

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

Thursday, May 21, 2026

FDOT District 1 Conference Center
801 North Broadway Ave
Bartow, Florida 33830**Members Present:**James Phillips
Chuck Barmby
Tess Schwartz, **Chair**
Sean Byers
Ted Adkins
Jeff Barr
Jonah Katz
Jason Cupit
Raymond Perez
Richard Ranck
Marisa Barmby
Jay Jarvis
Nicole McCleary**Representing:**City of Lakeland
City of Lakeland
City of Lakeland
City of Winter Haven
City of Haines City
City of Bartow
City of Lake Hamilton
City of Mulberry
City of Davenport
CFRPC
CFRPC
Polk County Roads & Drainage
Citrus Connection**Others Present:**Angela Kaufman
Tracy Mullins
Cindy Mitchell
KC Rivera**Representing:**Polk TPO Staff
Polk TPO Staff
Polk TPO Staff
Polk TPO Staff**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

The Committee considered the January 22, 2026, and March 19, 2026, TAC meeting minutes.

Motion: Made by Jay Jarvis; seconded by Sean Byers. Motion carried without dissent.

4. Agenda Review

Ryan Kordek, Executive Director, reviewed the agenda, noting action items on TIP amendments, the FY 2026/27–2030/31 TIP, and the 2026 Priority Transportation Projects, followed by presentations on:

- Lakeland Intermodal Center PD&E Study
- I-4 Intermodal Passenger Rail Station Feasibility Study
- Polk County School Sidewalk Gap Analysis
- 2026 Roadway Network Database
- Vision Zero Action Plan Update

Action Items

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

Angela Kaufman, Polk TPO Staff, presented a proposed amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for a railroad safety improvement at the East Central Avenue crossing in Lake Wales.

Motion: A motion to approve was made by Chuck Barmby, seconded by Ted Adkins. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Review/Approve Draft to FY 2026/27 – 2030/31 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Angela Kaufman, Polk TPO Staff, presented the draft FY 2026/27–2030/31 TIP, summarizing major investments in highway, bridge, resurfacing, bicycle, pedestrian, trail, transit, and rail safety projects. Discussion included the removal of the SR 60 Railroad Overpass project from FDOT's Five-Year Work Program and the relationship between the TIP and the County Capital Improvement Program.

Motion: Chuck Barmby moved to recommend approval of the FY 2026/27–2030/31 TIP with a recommendation requesting FDOT restore programming for the SR 60 Railroad Overpass at the CSX 'S' Line and the New York Avenue Pedestrian Overpass at the earliest available opportunity. Jay Jarvis seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Review/Approve Draft 2026 Priority Transportation Projects

Ryan Kordek, Polk TPO Staff, presented the proposed 2026 Priority Transportation Projects and summarized committed transportation investments,

roadway level of service conditions, and future transportation needs identified through the 2026 Roadway Network Database.

Motion: Chuck Barmby moved to recommend approval of the priority list with the addition of the Wabash Avenue Extension (Ariana Street to Harden Boulevard) as the No. 4 Non-SIS Candidate Priority Project. Jay Jarvis seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Presentations and Status Reports

8. Lakeland Intermodal Center Project Development and Environmental (PD&E) Study

Nicole McCleary from Citrus Connection provided an update on the PD&E process, BUILD Grant application, and ongoing coordination with the Federal Transit Administration.

9. I-4 Intermodal Passenger Rail Station Planning and Feasibility Study

Cindy Mitchell, TPO Staff, summarized the study scope, schedule, stakeholder engagement, and public involvement activities.

10. Polk County School Sidewalk Gap Analysis

Tracy Mullins, Polk TPO Staff, presented the inventory identifying approximately 1,040 miles of missing sidewalks within school zones and discussed development of a multi-year implementation strategy.

11. Polk TPO 2026 Roadway Network Database

Ryan Kordek, Polk TPO Staff, provided an overview of roadway performance, traffic projections, and multimodal data contained in the recently updated Database.

12. Vision Zero Polk Action Plan Update

Tracy Mullins, Polk TPO staff, reported on the High Injury Network, tactical urbanism demonstrations, and ongoing public engagement being done as part of the Vision Zero Action Plan.

Communications and Reports

13. Committee Members Comments

Ryan Kordek introduced the new members to the Committee, Jeff Barr for the City of Bartow, Jason Cupit for the City of Mulberry, and Jonah Katz for the Town of Lake Hamilton.

Mr. Kordek explained the attachments that were on the table.

Members provided updates on transportation projects in their respective jurisdictions.

14. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m. The next TAC meeting is scheduled for July 23, 2026, at the FDOT District One Conference Center in Bartow, Florida.

Respectfully transcribed by KC Rivera, TPO Office Manager IV

Section 286.105, Florida Statute 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.