



Polk Transportation Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
Draft Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 22, 2025

FDOT District One Conference Room
801 North Broadway Ave
Bartow, Florida 33830

Members Present:

James Philips
Chuck Barmby
Tess Schwartz, **Chair**
Sean Byers
Julie Womble
Bob Wieggers
Jeffrey Ball
Raymond Perez
Don Stephenson
Richard Ranck
Jay Jarvis
Ben Ziskal

Others Present:

Ryan Kordek
Julia Davis
Angela Kaufman
Isai Chavez
William Roll
Rohan Sadai

Representing:

City of Lakeland
City of Lakeland
City of Lakeland
City of Winter Haven
City of Auburndale
City of Bartow
Town of Lake Hamilton
City of Davenport
Polk County School Board
CFRPC
Polk County Roads & Drainage
Polk County Land Development

Representing:

Polk TPO Staff
Polk TPO Staff
Polk TPO Staff
Polk TPO Staff
Kimley-Horn
FDOT

1. Call to Order

Chair Tess Schwartz called the TAC Meeting to order at 9:30 am.

2. Confirmation of Quorum – Roll call was taken, and a quorum was confirmed by KC Rivera, Polk TPO Staff.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes- March 27, 2025

Motion to approve March 27, 2025, meeting minutes.

Motion: Motioned to approve made by James Philips, seconded by Jeffry Ball. Motion carried without dissent.

4. Agenda Review

Ryan Kordek, TPO Director, gave an overview of the TAC agenda. Action items included Amendments to FY 2024/25 – 2028/29 TIP, Draft TIP for FY 2025/26 – 2029/30, and the 2025 Priority Transportation Projects. Presentations and Status Reports included FDOT's Advanced Air Mobility and Congestion Management Multimodal Planning and the Envision 2050 needs assessment. Communication and Reports included the project status of Safe Streets for All.

[Action Items](#)

5. Review/Approve Draft Amendments to FY 2024/25 – 2028/29 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Angela Kaufman, Polk TPO Staff, presented the single amendment we received from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). The amendment is minor in nature and consists of an increase in the project limits for a resurfacing project on I-4 between Galloway Road and US 98 in Lakeland.

Motion: Motioned to approve was made by Julie Womble, seconded by James Philips. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Review/Approve Draft FY 2025/26 – 2029/30 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Angela Kaufman, Polk TPO Staff, presented the overview of Draft FY 2025/26 -2029/30 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Her presentation covered the different types of projects included in TIP and the amount of funding allocated to the projects. The Draft TIP consists of nearly \$2B worth of transportation investment in Polk County. The majority of this funding is provided by FDOT. She discussed the public comment period that was established for the Draft TIP and stated the TPO received 508 public comment surveys, 177 of those were related to US 27.

Motion: Motion to approve was made by Chuck Barmby, seconded by Jay Jarvis. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Review/Approve Draft 2025 Priority Transportation Projects

Ryan Kordek, Polk TPO Staff, provided a presentation and overview of the Draft priority transportation projects for 2025. He discussed the key themes going into this year's priorities. He emphasized the amount of investment by FDOT in resurfacing the state highways. The top priority road project this year is US 98 between Edgewood Drive and Main Street in Lakeland. State Road 60 in eastern Polk County is a freight priority and the TPO has submitted a grant application through the National Highway Freight Program in support of the project requesting funding for design and right-of-way funding. Staff is proposing to match the grant with \$2M in TMA-SU funds. He noted there was an additional SUN Trail project in Lakeland that was not included in the attachment that was distributed in the packet.

Motion: Motion to approve was made by Julie Womble, seconded by Ben Ziskal. Motion carried unanimously.

Presentation and Status Reports

8. FDOT Presentations of Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) and Congestion Management Multimodal Planning (C3MP)

Rohan Sadai, FDOT, presented and explained what Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) is and the covered some of the different technologies being utilized. AAM will use the existing airport, heliports and vertiports but will need electricity for charging. Mr. Sadai also mentioned several upcoming workshops for planning staff and elected/appointed officials.

Members of the committee asked about where AAM airports may be located.

Mr. Sadai also discussed FDOT District One's Congestion Management Multimodal Planning (C3MP) initiative to relieve congestion on the state highway system.

9. Envision 2050 Needs Assessment

William Roll, Kimley-Horn, provided a presentation of the goals for the LRTP, informing about the population growth, revenue forecast, and volume congestion now to 2050. Along with the committed and planned project for NE Polk improvements.

Ryan Kordek, TPO Staff, discussed key multimodal projects included in the Draft LRTP which consist of multi-use trails, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and complete street needs.

Julia Davis, Polk TPO Staff, covered the major transit needs being considered as part of the Plan.

Mr. Kordek, concluded the presentation by discussing regional transit services included in the Plan such as the extension of the SunRail and the Brightline high speed rail between Orlando and Tampa in the I-4 corridor.

Communications and Reports

10. Safe Street for All – Project Status

Isai Chavez, Polk TPO Staff, provided an update on the stakeholder committee kick-off meeting that had 30 participants. He also mentioned FDOT's Best Foot Forward program had its first crosswalk enforcement which issued seven (7) warnings and 17 citations.

11. Committee Member Comments

There were no comments.

12. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m. The next TAC Meeting is scheduled for July 24, 2025, and will also be held at the Polk County Administration Building Room 413.

Respectfully transcribed by KC Rivera, TPO Office Manager IV

Section 286.105, Florida Statutes, states that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by a board, agency or commission with respect to any matter considered at a meeting or hearing, he will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.