 12, 2025**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Steven Barry, Chair	Escambia County
Charles F. Gruber	Baldwin County
Ashley Hofberger	Escambia County
Steve Stroberger	Escambia County
Mike Kohler	Escambia County
JB Schluter	City of Gulf Breeze
Heather Lindsay	City of Milton
Allison Patton	City of Pensacola
Delarian Wiggins	City of Pensacola
Colten Wright	Santa Rosa County
Rhett Rowell	Santa Rosa County
Ray Eddington	Santa Rosa County
Bobby Burkett	Santa Rosa County
Kerry Smith	Santa Rosa County

**MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:**

Lumon May	Escambia County
Jerry Johnson	City of Orange Beach
Charles Bare	City of Pensacola
Casey Jones	City of Pensacola
Jared Moore	City of Pensacola

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Bryant Paulk	FDOT
Christy Johnson	FDOT
Vince Beebe	ALDOT
Cory Wilkinson	HDR
Scott Davidson	Hurlburt Field
Terry Shaw	Kimley Horn
Andrew Holmer	Escambia County
Chris Phillips	Jacobs
Don Christian	Escambia County
Mark Brock	FDOT
Olen Pettis	FDOT
Jared Kirkland	FDOT
Dustin Castells	FDOT

Samantha Abell	City of Gulf Breeze
JJ Divin	City of Gulf Breeze
Melanie Lung	District 4 Aid
Tanya Gallagher	Jacob
Melanie Kormondy	Gulf Breeze News
<u>Virtual Attendance:</u>	
Colby Cleveland	FDOT
Shawn Ward	Santa Rosa County
Tanya Branton	FDOT
Bruce Barnhart	Citizen
Hansen Hasenberg	Navarre Press
Deston Taylor	
Ted Baxter	

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

Tiffany Bates  
Annie Arguello  
Rae Emary  
Gary Kramer  
Tammy Neal  
Virtual Attendance:  
Kandase Lee  
Jill Nobles  
Gabrielle McVoy  
Leandra Meredith

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

Chair Barry called the meeting to order. The prayer was led, and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Commissioner Wright moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Stroberger seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.**

#### **PUBLIC FORUM**

#### **FDOT/ALDOT/ UPDATES:**

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

Bryant Paulk gave an update on the upcoming PD&E on Highway 98 Soundview Trail funded through SunTrail program. The PD&E is anticipated to kick off this summer and design is programmed for FY 2028.

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

Vince Beebe stated that construction on the Roadway and Bridge over the Intercoastal Waterway is expected to be completed at the end of 2026. Vince Beebe stated that ALDOT is looking to widen SR 180 on Canal Road from Beaver Creek Lane to the Foley Beach Express. Vince Beebe stated that ALDOT is working through the NEPA process at the intersection of SR 190 and SR 161.

### **CONSENT:**

#### **1. ALL COMMITTEES: Approval of December 2024 Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Kohler moved to approve the December 2024 TPO meeting minutes. Councilmember Patton seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

### **ACTION:**

#### **1. ENCLOSURE A – ALL COMMITTEES – ROLL CALL VOTE – Consideration of Resolution FL-AL 25-03 Amending the FY 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program to Add the for Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Demonstration Project in FY 2024/2025 as a Local Project at a Total Cost of \$12,500,000 - Bryant Paulk, AICP, FDOT – Bryant Paulk, AICP, FDOT**

Bryant Paulk stated that this TIP amendment adds the SS4A Demonstration Project in FY 2024/2025 as a local project at a total cost of \$12,500,000. ECRC was awarded a \$10,000,000 million grant from USDOT as part of the National Roadway Safety Strategy to reduce traffic fatalities. As a recipient of an SS4A Planning and Demonstration grant, ECRC, in partnership with Escambia County, will deploy innovative technological improvements and evaluate the safety impact of ITS improvements on two of Pensacola's highest crash rate segments, Fairfield Drive and Pensacola Boulevard. These two corridors have been identified through the Emerald Coast Safety Action Plan as having critical issues such as low lighting, bicycle and pedestrian incidents and left turn crashes. The local share is \$2,500,000.

Councilmember Patton moved to authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution FL-AL 25-03 amending the FY 2024-2028 TIP. Commissioner Kohler seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote**

Chairman Barry	Yes
Commissioner Gruber	Yes
Commissioner Hofberger	Yes
Commissioner Stroberger	Yes
Commissioner Kohler	Yes
Mayor Schluter	Yes
Mayor Lindsay	Yes
Council Member Patton	Yes
Council Member Wiggins	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes
Commissioner Rowell	Yes
Commissioner Eddington	Yes
Commissioner Burkett	Yes
Commissioner Smith	Yes

**The motion was unanimously approved.**

**2. ENCLOSURE B – ALL COMMITTEES – Consideration of Resolution FL-AL 25-01  
Accepting the Smart Regions Master Plan – *Jill Nobles, ECRC Staff***

Terry Shaw presented the Smart Regions Master Plan and stated that ECRC, in partnership with the FL-AL TPO, developed the plan to further ECRC and the TPO's efforts in advancing technological infrastructure needed to achieve Vision Zero and develop a Smart Region based on existing infrastructure and opportunities to understand and/or solve problems using technology.

**Commissioner Wright moved to authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution Councilmember Patton seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.**

**3. ENCLOSURE C – ALL COMMITTEES – Consideration of Resolution FL-AL 25-02  
Adopting the 2025 Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set-Aside Ranked Projects for FDOT District 3 Fiscal Year 2027 – 2031 Tentative Work Program - *Roshita Taylor, ECRC Staff***

Jill Nobles stated that FDOT District 3 issued guidance on the 2025 TA Set-Aside cycle for the Fiscal Year 2027 – 2031 Tentative Work Program on November 1, 2024. The guidance specified that each TPO may submit up to three prioritized projects from each TPO area. Jill Nobles informed the board that the FL-AL TPO sponsored a TA Education Workshop on Monday, December 16, 2024. This workshop reviewed the previously approved TPO criteria and submittal deadlines and received FDOT

guidance on the application documents. Jill Nobles presented the three projects submitted and stated that the top three ranked TA projects to be submitted to FDOT were (1) East Maxwell Sidewalk Project; (2) North J Street Sidewalk Project; and (3) Benny Russell Park Multi-Use Trail.

**Commissioner Kohler moved to authorize the TPO chair to sign Resolution FL-AL 25-02 adopting the 2025 Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set-aside ranked projects. Councilmember Patton seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.**

**PRESENTATIONS: (no action necessary)**

**1. ENCLOSURE D – ALL COMMITTEES – Review of Draft FL-AL TPO 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Needs Plan - *Gary Kramer, ECRC Staff***

Cory Wilkinson presented the draft FL-AL TPO 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Needs Plan. Gary Kramer stated that the 2050 LRTP needs to be adopted by October 14, 2025. Public outreach will occur in March 2025, followed by an additional Steering Committee review in April 2025. The needs Plan will be up for adoption at the May TPO meetings.

**2. ENCLOSURE E – ALL COMMITTEES - Schedule for Development of the Florida-Alabama TPO FY 2027-2031 Project Priorities - *Gary Kramer, ECRC Staff***

Gary Kramer presented the schedule for development of the FL-AL TPO FY 2027-2031 Project Priorities and stated that the priorities schedule will be up for adoption in May.

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

1. TCC and CAC December 2024 Meeting Minutes
2. 2025 FL-AL TPO Schedule

**OTHER BUSINESS-** The next Florida-Alabama Transportation Planning Organization meeting will be held on May 14, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. TCC and CAC will meet on May 13, 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 Pensacola Bay Center.

**ADJOURNMENT**