

**CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE of the
COLLIER COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
VIRTUAL MEETING
ZOOM MEETING PLATFORM
MEETING MINUTES
August 31, 2020 2:00 p.m.**

1. Call to Order

Mr. Gelfand called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Ms. McLaughlin called the roll and confirmed a quorum was present.

CAC Members Present

Neal Gelfand, Chair, District II
Karen Homiak, District I
Rick Hart, Persons with Disabilities
Dennis DiDonna, At-Large
George Dondanville, At-Large
Tammie Pernas, Everglades City
Fred Sasser, City of Naples
Suzanne Cross, City of Naples
Josh Rincon, Representative of Minorities

CAC Members Absent

Pam Brown, District V
Robert Phelan, Marco Island
Bob Melucci, District IV

MPO Staff

Anne McLaughlin, Executive Director
Brandy Otero, Principal Planner
Josephine Medina, Planner
Karen Intriago, Administrative Assistant

Others Present

Zachary Karto, CAT
Michele Arnold, CAT
Lorraine Lantz, TAC Chair
Randall Farwell, Tindale Oliver
Andrea Halman, At-Large Member (BPAC)

Patty Huff, At-Large Member (BPAC)
Tara Jones, Jacobs Engineering
Wally Blain, Tindale Oliver
Tamarin Kirby, CAT
Bill Gramer, Jacobs Engineering
Victoria Peters, FDOT
Valerie Nowotnick, Minute Taker

3. Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Dondanville moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Sasser seconded. Carried unanimously.

4. Approval of August 7, 2020 Meeting Minutes.

Ms. Pernas moved to approve the August 7, 2020 meeting minutes. Ms. Homiak seconded. Carried unanimously.

5. Public Comments for Items not on the Agenda

None.

6. Agency Updates

A. FDOT

Ms. Peters – Mentioned 2020 Census. Will be used to guide \$600B of tax dollars into the community. www.my2020census.gov or (844) 330-2020.

B. MPO Executive Director

Ms. McLaughlin – Nothing other than agenda items.

7. Committee Action

A. Endorse Transit Development Plan – Major Update

Ms. Medina – introduced Randy Farwell with Tindale Oliver. Draft Transit Development Plan (“TDP”) was provided in the agenda packet. **Mr. Farwell** – reviewed the presentation included in agenda packet. reviewed TDP presentation materials in agenda packet. TDP is 10-year strategic plan for transit. TDP is required by FDOT. Serves as tool to ensure every community that receives federal/state funding for transportation projects is reviewing required criteria under plan. Identifies funded and unfunded needs. Updates every 5 years. Current TDP covers FY 2021-2030. Extensive and lengthy

presentation regarding TDP and transit network changes/impacts as provided in agenda packet. Significant efforts focused on streamlining routes and reducing overlap. Added routes for service and provided further studies on connections to Lehigh Acres and UF Ag Center. Explained specific routes that are being added to service area. Discussed 10-year operating cost compared to 10-year capital cost. Approximately \$134M in 10-year funded projects. Approximately \$25M in 10-year capital costs. Projects are required to be on TDP if receiving federal or state funding. Projects can advance sooner or later depending on funding availability and priority.

Mr. Gelfand – inquired about intent of transportation system (i.e., people who do not have cars and those who have cars to use alternative means) – how does plan sync with those objectives and what ridership improvements are being recommended. **Mr. Farwell** – would expect to see 812,000 in ridership by 2030, which is a significant improvement. Routes in rural Collier County were designed to provide access to mobility, where density and demand is not sufficient to require fixed routes. **Mr. Gelfand** – clarified that other rideshare services (in New York) have similar programs – can they be used as an example here. **Mr. Farwell** – the rural nature of area does not permit city-type services to be implemented here. Services would be provided by CAT but rideshare services (i.e., van or otherwise) would be operated independently. Lengthy discussion among members regarding rideshare options, statistics of ridership, and viability with program choices.

Mr. Dondanville moved to approve the Transit Development Plan. Mr. Hart seconded. Carried unanimously.

B. Endorse Transportation System Performance Report & Action Plan (TSPR)

Ms. Otero – Congestion Management Committee (“CMC”) has been working on plan for approximately 1.5 years. Introduced Wally Blaine with Tindale Oliver. Mentioned specific agenda items in packet. Intent to prioritize projects based on data and will feed into LRTP. **Mr. Blain** – reviewed presentation in agenda packet. Federally required step in securing funding for designated projects. Needed to evaluate 2017 congestion management process. Intent is to reduce traffic using alternative transportation methods. Lengthy and comprehensive presentation regarding performance measures and criteria required to be addressed in plan (as provided in agenda packet materials).

Mr. Gelfand – inquired about traffic crash data and specifically rear-end collisions. Suggested that it may have something to do with rear-end collision mitigation systems. Suggested that a mandate should be issued to force car manufacturers to install crash mitigation systems rather than altering traffic light systems. **Mr. Blain** – reviewed one year’s worth of data. There is not enough data in that analysis to specifically determine what has helped reduce the numbers.

Mr. DiDonna – will not vote in favor of plan. Need exit from Vanderbilt Beach Road to get to Livingston. No bypass for Naples in 25-year plan. **Ms. Otero** – report is not intended to approve specific projects. Congestive corridors are identified. **Mr. DiDonna** – Vanderbilt Beach Road will have 500 apartments built soon. No change in infrastructure – using same roads – with all new traffic. Lengthy and extensive discussion among members regarding **Mr. DiDonna’s** concerns, relative to the 2045 LRTP.

Mr. Dondanville moved to approve the Transit Development Plan. Ms. Pernas seconded. Carried unanimously.

C. Preliminary Review and Comment on 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Draft Cost Feasible Plan (CFP) Roadway Network, Draft Chapter 4 - System-wide Needs Assessment and Draft Financial Resources Technical Memorandum

Ms. McLaughlin – introduced Tara Jones from Jacobs Engineering. **Ms. Jones** – discussed overview of materials in agenda packet. Discussed Alternative 5 of the Collier MPO 2045 LRTP and the projects that are already funded as well as construction phases. Chapter 4 is also included in the agenda packet. Mentioned financing resources available also in agenda packet.

Ms. Cross – inquired about financial assumptions – fuel tax – wants to know how it is modeled for electric cars. **Ms. Jones** – projections for fuel tax are lower than previous because of anticipation of reduction in motor vehicle fuel. Included so we do not overestimate. Decreased 1.5% annually.

Mr. Dondanville – Plan 5 – map ID 63, 67, 73 – are they still accounted for on the list. Three roundabouts within City limits. **Ms. McLaughlin** – they are in the E plus C list.

D. Endorse Collier County’s Transit Safety Performance Targets

Ms. McLaughlin – required as MPO to adopt safety performance targets. Board of County Commissioners has adopted transit safety targets. MPO should adopt the same rather than drafting new ones. Asking for committee to endorse Collier County Transit Safety Performance Targets. **Mr. Gelfand** – does not agree with setting fatalities at zero. Should take injuries and put them to zero. **Ms. Peters** – FDOT is making strides in programming traffic operations projects. Changing timing on lights, improving intersections, using all safety funds on safety. Believes that FDOT is really trying to move forward and improve goals.

Ms. Homiak moved to endorse Collier County's Transit Safety Performance Targets. Ms. Pernas seconded. Carried unanimously.

8. Reports and Presentations (May Require Committee Action)

A. FDOT Update on Current Project Development & Environmental (PD&E) Studies

Ms. Peters – introduced Jennifer Marshall, Environmental Administrator (FDOT) to give presentation in agenda packet. **Ms. Marshall** – wants to encourage partners to communicate with FDOT regarding concerns. Will connect quarterly to get updates. Four PD&E projects currently ongoing in Collier County (see spreadsheet in agenda packet). Very detailed explanation of ongoing projects, projected deadlines for scheduled studies, and current status of study analysis.

9. Member Comments

Ms. Cross – inquired about certification review and COVID accommodations. **Ms. McLaughlin** – certification review went well overall. Very detailed and a lot of Q&A. Gave brief overview before concluding interview. Will probably not get report until mid-December. Recommendations geared towards 2045 LRTP were to be more explicit about multi-modal options, connections, and transit projects along with bike/ped projects. Should not be so focused on roadway congestion. Federal agencies spoke to how COVID has changed meeting requirements. Virtual meeting platforms seemed to have more public involvement but no prediction on how it can continue going forward. Inquired about base assumptions for long range plan – more people moving here – less travel for business – more people working from home – did not get answers to those questions. Brief discussion regarding additional comments from FDOT.

10. Distribution Items

A. FY21-25 TIP – Administrative Modifications

11. Next Meeting Date

September 28, 2020 – 2:00 p.m. - Virtual Meeting (current Executive Order expires September 30, 2020)

11. Adjournment

There being no further comment or business to discuss, Mr. Gelfand asked for motion to adjourn. Mr. Sasser moved. Mr. DiDonna seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:37 p.m.