

# **Polk County**

*FDOT District One Conference Center  
801 N. Broadway  
Bartow, FL 33830*



## **Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, July 24, 2025**

**9:30 AM**

**Room 413**

**TPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)**

**Polk County Administration Building  
4th Floor Room 413  
330 West Church Street  
Bartow, Florida 33830**

**Introduction**

1. Call to Order - 9:30 a.m. (Tess Schwartz, Chairperson)

**Minutes:**

**Members Present:**

James Philips  
Chuck Barmby  
Tess Schwartz, **Chair**  
Sean Byers  
Ted Adkins  
Bob Wieggers  
Jeffrey Ball  
Raymond Perez  
Richard Ranck  
Jay Jarvis  
Ben Ziskal  
Carlie Flagler, **Vice Chair**

**Representing:**

City of Lakeland  
City of Lakeland  
City of Lakeland  
City of Winter Haven  
City of Haines City  
City of Bartow  
Town of Lake Hamilton  
City of Davenport  
CFRPC  
Polk County Roads & Drainage  
Polk County Land Development  
Citrus Connection

**Others Present:**

Ryan Kordek  
Julia Davis  
Angela Kaufman  
Cindy Mitchell KC Rivera  
William Roll

**Representing:**

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

**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**- May 22, 2025

Motion to approve May 22, 2025, meeting minutes.

**Motion:** Motioned to approve made by Carlie Flagler, seconded by James Philips.  
Motion carried without dissent.

**4. Agenda Review**

Julia Davis, TPO staff, gave an overview of the TAC agenda. Action items included TIP

Amendments to FY 2025/26 - 2029/30 and Amendments to the Fiscal Year 2024/25 - 2025/26 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Presentation and Status Report for the Envision 2050 update.

#### Action Items

### **5. Review/Approve Draft Amendments to FY 2025/26 - 2029/30 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

Angela Kaufman, Polk TPO Staff, presented the projects from the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) roll forward report. The Report identifies projects that were not committed in the previous state fiscal year 2024 and have automatically rolled into state fiscal year 2025 of the FDOT Work Program. Therefore, they must be included in the current TIP which will become effective October 1, 2025.

**Motion:** Motioned to approve was made by Chuck Barmby, seconded by Carlie Flagler. Motion carried unanimously.

### **6. Review/Approve Amendments to the FY 2024/25 - 2025/26 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

Ryan Kordek, TPO Executive Director, presented the proposed amendments to the TPO's Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). FDOT recently notified the TPO there are federal planning funds available in FY 2025/26 to cover the cost of these proposed projects. The first proposed task is to enhance the polktpo.com website with a dashboard emphasizing safety and transportation data. Second task proposes to add city and county road context classifications to the major roads in the Roadway Network Database. The third proposed task consists of the preparation of grants using the TPO's general planning consultants in support of the TPO's priority transportation projects.

The fourth proposed amendment to the UPWP is being called the I-4 Intermodal Passenger Rail Station Planning & Feasibility Study and allocates funding for consultant services to evaluate candidate locations for a high-speed rail station along Interstate 4 in Polk County. Mr. Kordek gave an update on the status of Brightline passenger rail service in south and east central Florida. He also covered the status of the Sunshine Corridor which is being studied by FDOT to provide a passenger rail corridor (SUN Rail and Brightline) between Orlando International Airport and Disney Springs/I-4. From Disney Springs, Brightline is planned to extend west through Polk County and then to Downtown Tampa. Mr. Kordek then provided an overview of studies and plans that have been prepared by MPO/TPOs in support of potential station locations for Brightline. While Brightline is likely still years away from connecting to Tampa, it is important for Polk County to begin studying potential locations, needs and costs associated with such a facility. This study could be the

basis for future investment in a stop in Polk County.

Julia Davis explained the process for the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Passenger Rail Station Planning and Feasibility Study. Staff anticipates the project could be underway by spring of next year.

**Motion:** Motion to approve was made by Chuck Barmby, seconded by Richard Ranck. Motion carried unanimously.

## Presentation and Status Reports

### **7. Envision 2050 Update**

William Roll, Kimley-Horn, provided the committee with an update on the long-range transportation plan (LRTP). He covered the regional projects and other key projects being considered in the LRTP. As part of his presentation, Mr. Roll discussed the costs of the projects being considered in the LRTP and the amount of available revenue to fund the candidate projects.

Cindy Mitchell, Polk TPO Staff, presented the Envision 2050 public comments from the Polk TPO website and Facebook. Thus far the majority of comments pertained to roadways, with comments related to intersections, transit, funding, sidewalk, safety. Similar to other public involvement efforts of the TPO, the majority of comments received are from northeastern portion of the county.

## Communications and Reports

### **8. Committee Member Comments**

Carlie Flagler stated Citrus Connection is hiring a new transit planner.

### **9. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

The next TAC Meeting is scheduled for September 25, 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.

2. Confirmation of Quorum
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

**Attachments:** [A13-A1 Draft TAC minutes 5.22.25](#)

4. Agenda Review - Ryan Kordek, Polk TPO Executive Director

### **Action Items**

5. Review/Approve Amendments to FY 2025/26 - 2029/30 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

**Attachments:** [A15-A1 Polk Roll Forward Amendment letter FY25-26 pdf](#)  
[A15-A2 Polk TPO Roll Forward Report FY26-30](#)

6. Review/Approve Draft Amendments to the Fiscal Years 2024/25 - 2025/26 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

**Attachments:** [A16 A1 UPWP Revision Form 082825](#)  
[A16 A2 TPO UPWP Amended Pages 082825](#)

### **Presentations and Status Reports**

7. Envision 2050 Update

### **Communications and Reports**

8. Committee Member Comments
9. Adjournment -  
Next TAC Meeting is scheduled for September 25, 2025, at the Polk County Administration Building Room 413

**In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing special accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact the Board of County Commissioners, Communications Office, at 330 W. Church Street, Bartow. Telephone (863) 534-6090, not later than four days prior to the proceeding. If hearing impaired call: (TDD) (863) 534-7777 or 1-800-955-8771, or Voice impaired call: 1-800-955-8770, via Florida Relay Service.**

**The TPO planning process is conducted in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Related Statutes. Any person or beneficiary who believes they have been discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, or family status may file a complaint with Cindy Mitchell, the TPO's Title VI Specialist at (863) 534-6597, or by writing to her at Post Office Box 9005, Bartow, Florida 33831-9005.**