



Memorandum

Memorandum No: 21-031

Date: April 15, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and Commissioners

From: Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager

Re: April 8, 2021 Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization Board Meeting

This memo serves as an update on the April 8, 2021 Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Board meeting. Below are key highlights, with the meeting summary and the April 2021 legislative updates attached.

Approved Items:

- Interlocal Agreement (ILA) between the MPO and Plantation for Transportation Planning Services
- Formation of a Resiliency & Attainable Housing Ad Hoc Committee
- MPO staff to take the necessary steps to move forward with the Marjory Stoneman Douglas (MSD) Pedestrian Bridge

Deferred Item:

- Resolution of the Broward MPO to initiate Conflict Resolution Procedures set forth in Chapter 164, Florida Statutes

Non-action Items:

- MPO Surtax Services Updates
- Tactical Urbanism Program

The next MPO Board Meeting is scheduled for May 13, 2021.

For further information, please contact Ben Rogers, Director of Transportation and Mobility, at brogers@fortlauderdale.gov.

Attachments

April 8, 2021 MPO Board Meeting Summary
April Legislative Update

c: Tarlesha W. Smith, Esq., Assistant City Manager
Greg Chavarria, Assistant City Manager
Alain E. Boileau, City Attorney
Jeffrey A. Modarelli, City Clerk
John C. Herbst, City Auditor
Department Directors
CMO Managers

SUMMARY

April 8, 2021 MPO Board Meeting: Action & Non-Action Items

The following items were approved at the April 8, 2021 Broward MPO Board meeting:

Interlocal Agreement (ILA) Between the MPO and Plantation for Transportation Planning Services

The ILA with the MPO will allow Plantation to utilize the MPO's Board-approved Library of Service Providers as well as to participate in the MPO's Planning Technical Assistance Program.

Formation of a Resiliency & Attainable Housing Ad Hoc Committee

MPO staff will form a Resiliency & Attainable Housing ad hoc Committee. This Committee will provide recommendations to the Executive Committee and Board. In addition, recommendations will be utilized by our technical staff in order to enhance the completeness of our transportation projects and systems.

MPO Staff to Take the Necessary Steps to Move Forward with the Marjory Stoneman Douglas (MSD) Pedestrian Bridge

MPO staff will add the MSD Pedestrian Bridge project to planning documents and pursue funding opportunities.

The following item was deferred at the April 8, 2021 Broward MPO Board meeting:

Resolution of the Broward MPO to Initiate the Conflict Resolution Procedures Set Forth in Chapter 164, Florida Statutes

At this time, the issues between the County and the MPO have been resolved, therefore the resolution was deferred indefinitely.

The April 8, 2021 Broward MPO Board meeting non-action items are summarized below:

MPO Surtax Services Updates

The MPO Director of Transportation Policy presented an update on the status of the surtax services.

Tactical Urbanism Program

MPO Complete Streets Manager made a brief presentation on this quick build program.

For further information on the items listed here, please see the agenda for April 8, 2021. For this agenda and a list of all past agendas (as well as minutes) for Broward MPO meetings, please see: <http://browardmpo.org/index.php/agendas-minutes>.

NEXT MEETING: MAY 13, 2021

For complaints, questions or concerns about civil rights or nondiscrimination, or for special requests under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact Erica Lychak, Title VI Coordinator at (954) 876-0058 or lychake@browardmpo.org.



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Federal Update

American Jobs Plan Act of 2021 Overview

Bridges, Roads and Highways - \$621 billion

- \$115 billion to modernize bridges, highways, roads and main streets in need of critical repair
- Includes funding for air quality, emissions and congestion
- Modernize 20,000 miles of highways
- \$20 billion to improve road safety – Includes a new Safe Streets for All program to fund state and local "vision zero" plans to reduce crashes and fatalities, especially for cyclists and pedestrians

Public Transit - \$190 billion

- Modernize existing transit and help agencies expand their systems
- Address repair backlog

Ports, Waterways and Airports - \$42 billion

- The Airport Improvement Program (AIP)
- Upgrades to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) assets
- A new program to support airport terminal renovations and multimodal connections for convenient, car-free access to air travel
- Healthy Ports program to mitigate the cumulative impacts of air pollution on neighborhoods near ports, often communities of color

Rail and Freight - \$80 billion

- Improving existing corridors and connect new city pairs
- Enhancing grant and loan programs that support passenger and freight rail safety, efficiency and electrification

Electric Vehicles - \$174 billion

- Enable automakers to spur domestic supply chains from raw materials to parts, retool factories to compete globally and support American workers to make batteries and EVs
- Give consumers point-of-sale rebates and tax incentives to buy American-made EVs, while ensuring that these vehicles are affordable for all families and manufactured by workers with good jobs
- Establish grant and incentive programs for state and local governments and the private sector to build a national network of 500,000 EV chargers by 2030, while promoting strong labor, training and installation standards.

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Sandy Johnson

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- Replace 50,000 diesel transit vehicles and electrify at least 20 percent of the yellow school bus fleet through a new Clean Buses for Kids Program at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), with support from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)

Broadband and Digital Infrastructure - \$100 billion

- Build high-speed broadband infrastructure to reach 100 percent coverage
- Build "future proof" broadband infrastructure in unserved and underserved areas to reach 100 percent high-speed broadband coverage
- Prioritize support for broadband networks owned, operated by or affiliated with local governments, nonprofits and co-operatives

Other Provisions - \$45 billion

- Creates a new program to reconnect neighborhoods cut off by historic investments
- Creates a dedicated fund to support projects that have tangible benefits to the regional or national economy but are too large or complex for existing funding programs

Infrastructure Resiliency - \$50 billion

- Dedicated investments to improve infrastructure resilience
- Safeguard critical infrastructure and services and defend vulnerable communities
- Target investments to support infrastructure in those communities most vulnerable physically and financially to climate-driven disasters and to build back above existing codes and standards
- Maximize the resilience of land and water resources to protect communities and the environment

Retrofitting Homes and Commercial Buildings - \$213 billion

- Build, preserve and retrofit more than 2 million homes and commercial buildings to address the affordable housing crisis
- Construction and preservation of affordable housing
- \$20 billion in new federal tax credits to spur the construction and rehabilitation of 500,000 homes for low- and middle-income homebuyers
- Creation of new competitive grant program to induce state and local governments to pare back costly zoning and land-use policies



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State of Florida Update

Hazardous Walking Conditions

- House Early Learning & Elementary Education unanimously advanced HB 229 after adopting a PCS that changed the bill to a DOT study. The amended bill requires DOT to conduct a study with input from stakeholders on the safety of walking conditions to and from public school for K-12 students.

DOT Package

- House Tourism, Infrastructure & Energy unanimously advanced HB 1385, DOT's legislative package. The bill is substantially similar to the DOT package which failed to pass in the 2020 Legislative Session. Among other things, the package removes unnecessary requirements; raises the debt service cap for right-of-way acquisitions and bridge construction bonds; requires MPOs to submit work program projects by August 1st rather than October 1st; and grants FDOT rulemaking authority to implement statutes related to airport zoning.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety

- House Infrastructure & Tourism Appropriations and Senate Transportation unanimously advanced HB 605 and SB 950. The legislation is a bicycle and pedestrian safety package. It would add pedestrians to the 3 ft rule vehicles must adhere to when overtaking bicyclists, etc. Under the bill, cars would have to remain at a safe distance behind the pedestrian, bicyclist, etc. until the 3 ft can be accomplished. It provides that no-passing zones do not apply when a car is overtaking a pedestrian, bicyclist, etc. Cars would also have to be at least 20 ft away from bicyclists, etc. before making a right turn. The bill would also require DHSMV to promote driver education on pedestrian and bicyclist safety and add at least 25 questions on the subject to the drivers license test. Finally, the bill allows cyclists to ride two abreast if the bicycle lane is wide enough or when necessary to avoid a hazard. It requires cyclists ride single-file in substandard width lanes.

Traffic and Pedestrian Safety

- House Infrastructure & Tourism Appropriations voted 10-1 to advance HB 1113. The bill creates the Sophia Nelson Pedestrian Safety Act. The bill requires a traffic engineering conducted by a Florida licensed professional engineer prior to installing a new mid-block crosswalk, these crosswalks must conform to established standards and include a pedestrian-facing sign containing language stating duties applicable to a pedestrian. The bill has an indeterminate but significant negative fiscal impact on local governments. The fiscal impact to FDOT is estimated to be \$14.9 million.