



FOR THE MIAMI URBANIZED AREA  
GOVERNING BOARD

**FINAL OFFICIAL  
SUMMARY MINUTES**

MEETING OF THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2015 AT 2:00 P.M.

STEPHEN P. CLARK CENTER  
111 NW FIRST STREET  
COUNTY COMMISSION CHAMBERS

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The following members were present for the meeting of the Miami-Dade County Metropolitan Planning Organization Governing Board on May 21, 2015:

Board Member Bruno A. Barreiro	Board Member Daniella Levine Cava
Board Member Esteban Bovo, Jr.	Board Member Dennis C. Moss
Board Member Audrey M. Edmonson	Board Member Jeff Porter
Board Member Maurice Ferre	Board Member Rebeca Sosa
Board Member Oliver G. Gilbert, III	Board Member Javier D. Souto
Board Member Perla T. Hantman	Board Member Xavier L. Suarez
Board Member Smith Joseph	Board Member Juan C. Zapata
Board Member Philip Levine	Vice Chairman Francis Suarez
Chairman Jean Monestime	

Non-voting member present: Harold Desdunes, P.E., Director of Transportation Development, FDOT District 6.

The following staff members were present: Jesus Guerra, Interim Executive Director, MPO; Bruce Libhaber and Alex Bokor, Assistant County Attorneys; and Zainab Salim, MPO Clerk of the Board.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairwoman Sosa called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Chairwoman Sosa requested Ms. Salim call the roll.

Board Member Barreiro	-Absent	Board Member Joseph	-Absent
Board Member Bovo	-Absent	Board Member Levine	-Present
Board Member Diaz	-Absent	Board Member Levine Cava	-Absent
Board Member Edmonson	-Absent	Board Member Moss	-Present
Board Member Ferre	-Present	Board Member Porter	-Present
Board Member Gilbert	-Present	Board Member Sarnoff	-Absent
Board Member Hantman	-Present	Board Member Sosa	-Present
Board Member Hernandez	-Absent	Board Member Souto	-Present

			<b>Agenda Item 6.D</b>
Board Member Heyman	-Absent	Board Member X. Suarez	-Present
Board Member Jordan	-Absent	Board Member Zapata	-Absent
<b>Vice Chairman</b> Francis Suarez-Present			
<b>Chairman</b> Jean Monestime-Present			

Ms. Salim announced quorum was attained.

- 1. ROLL CALL**
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Attorney Libhaber informed the Board that deferral of Agenda Item 7.A.2 has been requested by the Sponsor.

Vice Chairman Suarez moved for approval of the agenda as amended. Board Member Moss seconded the motion. The agenda as amended was approved.

#### **4. REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

Dr. David Paliwski, resident representing the Wynwood Business Improvement District, expressed support for agenda Item 6.B.1. He stated a new ramp at 29<sup>th</sup> Street in Wynwood would assist in alleviating the increased traffic in the area.

#### **5. MPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SELECTION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Vice Chairman Gilbert informed the Board that the Committee meeting, originally scheduled for May 18, 2015, was canceled. He then stated that once the Committee meet they will be evaluating the list of candidates to determine who to interview.

#### **6. ACTION ITEMS**

##### **A. PUBLIC HEARING ITEM(S)**

##### **1. 2040 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AMENDMENT: MODIFICATION OF SCOPE AND COST OF A WIDENING PROJECT ON FLORIDA'S TURNPIKE/STATE ROAD 821 IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY**

*RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2040 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN TO MODIFY THE SCOPE AND COST OF A WIDENING PROJECT ON THE FLORIDA'S TURNPIKE/SR 821 IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FPN #435543-1*

Chairman Monestime opened the public hearing. Chairman Monestime closed the public hearing.

Board Member Levine Cava stated that the toll revenue on Interstate 95 is used to assist the 95-Express services. She then requested clarity on whether plans for bus services on the Turnpike managed lanes is scheduled. Mrs. Genessa Cassanova, Turnpike, responded that as FTE continues to make significant improvements to the system, any revenues collected by the Turnpike have to be spent on the Turnpike system. She further stated that FTE has provided an

envelope for MDT to operate express services on the Turnpike's express lanes system. She concluded by stating that staff will work with her staff to address expressed concerns

Mr. Desdunes stated that FDOT is evaluating the possibility of providing express lanes along SR 826 to connect to US-1. He then mentioned that if the study results are positive, then FDOT will work with MDT on the implementation of express bus services on this system. He reminded the Board that the more support demonstrated by the MPO, the easier it is to proceed with the project.

Board Member Moss moved for approval of the resolution. Vice Chairman Suarez seconded the motion.

Chairman Monestime requested that Ms. Salim conduct a roll call vote.

Board Member Barreiro	-Aye	Board Member Joseph	-Aye
Board Member Bovo	-Aye	Board Member Levine	-Aye
Board Member Diaz	-Absent	Board Member Levine Cava	-Aye
Board Member Edmonson	-Aye	Board Member Moss	-Absent
Board Member Ferre	-Aye	Board Member Porter	-Aye
Board Member Gilbert	-Aye	Board Member Sarnoff	-Absent
Board Member Hantman	-Aye	Board Member Sosa	-Aye
Board Member Hernandez	-Absent	Board Member Souto	-Aye
Board Member Heyman	-Absent	Board Member X. Suarez	-Absent
Board Member Jordan	-Absent	Board Member Zapata	-Aye
		<b>Vice Chairman Francis Suarez-Aye</b>	
		<b>Chairman Jean Monestime-Aye</b>	

Ms. Salim announced the motion passed 16-0.

2. **2040 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AMENDMENT: ADVANCEMENT OF THE PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING PHASE OF PROJECT ON SR 90/SW 7<sup>TH</sup> AND SW 8<sup>TH</sup> STREETS**  
*RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2040 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN TO ADVANCE FROM PRIORITY IV TO PRIORITY I THE PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING PHASE OF STATE ROAD 90/SW 7<sup>TH</sup> & SW 8<sup>TH</sup> STREETS PROJECT FM #4326396*

Chairman Monestime opened the public hearing. Chairman Monestime closed the public hearing.

Board Member Barreiro requested the FDOT look into fully reversing SW 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Streets due to the continued growth in the area. Mr. Desdunes responded that the Department will include as an option to evaluate.

Vice Chairman Suarez thanked the many Board members that expressed support for a trolley system within this corridor. He then mentioned supporting Board Member Barreiro's request.

Board Member Ferre requested clarity on the total project cost and whether federal funds will be utilized for the project construction. Mr. Desdunes responded that estimating the total project cost prior to the completion of the Project Development and Engineering phase is very difficult. He then mentioned

that the project scope includes roadway improvements and improvements along I-95, which have buildings abutting the expressway that could significantly increase the project costs. He concluded by stating that the Department is proceeding forward with the PD&E to allow the possibility of utilizing federal funds for the construction phase.

Board Member Barreiro moved for approval of the resolution. Vice Chairman Suarez seconded the motion.

Chairman Monestime requested that Ms. Salim conduct a roll call vote.

Board Member Barreiro	-Aye	Board Member Joseph	-Aye
Board Member Bovo	-Aye	Board Member Levine	-Aye
Board Member Diaz	-Absent	Board Member Levine Cava	-Aye
Board Member Edmonson	-Aye	Board Member Moss	-Absent
Board Member Ferre	-Aye	Board Member Porter	-Aye
Board Member Gilbert	-Aye	Board Member Sarnoff	-Absent
Board Member Hantman	-Aye	Board Member Sosa	-Aye
Board Member Hernandez	-Absent	Board Member Souto	-Aye
Board Member Heyman	-Absent	Board Member X. Suarez	-Absent
Board Member Jordan	-Absent	Board Member Zapata	-Aye
<b>Vice Chairman Francis Suarez-Aye</b>			
<b>Chairman Jean Monestime-Aye</b>			

Ms. Salim announced the motion passed 16-0.

### **3. FY 2016-2020 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM** *RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FY 2016-2020 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM*

Chairman Monestime opened the public hearing. Chairman Monestime closed the public hearing.

At the request of Board Member Moss, Carlos Roa, MPO Transportation Systems Manager, provided the Board with an overview of the various funding sources included in the FY 2016-2020 Transportation Improvement Program.

Board Member Joseph requested clarity on why the Port Tunnel Project is still listed in the Program if the project is completed. Mr. Guerra responded that the funding allocated for the Port Tunnel project is for the repayment of the project. He then mentioned that the project will continue to be listed in the Program until 2043 which is when the repayment will be completed.

Board Member Bovo moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Sosa seconded the motion.

Chairman Monestime requested that Ms. Salim conduct a roll call vote.

Board Member Barreiro	-Aye	Board Member Joseph	-Aye
Board Member Bovo	-Aye	Board Member Levine	-Aye
Board Member Diaz	-Absent	Board Member Levine Cava	-Aye
Board Member Edmonson	-Aye	Board Member Moss	-Absent
Board Member Ferre	-Aye	Board Member Porter	-Aye
Board Member Gilbert	-Aye	Board Member Sarnoff	-Absent

Board Member Hantman	-Aye	Board Member Sosa	-Aye
Board Member Hernandez	-Absent	Board Member Souto	-Aye
Board Member Heyman	-Absent	Board Member X. Suarez	-Absent
Board Member Jordan	-Absent	Board Member Zapata	-Aye
<b>Vice Chairman</b> Francis Suarez-Aye			
<b>Chairman</b> Jean Monestime-Aye			

Ms. Salim announced the motion passed 16-0.

**4. FYs 2015 AND 2016 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM AMENDMENTS: "CALL FOR IDEAS"**

*RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE FISCAL YEARS 2015 AND 2016 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM TO DELETE FIVE STUDIES FROM FISCAL YEAR 2015 OF THE PROGRAM AND TO ASSIGN SEVEN NEW STUDIES TO TASK 5.2 "CALL FOR IDEAS" IN FISCAL YEAR 2016*

Chairman Monestime opened the public hearing.

Representative Kionne McGhee addressed the Board regarding the need to provide connection to South Dade via Metrorail.

Councilwoman Sue Ellen Loyzelle, Cutler Bay, expressed support of providing connection to South Dade. Mentioned a personal experience with suing the current transit system that proved to be complicated and very long.

Chairman Monestime closed the public hearing.

Board Member X. Suarez expressed support in connecting the South Dade via Metrorail. He concluded by stating that the travel time from Florida City to downtown is equivalent to traveling to Orlando.

Board Member Sosa stated that the key is to find a way to work together. She then stated that the federal and state funding levels sent to Miami-Dade have decreased or stopped completely over the years. She then mentioned that this financial assistance is greatly needed to connect the South, North and West communities, which have been neglected for so long. She informed the Board that Miami-Dade's population has increased by 100,000, which potentially means 100,000 more cars on the roads. She then stated that municipalities receive some assistance from the ½ penny sales tax which unincorporated Miami-Dade County does not. She further stated that this discussion needs to take place amongst the Miami-Dade County Commissioners. She expressed the desire to work together to find real solution to the transportation problems facing Miami-Dade County.

Vice Chairman Suarez stated that he had an opportunity to speak with Representative McGhee regarding connecting the South Dade. He then stated he supports moving the item forward, which will get the community one step closer to what it desires.

Board Member Levine Cava thanked Representative McGhee and Councilwoman Loyzelle for speaking to the Board regarding the concerns of the South Dade community. She then acknowledged Representative McGhee

lounched a major online effort, which resulted in thousands of concern residents agreeing that a promise has been broken. She mentioned that the MPO recently prioritized three bus rapid transit corridors. She further mentioned that while these corridors do not address the concerns of the South Dade community, plans to enhance the busway is underway. She then expressed gratitude to Chairman Monestime for appointing her to the Fiscal Responsibility Committee, which will work to identify the necessary funds to advance additional corridors. She concluded by commending Board Member Moss for his continued support of the South Dade community needs.

Board Member Moss thanked Representative McGhee and Councilwoman Loyzelle for addressing the Board. He mentioned that the saying is “when you don’t have money you plan and when you do have money you build”. He then stated that the MPO has been planning for a very long time due to the lack of funding available to build. He stated that in order to advance projects forward, a financial plan needs to be developed because the resources currently available are not enough to accomplish everything promised. He reminded the Board that the MPO should take more time to listen to the issues raised by the residents and have more opportunities to have deliberate discussions on issues before running to Tallahassee and complaining about what is not being accomplished here. He encouraged members of the Board to bring their plans to the MPO to be discussed, instead of seeking assistance from Tallahassee.

Board Member Porter expressed concern with removing the Viability of Conversion of HAFB Study from the UPWP. He stated that the corridor is instrumental to the viability of the local economy in Homestead. He requested clarity from the staff why this study is being removed. Mr. Guerra responded that due to the efforts of another entity evaluating alternatives for the airport, the MPO staff decided not to proceed further with its study in order to avoid duplicating efforts. He stated that the MPO staff is willing to work with Board Member Porter to modify the current scope and return with a new item as part of the next cycle of studies under the General Planning Consultant (GPC).

Vice Chairman F. Suarez moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Sosa seconded the motion. The resolution was approved 16-0.

**5. MPO PROSPECTUS FOR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS 2015 EDITION**

*RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2015 EDITION OF THE MPO PROSPECTUS FOR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS; SUNSETTING TERMS OF ANY CITIZENS’ COMMITTEE MEMBERS SIX MONTHS FROM EFFECTIVE DATE*

Board Member Bovo moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Sosa seconded the motion. The resolution was approved 16-0.

**B. NON-PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS**

**1. REQUEST BY MPO BOARD MEMBER AUDREY M. EDMONSON**

*RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR A WYNWOOD COMMUNITY INTERSTATE 95 RAMP AND URGING THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONDUCT A STUDY, ADOPT A PLAN, AND SEEK THE FUNDING NECESSARY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUCH*

*PROJECT*

Chairman Monestime expressed support of the item and the idea of having an exit ramp on 29<sup>th</sup> Street.

Vice Chairman Suarez thanked Board Member Edmonson for bringing the item forward. He stated that the City of Miami Commission passed a resolution unanimously supporting this ramp.

Board Member Ferre recommended expansion of the study's scope to allow for a solution to be crafted to address the issue in Wynwood. Board Member Edmonson responded that staff has been in consultation with FDOT throughout the development of the item. She then stated that FDOT proposed the ramp as a potential alternative that requires further evaluation and could alleviate the traffic concerns in the area.

Board Member Edmonson moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Moss seconded the motion. The resolution was approved 16-0.

**2. REQUEST BY MPO BOARD MEMBER DENNIS C. MOSS**

*RESOLUTION RENAMING THE WEST END CONNECTIVITY MASTER PLAN AS THE WEST END/SOUTH TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AREA CONNECTIVITY MASTER PLAN*

Board Member Edmonson moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Moss seconded the motion. The resolution was approved 16-0.

**3. REQUEST BY MPO BOARD MEMBER REBECA SOSA**

*RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT TO CONNECT THE EXISTING TRAILS IN THE TOWN OF CUTLER BAY, THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY, PINECREST, AND KEY BISCAYNE, AND THE CITIES OF SOUTH MIAMI, CORAL GABLES, AND MIAMI AND UNINCORPORATED MIAMI-DADE COUNTY WITH THE PROPOSED UNDERLINE AND LUDLAM TRAILS; AND URGING THE FLORIDA GREENWAYS AND TRAILS COUNCIL TO RECOMMEND FUNDING THROUGH THE STATE TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND*

Board Member Sosa thanked the cities for the providing letter of support for the project. She then stated that the distributed article highlights the positive reception from the state level for the project and the strong possibility of receiving funds.

Board Member Edmonson moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Moss seconded the motion. The resolution was approved 16-0.

**4. MPO PROGRAM PRIORITIES PROJECTS FOR FDOT 2017-2021 TENTATIVE WORK PROGRAM**

*RESOLUTION APPROVING THE INCLUSION OF THE ANNUAL LISTING OF METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION PROGRAM PRIORITIES IN THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FIVE YEAR WORK PROGRAM*

Board Member Edmonson moved for approval of the resolution as amended. Chairman Monestime seconded the motion. The resolution as amended was approved 16-0.

**C. COMMITTEES APOINTMENTS**

**1. VACANCY REPORT**

**7. REPORTS**

**A. MPO BOARD MEMBERS**

1. Request by Vice Chairman Francis Suarez: Presentation by MiMo Biscayne Association regarding Biscayne Boulevard from 61<sup>st</sup> Street to 77<sup>th</sup> Street

Vice Chairman Suarez informed the Board that the MiMo Association created a plan for roadways and streetscape improvements along Biscayne Boulevard. He the mentioned that he supports this plan, however, is directing the MPO staff to serve as a liaison between MiMo and FDOT to bridge the existing gap and build a consensus on a plan that the MPO Board can support.

Mr. Jorge M. Planas and Mr. Robert Kovowski of MiMo provided the Board with a brief PowerPoint presentation on the plans to make MiMo a walkable village. *(Contact the MPO Board Clerk for a copy of the PowerPoint presentation).*

Board Member Edmonson expressed support in using the MPO staff to assist in developing consensus on this issue.

2. Request by MPO Board Member Marc D. Sarnoff: Discussion on MPO staff developing a scope of work for a Transportation Master Plan for the Greater Downtown Miami

**Item Deferred.**

**B. MIAMI-DADE PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**C. MUNICIPALITIES**

**D. COUNTY ATTORNEY**

**E. MIAMI-DADE EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY (MDX)**

1. Status Report

*No discussion under this item.*

**F. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DISTRICT 6)**

**G. MPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**9. MPO COMMITTEES AND SPECIAL REPORTS**

**A. CITIZENS' COMMITTEES**

1. **FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FTAC)**



*Written report included in agenda package*

2. **TRANSPORTATION AESTHETIC REVIEW COMMITTEE (TARC)**

*Written report included in agenda package*

3. **BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)**

*Written report included in agenda package*

4. **CITIZENS TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CTAC)**

*Written report included in agenda package*

10. **CORRESPONDENCE**

11. **ADJOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned at 3:35 PM.