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**Date:** November 12, 2024

**To:** Mayor and Town Council

**From:** John Brock, Deputy Town Manager / Town Clerk

**Re:** Consideration and Approval: **Selection of Lake-Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Representative**

**Objective:**

The purpose of this agenda item is to designate both a primary representative and an alternate to serve as the Town's liaisons to the Lake-Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). This selection will enable continuous representation of Howey-in-the-Hills in regional transportation and infrastructure planning. The appointed representative and alternate will participate in MPO meetings and decision-making processes, advocating for the Town's needs within regional transportation initiatives. This appointment ensures that the Town's interests are represented consistently, even in the primary representative's absence, facilitating ongoing alignment with the Town's comprehensive plan and growth objectives.

**Summary:**

This agenda item seeks Town Council approval to appoint a primary representative and an alternate to the Lake-Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). Established on February 25, 2004, in response to regional growth reflected in the 2000 U.S. Census, the Lake-Sumter MPO serves a critical role in planning and improving transportation infrastructure across Lake and Sumter Counties. With projections showing that daily vehicle miles traveled on the region's road network could nearly double within the next 20 years, the MPO prioritizes transportation improvements across all modes, from mass transit to walking and bicycling. Through collaboration among local governments and agencies, the MPO Board, comprising elected officials from both counties, strives to address growth and transportation needs through strategic planning, capital project prioritization, and allocation of federal funding. Howey-in-the-Hills' representation will ensure the Town's transportation goals and priorities are effectively integrated into these regional planning efforts.

**Possible Motions:**

*The Town Council has the following options:*

Make a nomination for the Town's representative to the MPO. Once the MPO representative is selected, make a nomination for the alternate representative.

**Fiscal Impact:**

None

**Staff Recommendation:**

N/A