



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION GOVERNING BOARD

MEETING OF THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2007 AT 2:00 PM

STEPHEN P. CLARK CENTER
111 NW FIRST STREET
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33128
COUNTY COMMISSION CHAMBERS

AGENDA

Chairman
Bruno A. Barreiro

Vice Chairwoman
Barbara J. Jordan

Voting Members
Kevin A. Burns
Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Audrey M. Edmonson
Shirley M. Gibson
Carlos A. Gimenez
Perla T. Hantman
Sally A. Heyman
William H. Kerdyk
Joe A. Martinez
Dennis C. Moss
Julio Robaina
Dorrian D. Rolle
Marc D. Sarnoff
Natacha Seijas
Katy Sorenson
Rebeca Sosa
Javier D. Souto
Richard L. Steinberg

Non-Voting Members
(FDOT District VI)
John Martinez, P.E.
Gary L. Donn, P.E.

County Mayor
Carlos Alvarez

County Manager
George M. Burgess

**Assistant County
Manager**
Ysela Llort

**MPO Secretariat
Director**
Jose Luis Mesa, Ph.D.

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1. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - October 4, 2007
3. **MPO COMMITTEES AND SPECIAL REPORTS**
 - A. **CITIZEN COMMITTEES**
 1. COMMITTEES VACANCY LIST
 2. CITIZENS TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CTAC)
 3. TRANSPORTATION AESTHETICS REVIEW COMMITTEE (TARC)
 4. BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)
 5. FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FTAC)
 - B. **MIAMI-DADE EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY (MDX)**
 1. Status Report
4. **ACTION ITEMS**
 - A. **PUBLIC HEARING ITEM**
 1. **2030 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AMENDMENT: I-75 INTERCHANGE AT NW 154TH STREET**
RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2030 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN TO DELETE THE PROPOSED I-75 INTERCHANGE AT NW 154TH STREET (**ROLL CALL REQUIRED**)
 - B. **NON-PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS**
 1. **INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT: 2008 QUARTERLY AND ANNUAL MPO NEWSLETTERS**
RESOLUTION APPROVING AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) AND FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY (FIU) METROPOLITAN CENTER FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE 2008 ANNUAL AND QUARTERLY MPO NEWSLETTERS
 2. **UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM AMENDMENT (UPWP)**
RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM TO INCREASE THE FUNDING AMOUNT ALLOCATED TO THE LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN UNDER TASK NUMBER 1.02
 3. **MPOAC LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES FOR FY 07/08**
RESOLUTION APPROVING \$500 TO BE PROVIDED TO THE STATEWIDE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MPOAC) FOR THEIR LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES
 4. **DESIGNATION OF AN AGENCY CLERK FOR MPO GOVERNING BOARD**
RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AN AGENCY CLERK FOR THE MPO GOVERNING BOARD AS REQUIRED BY STATE STATUTE SECTION 339.175(2)(e) AND THAT THE STAFF POSITION OF MPO BOARD AND COMMITTEE COORDINATOR BE FORMALLY ASSIGNED SUCH DUTIES

- 5. REQUEST BY MPO VICE CHAIRWOMAN BARBARA J. JORDAN**
RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR
THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA SOUND BARRIER ALTERNATIVES STUDY
ALONG THE SOUTH FLORIDA RAIL CORRIDOR
- 6. REQUEST BY MPO BOARD MEMBER JAVIER D. SOUTO**
RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR
THE MIAMI-DADE RAIL CORRIDORS EVALUATION STUDY

5. REPORTS

A. MPO BOARD MEMBERS

1. Request by MPO Board Member Carlos A. Gimenez: Citizens (South Miami Avenue HOA) Presentation on I-95 Noise Wall
2. Request by MPO Board Member Audrey M. Edmonson: Citizens Presentation on I-95 Deterioration of Noise Walls in NW Dade
3. Request by MPO Board Member Natacha Seijas: MPO Resolution #25-06 Status Report
4. Request by MPO Board Member Richard L. Steinberg: City of Miami Beach/North Beach Corridor Project

B. COUNTY MANAGER

C. COUNTY ATTORNEY

D. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DISTRICT VI)

E. MPO SECRETARIAT

1. MPO October Meeting Follow-up Report
2. Recently Completed and Ongoing Special MPO Studies

6. CORRESPONDENCE AND MISCELLANEOUS

It is the policy of Miami Dade County to comply with all of the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The facility for this meeting is accessible. For sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or materials in accessible format, please call 305-375-4507 at least five business days in advance.



**FINAL OFFICIAL
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
FOR THE MIAMI URBANIZED AREA
GOVERNING BOARD
SUMMARY MINUTES**

MEETING OF THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2007 AT 2:00 P.M.

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

The following members were present for the regular meeting of the Miami-Dade County Metropolitan Planning Organization on November 8, 2007:

Board Member Kevin A. Burns	Board Member Dennis C. Moss
Board Member Audrey M. Edmonson	Board Member Dorrin D. Rolle
Board Member Carlos A. Gimenez	Board Member Marc D. Sarnoff
Board Member Perla T. Hantman	Board Member Natacha Seijas
Board Member William H. Kerdyk	Board Member Katy Sorenson
Board Member Joe A. Martinez	Board Member Rebeca Sosa
Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro	

Non-voting members present: Mr. Gary L. Donn, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).

The following staff members were present: Jose-Luis Mesa, Director, MPO Secretariat; and Gerald Sanchez, Assistant County Attorney.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Chairman Barreiro asked Mrs. Zainab Salim, MPO Board Clerk, to call the roll.

Board Member Burns	-Present	Board Member Moss	-Present
Board Member Diaz	-Absent	Board Member Robaina	-Absent
Board Member Edmonson	-Present	Board Member Rolle	-Present
Board Member Gibson	-Absent	Board Member Sarnoff	-Present
Board Member Gimenez	-Present	Board Member Seijas	-Present
Board Member Hantman	-Present	Board Member Sorenson	-Present
Board Member Heyman	-Absent	Board Member Sosa	-Present
Board Member Kerdyk	-Present	Board Member Souto	-Absent
Board Member Martinez	-Absent	Board Member Steinberg	-Absent

Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro-Present
Vice Chairwoman Barbara J. Jordan-Absent

Mrs. Salim announced quorum was attained.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Board Member Sosa congratulated Board Member Sarnoff on his reelection to the City of Miami Commission.

Asst. County Attorney Sanchez informed the Board that the following items were deferred:

- 3.B.1 MDX Status Report
- 4.B.6 Request by MPO Board Member Javier D. Souto
- 5.A.1 Request by MPO Board Member Carlos A. Gimenez: Citizens Presentation

He further stated that the agenda had a scrivener's error and should read the approval of October 4, 2007 minutes and not June 28, 2007.

Board Member Rolle moved for approval of the agenda as amended. Board Member Sosa seconded the motion. The agenda as amended was approved.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board Member Moss moved for approval of the October 4, 2007 minutes. Board Member Rolle seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

3. MPO COMMITTEES AND SPECIAL REPORTS

A. CITIZEN COMMITTEES

1. COMMITTEES VACANCY LIST

Board Member Moss appointed Matthew Toro to BPAC.

2. CITIZENS TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CTAC)

No report provided for this item.

3. TRANSPORTATION AESTHETIC REVIEW COMMITTEE (TARC)

No report provided for this item.

4. BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)

No report provided for this item.

5. FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FTAC)

Mrs. Silvia Bernstein, FTAC Chair, provided the Board with a brief update on FTAC activities. She stated that FTAC has initiated a new study regarding freight issues in central Miami-Dade County. She further stated that the study would be researching the freight

interactions between the Seaport, the corridor along the Miami River to the Miami International Airport, the FEC rail yard and the warehouse district. She then stated that the study would evaluate a new ramp that would allow truck traffic to travel west on the Dolphin Expressway, better utilization of the Port facilities along the Miami River and exclusive East-West truck facilities. She concluded by introducing Board Member Edmonson who presented a Certificate of Appreciation to FTAC member Barbara Pimentel for coordinating a successful Job Fair that FTAC hosted last month.

B. MIAMI DADE EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY (MDX)

1. MDX Status Report

Report for this item was deferred.

4. ACTION ITEMS

A. PUBLIC HEARING ITEM

**1. 2030 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AMENDMENT: I-75 INTERCHANGE AT NW 154TH STREET
*RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2030 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN TO DELETE THE PROPOSED I-75 INTERCHANGE AT NW 154TH STREET (ROLL CALL REQUIRED)***

Chairman Barreiro opened the public hearing. Chairman Barreiro closed the public hearing.

Board Member Seijas reminded the Board that the MPO approved a Professional Service Agreement with Gannett Fleming to update the Transportation Plan. She then stated that the proposal is premature and should be delayed until the Board receives professional advice from Gannett Fleming.

Board Member Sosa requested clarity on the city the subject project was located in. Board Member Seijas responded that the project is within the Town of Miami Lakes.

Board Member Seijas moved for the deferral of the item until the Long Range Transportation Plan has been reviewed and updated. The motion was seconded by Board Member Sosa. The item was deferred.

B. NON-PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

**1. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT: 2008 QUARTERLY AND ANNUAL MPO NEWSLETTERS
*RESOLUTION APPROVING AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) AND FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY (FIU)***

METROPOLITAN CENTER FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE 2008 ANNUAL AND QUARTERLY MPO NEWSLETTERS

Board Member Martinez moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Moss seconded the motion. The resolution passed unanimously.

2. UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM AMENDMENT (UPWP)

RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM TO INCREASE THE FUNDING AMOUNT ALLOCATED TO THE LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN UNDER TASK NUMBER 1.02

Board Member Burns moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Moss seconded the motion. The resolution passed unanimously.

3. MPOAC LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES FOR FY 07/08

RESOLUTION APPROVING \$500 TO BE PROVIDED TO THE STATEWIDE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MPOAC) FOR THEIR LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

Board Member Burns expressed that the amount requested did not appear to be sufficient enough to hire an effective lobbyist to advocate the MPO issues to the Legislature. He concluded by reminding the Board of previous meeting discussions regarding proposed legislation that would have negatively impact the MPOs. He further concluded that the MPOs should consider increasing its budget for advocacy activities.

Mr. Mesa stated that the Miami-Dade MPO contribution is combined with the remaining twenty-five MPOs within the state. He further stated that the proposed \$500 is the minimum amount being requested by the MPOAC and if the Board decides to provide more it would be appreciated.

Board Member Seijas stated that if all the MPOs decided to increase the minimum contribution amount to \$1000 then a heavy-duty lobbyist could be secured to lobby MPO related issues. She concluded by stating that this is an issue the MPOAC should consider.

Chairman Barreiro stated that he would forward the Board's concerns to the MPOAC.

Board Member Moss moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Edmonson seconded the motion. The resolution passed unanimously.

4. DESIGNATION OF AN AGENCY CLERK FOR MPO GOVERNING BOARD

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AN AGENCY CLERK FOR THE MPO GOVERNING BOARD AS REQUIRED BY STATE STATUTE SECTION 339.175(2)(e) AND THAT THE STAFF POSITION OF MPO BOARD AND COMMITTEE COORDINATOR BE FORMALLY ASSIGNED SUCH DUTIES

Board Member Hantman expressed concern with the current process for selecting Chairman/Vice Chairman position for the MPO Board. She further stated that although the MPO attorney has deemed the MPO practice of deferring to the Board of County Commission for Chair/Vice Chair as permissible, the current process does not provide an opportunity for other Board Members that are not County Commissioners to participate.

Board Member Sorenson requested clarity on whether the proposed designation is referring to Mr. Mesa or a Clerk. Mr. Mesa responded that the recent legislation requires that the MPO Board formally have a person designated as a Clerk. He then stated that staff is proposing in the resolution the person in the MPO Secretariat that currently holding this title be formally assigned as MPO Board Clerk. He concluded by stating that the proposed resolution allows the position in the MPO Secretariat to always be assigned the duties as the Clerk of the MPO Board.

Board Member Sorenson stated that the current setup presents an authority issue because the MPO Board designates its Clerk which is under the MPO Secretariat but the Board does not designate the Director of the MPO Secretariat because they are hired by the County Manager. She concluded by requesting clarity from the County Attorney on the proposed resolution and the selection of the MPO Secretariat Director. She further requested clarity on who has the authority for selecting a MPO Chair/Vice Chair. Mr. Sanchez responded that Florida Statute as amended requires that the MPO Board designates an agency clerk and the resolution before the Board addresses that issue. He then stated that the proposed resolution establishes a process by which the person would be designated by the MPO Secretariat. He further stated that the current agreement between the MPO and the County allows the MPO Secretariat Director to be selected by the County Manager. He then responded by stating that the adopted MPO rules states that the MPO Chair and Vice Chair shall be the ex-officio the Chair /Vice Chair of the Miami-Dade County Commission and shall reside at all meetings, hearings and conferences when present. He concluded by stating that these rules could be amended by the MPO Board at anytime.

Board Member Hantman stated that as an independent Board the MPO should reconsider the established process of selecting a Chair and Vice Chair.

Chairman Barreiro stated that the MPO Board makes the determination through its rules the process of selecting its Chair and Vice Chair. He then stated that the designation of the MPO Secretariat is established through an agreement between the MPO Board and the Board of County Commission which stated that the MPO Secretariat Director is under the purview of the County Manager/Mayor. He concluded by stating that the Board can readdress this issue at anytime.

Board Member Gimenez stated in light of the recent changes that has taken place in the County the Board should reconsider how the appointment of the Secretariat is made. He further stated that he always found it odd that the MPO Board did not name its Executive Secretariat and delegated that authority to some other entity. He then concluded by stating that the issue should be discussed further and that he will bring a resolution to a future Board meeting to change this process.

Board Member Moss moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Sosa seconded the motion. The resolution passed unanimously.

5. REQUEST BY MPO VICE CHAIRWOMAN BARBARA J. JORDAN

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA SOUND BARRIER ALTERNATIVES STUDY ALONG THE SOUTH FLORIDA RAIL CORRIDOR

Board Member Moss moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Sosa seconded the motion. The resolution passed unanimously.

6. REQUEST BY MPO BOARD MEMBER JAVIER D. SOUTO
RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR THE MIAMI-DADE RAIL CORRIDORS EVALUATION STUDY

This item was deferred.

5. REPORTS

A. MPO BOARD MEMBERS

1. Request by MPO Board Member Carlos A. Gimenez: Citizens (South Miami Avenue HOA) Presentation on I-95 Noise Wall

This item was deferred.

2. Request by MPO Board Member Audrey M. Edmonson: Citizens Presentation on I-95 Deterioration of Noise Walls in NW Dade

Mr. James Burke, citizen, informed the Board that he represented several residents living along the I-95 corridor in the northern portion of Miami-Dade County. He then stated that these residents are concerned with the impacts the noise walls have on their residence. He further provided a brief summary of the distributed documentation. He concluded by introducing Ms. Sybel W. Lee, Mr. Nathaniel Williams, and Ms. Mary A. McMinn who provided the Board with personal testimony to the impacts the noise walls along I-95 have on their quality of life. *(Please contact the MPO Clerk for a copy of the distributed documentation).*

Board Member Edmonson expressed concern with the close proximity the noise walls were built to the homes in the corridor. She requested staff to research the funds that Mr. Burk mentioned was set aside to assist these homeowners in relocating. She further requested staff to provide a status report on their finding. She concluded by requesting that staff coordinate with the homeowners to determine what could be done.

Mr. Mesa informed the Board that the funds that Mr. Burk mentioned were the results of a request from the Miami-Dade Parks Department to fund a project as part of the Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP). He then stated that this project entailed the purchasing of these properties to create a linear park along the I-95 corridor. He further stated that the MPO has maintained a file regarding this project and will provide an update at a future meeting.

Board Member Edmonson requested that staff look into repairing the walls along the expressway.

Board Member Burns requested that staff include the homes on the east and west side of the expressway between SR 112 and 119th Street in their research.

Board Member Martinez stated that the maintenance of the walls is important and should be addressed by staff immediately.

Mr. Don responded that FDOT has no plans in its near future to remove the walls or build additional walls. He then stated that if there are maintenance issues concerning the walls the Department needs to be made aware so they can address it. He concluded by stating that the noise walls are structurally sound and not more than six years old.

Board Member Seijas reminded the Board that the homes along this corridor would be vulnerable should a truck hit the wall. She then informed the Board that the damage to the wall from her

accident on I-95 is still evident. She concluded by requesting clarity from the MPO attorney on whether the MPO has jurisdiction in naming the repair of the I-95 Wall a state of emergency. Mr. Bruce Libhaber, Assistant County Attorney responded that the MPO does not have authority to identify this as a state of emergency because I-95 is owned by the state. He then stated that the MPO could pass a resolution requesting FDOT to look at the maintenance issue regarding the I-95 wall.

Mr. Gus Pego, FDOT, informed the Board that staff inspected the wall and has identified several crash hits that are currently being repaired through FDOT contracts. He then stated that these repairs should be completed within the next three months. He further stated that the concern regarding the safety of the wall has also been inspected and the Department is confident that the state of the wall is not an emergency situation.

Board Member Edmonson requested that FDOT coordinate with Mr. Mesa and the residents on this issue. She concluded by asking whether FDOT has any type of eminent domain standards that would allow them to purchase the properties.

Mrs. Alice Bravo, FDOT, responded that FDOT has been aware of the residents' plight regarding the noise wall issue for a very long time. She then stated that during the construction of the noise wall in the mid 1990s FDOT investigated the available recourse to address the close proximity the walls would have to the homes but could not find any recourse based on the statute authority and funding programs available including eminent domain.

Board Member Moss expressed concern that the walls were allowed to be built in such close proximity to the homes in the area. He further stated that a structure of this nature should not be within five feet of any residence. He concluded by urging staff to take a closer look to what happened to the funds that were approved to address this issue. He further concluded by requesting staff to return with a report that would identify the number of homes along this corridor and also information regarding the status of the Parks Department project that was awarded funding through the TEP.

Chairman Barreiro reminds the Board that back when the expressway was being constructed the eminent domain policy wasn't designed to take the entire property. He further clarified by stating that the government would only take the portion of the property that was needed and left the owners with the rest. He further stated that the results from this policy are still evident amongst the residence along the SR 836 corridor.

Board Member Edmonson stated that any funding assistance for the residents to relocate excludes the owners of the duplex because it was built after the noise wall was constructed.

3. Request by MPO Board Member Natacha Seijas: MPO Resolution #25-06 Status Report

This item was deferred.

4. Request by MPO Board Member Richard L. Steinberg: City of Miami Beach/ North Beach Corridor Project

Mr. Mesa informed the Board that staff will bring this item back to the Board for approval. He further clarified by stating that Board Member Steinberg's request requires a Transportation Improvement Program amendment and staff needs to advertise for a public hearing on the December agenda.

- A. **COUNTY MANAGER**
- B. **COUNTY ATTORNEY**

1. Memorandum from County Attorney: Recent changes to State law reference MPO Process

No discussion on this item.

- C. **FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (District VI)**
- F. **MPO SECRETARIAT**

1. MPO October Meeting Follow-up Report
2. Recently Completed and Ongoing Special MPO Studies

No discussion on the above items.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**
7. **ADJOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.