



6001 North A1A, Indian River Shores, FL 32963

## Memorandum

TO: Metropolitan Planning Organization Citizens Advisory Committee Representative or Candidates

FROM: Laura Aldrich, Town Clerk

SUBJECT: Information to Help You

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A **metropolitan planning organization (MPO)** is a federally mandated and federally funded transportation policy-making organization in the United States that is made up of representatives from local government and governmental transportation authorities. The United States Congress passed the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1962, which required the formation of an MPO for any urbanized area (UZA) with a population greater than 50,000. Federal funding for transportation projects and programs are channeled through this planning process. Congress created MPOs in order to ensure that existing and future expenditures of governmental funds for transportation projects and programs are based on a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive ("3-C") planning process.

Statewide and metropolitan transportation planning processes are governed by federal law (23 U.S.C. §§ 134–135). The Florida Department of Transportation is the overseeing authority, <http://www.fdot.gov/planning/Policy/metrosupport/mpohandbook/>. Transparency through public access to participation in the planning process and electronic publication of plans now is required by federal law. As of 2012, there are 342 MPOs in the United States.

The Indian River County website <http://www.ircgov.com/Boards/CAC/Index.htm> has this information on it's page:

By Laws approved at the MPO meeting of December 8, 2004, amending the membership from 13 to 14 voting members, per Resolution #92-83 dated June 16, 1992, Section 134, Title 23, U.S. Code and Florida Statutes Chapter 339.175.

Total of 14 members: (5) County representatives appointed by the BCC, (2) Sebastian Representatives; (1) Indian River Shores; (2) Vero Beach, (1) Fellsmere, (1) Indian River County School Board, (2) Members-at-Large, one representing the racial minority interests and one representing the transportation disadvantaged community - 1-year term.

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at the County Administration Building B, 1800 27th Street, Vero Beach, FL in Conference Room B1-501.

There are minutes, agendas, audio & video recordings of past meetings on the County website if you'd like to see how the Committee operates, and Sharon Schalm is a wealthy source of information. Her contact information is Sharon Schalm, **Indian River County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)**  
Staff Assistant III

County Administration Building A, 1801 27th Street, Vero Beach, FL 32960  
Phone: (772) 226-1672 Fax: (772) 978-1806 [sschalm@ircgov.com](mailto:sschalm@ircgov.com)

The Town Council appreciates having our representatives provide an update following a meeting with an emailed or verbal report at a Council meeting, since they are appointed by the Council and serve on their and the resident's behalf.