Moving Martin Forward: A Small Budget With Big Impacts
Martin MPO

• Planning area is located along the East Coast of South Florida.
• Bordered to the South by the large metropolitan area of Palm Beach County, and to the North by Port St. Lucie, one of the fastest growing cities in the State.
• Diverse population that includes many retirees, as well as a large immigrant population with limited English proficiency.
Martin MPO

• The Martin MPO staff consists of
  – MPO Administrator
  – Senior Planner
  – Planner
  – Associate Planner
  – Administrative Assistant

• Martin MPO is part of a Transportation Management Area (TMA), and has the same requirements as the larger MPOs but with limited resources.
Martin MPO Policy Board

- The Martin MPO consists of 8 voting members:
  - 4 representatives from the Martin County Board of County Commissioners
  - 2 representatives from the City of Stuart
  - 1 representative from the Town of Sewall's Point
  - 1 representative from the Village of Indiantown
Martin County

• Population: 155,719

• 65+: 39,972 (27.3%)

• Limited English Proficiency (LEP): 2.9%
  – Indiantown LEP: 29.2%
  – Golden Gate LEP: 28.3%

• Median income: $55,588
  Source: 2017 ACS 5-Year Estimates
Partnerships

• Strong community relationships and creative resources enable the Martin MPO to meet planning requirements while making significant community impacts.
Partnerships
Martin County and the MPO

- Martin County Government is the host agency
- County departments serve as a resource:
  - Martin County Television (MCTV)
  - Traffic
  - Growth Management
  - Legal
  - Purchasing
  - Human Resources
  - Information Technology Systems
- By partnering with these departments, we are able to reduce costs, and use more funds towards required work products and planning studies.
FEC Grade Separation Study

• This study was conducted in order to locate the most feasible locations where roadway and non-motorized railroad grade separations could be constructed.
  – Stakeholders included:
    • Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)
    • Martin County (MC) Sheriff’s Office
    • City of Stuart Police Department
    • MC Fire Rescue Department
    • Martin Health Systems (Hospital)
    • MC General Aviation Airport/Customs Facility
    • Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)
    • Stuart/MC Chamber of Commerce
    • MC Public Transit
    • MC Traffic Division
    • City of Stuart
FEC Grade Separation Study
City of Stuart Tram Efficiency Study

• MPO worked closely with the City of Stuart and FDOT to develop an Efficiency Study for the City of Stuart Downtown Tram
• Primary funding source (State Grant) was about to expire.
• Tram is popular with the residents
  – Funding opportunities were researched
  – Alternative methods of funding were proposed to the City Commission
Partnering with the CRA/NACs

- Partnering with the CRA to attend NAC meetings
- Audience would already be gathered, more effective public outreach
CR-714 Widening

https://youtu.be/8DwHVo-r-g1fU
Coordinating Communication

• To include the realignment of CR-714/MC Scenic Highway as part of the SR 710 Widening project
  – The MPO was able to assist in the coordination of two MPOs, two counties and two municipalities.
  – Florida Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) / Freight Priority
  – Safety issue
Coordinating Communication

- As part of Segment 4, the Martin MPO was able to coordinate with District 1 and District 4 to include the design and construction of the realignment of CR 714 with the SR 710 project.
Sewall’s Point Roundabout Redesign

- FDOT planned a roundabout at a major intersection
- Residents preferred a signalized intersection
- The MPO worked with Sewall’s Point and FDOT to make changes to the design, which included safety improvements to the intersection
Village of Indiantown

• Indiantown is a small municipality in western Martin County.

• The MPO had a non-voting Indiantown Representative on the Board.

• Once the Village of Indiantown became incorporated, the MPO worked with the State to include them as an official voting member on the MPO Board.
Village of Indiantown

- MPO partnered with the Community of Indiantown to acquire funding for the four-laning of the Big John Monahan Bridge.
Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council

- MPO partners closely with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council for planning studies
  - Not required to go through County purchasing process
  - Local knowledge of areas being studied
    - Regional Waterways Plan
    - 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan
    - Complete Streets: Access to Transit
    - Interactive Polling
Chambers of Commerce

- MPO serves on the Chamber of Commerce Local Government/Transportation Committee
  - Provide presentations and solicit input from the business community on planning studies
Partnering with the School District

- The Martin MPO works closely with the School District to acquire grant funding and to provide educational information.
  - Safe Routes to School Grant Program
  - Walk to School / Bike to School Day
  - No Texting and Driving Campaign
Partnering with the School District

• New sidewalks were funded through the Safe Routes to School Grant Program in two different neighborhoods through the partnership with the School District and Martin County
• Criteria included the number of students receiving free or reduced school lunch (indicating areas of lower income families)
Safety Campaigns

• We work closely with our partners to bring awareness on safety issues to motorists and pedestrians. These partners include:
  – FDOT
  – CRA/Neighborhood Advisory Committees (NAC)
  – City of Stuart
• Safety Campaigns include:
  – CRA Safety events
  – Green Market Parking Lot Safety Campaign
Safety Campaigns

- Indian Street and A1A is a dangerous intersection in Martin County
- Florida East Coast (FEC) Railway is used by pedestrians and cyclists to cross the road
- The intersection is located in the Golden Gate Community
- FDOT’s Rail Safety Coordinator decided to partner with the MPO to help educate citizens.
What is the most important resource for a small MPO?

1.) Partnerships
2.) Number of employees
3.) Consultants
Questions/Comments?