

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE of the
COLLIER COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
VIRTUAL MEETING
ZOOM MEETING PLATFORM
MEETING MINUTES
October 26, 2020 2:00 PM**

1. Call to Order

Mr. Gelfand called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm.

2. Roll Call

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

CAC Members Present

Neal Gelfand, Chair, District II
Dennis DiDonna, At-Large
Tammie Pernas, Everglades City
Suzanne Cross, City of Naples
George Dondanville, At-Large
Fred Sasser, City of Naples
Karen Homiak, District I
Robert Phelan, Marco Island
Rick Hart, Persons with Disabilities

CAC Members Absent

Pam Brown, District V
Bob Melucci, District IV
Josh Rincon, Representative of Minorities

MPO Staff

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

FDOT

n/a

Other Staff Present

Trinity Scott, County Transportation Planning

Lorraine Lantz, County Transportation Planning
Zachary Karto, County PTNE

Consultants Present

Demian Miller, Tindale Oliver
Tara Jones, Jacobs
Bill Gramer, Jacobs
Javier Ortiz-Velez, Jacobs
Felicia Kirby, Jacobs

Others Present

3. Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Sasser moved to approve the agenda as amended. Mr. DiDonna seconded. Carried unanimously.

4. Approval of September 28, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Homiak moved to approve the September 28, 2020 meeting minutes. Mr. Sasser seconded. Carried unanimously.

5. Public Comments for Items not on the Agenda

None.

6. Agency Updates

A. FDOT

Ms. McLaughlin explained that Ms. Peters was unable to attend and did not have an update prepared.

B. MPO Executive Director

Ms. McLaughlin – none beyond agenda items.

7. Committee Action

A. Endorse Amendment to FY 2021-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Authorizing Resolution

Ms. McLaughlin – introduced the proposed amendment to add a Bus Replacement for CAT to the TIP at a cost of \$500,000 (FPN 448027-1). topic reading from the Executive Summary in the meeting packet. FDOT requested the amendment after working closely with MPO and County to identify project to spend down SU funds that resulted from federal reconciliation and FDOT Work Program balancing. Project is on MPO Board adopted Transit Project Priority list. The packet includes approval of an authorizing resolution. Public comment period began on October 19, 2020 and ends with the MPO Board meeting on November 13, 2020. No comments received at this time.

Ms. Homiak moved to endorse the Amendment to the 2021-2025 TIP and Authorizing Resolution. Mr. Dondanville seconded. Passed unanimously.

B. Endorse Collier Area Transit (CAT) Park and Ride Study

Ms. Medina – introduced the topic reading from the Executive Summary in the agenda packet. The previous study was done in 2005. The current study is timed to coincide with the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan and the CAT Transit Development Plan and will be incorporated by reference into both plans. Park and Ride facilities help address impacts of traffic congestion, provide areas where commuters can park and take public transit, carpool or vanpool into more urban areas. Prioritizes sites and provides implementation strategies. The Public Transit Advisory Committee endorsed the study on October 20th. The MPO will consider endorsing the study at its November 13 meeting, and the Board of County Commissioners will be asked to approve it on December 8, 2020. Introduced consultant team – Jacobs.

Mr. Ortiz-Velez – gave a PPT presentation [file available by submitting request to the MPO office] Study re-evaluated sites identified in 2005 study and 24 additional sites. Developed standardized methodology for locating, evaluating and implementing Park and Ride sites within County. Sites identified and evaluated based on proximity to transit routes, major employment locations, congested roads, regional connectivity, tourist destinations and educational facilities. Reported results of online public surveys and meetings with CRA's, Chamber of Commerce and large employers. Ranking based on number of factors including ease of access and cost. Highest ranked locations described in detail, including Creekside Area Transfer Station, Immokalee Health Department Transfer Station, and Beach Lots on Vanderbilt Beach Rd and Pine Ridge Rd). Next steps for CAT include promoting existing lots, pursuing partnerships with private organizations, applying for grants and developing new lots.

Mr. Gelfand – Questioned demand for such facilities, whether they would be free or would users pay for parking, and how they would be financed. **Mr. Ortiz-Velez** – not demand driven, a way of reducing congestion by increasing transit ridership, major employers such as Collier County Government Center and Arthrex expressed interest in having facilities to serve employees; Everglades City expressed interest. Facilities would

offer free parking to entice users. Financed through grants and could generate increased ridership. **Mr. Gelfand** – what percent reduction in congestion anticipated? **Mr. Gramer** – overall impact to system will be minor, it’s a start to entice people to use transit, may see some effect on roads in vicinity of beaches. **Mr. DiDonna** – looking at cost to taxpayers, \$500,000 for a single bus, but busses stuck in same traffic as cars – why would someone take the bus? **Mr. Gramer** – highest scored sites are existing, costs negligible; if have to acquire land, won’t pencil out from cost/benefit standpoint. **Mr. DiDonna** – applying old technology instead of thinking ahead to solve problems. **Ms. Cross** – sees little benefit to all this planning for commuting patterns that may not move forward. **Mr. Sasser** – Beach parking at Vanderbilt, shuttle to beach could be effective, consider letting bus use shoulder, other ways to improve bus travel time. Nothing proposed within City of Naples, but City Council is talking about parking at beaches. Coastland Mall site could be effective. **Mr. Karto** – coordinated closely with City of Naples on TDP, includes shuttle between Cambier Park to Naples Pier, autonomous vehicle circulators to beaches. **Mr. Gelfand** – Park and Ride makes a lot of sense for some places; large employers whose employees have lower paying jobs, cost of commute is greater portion of wages – Creekside sites makes sense. Other large employers would probably benefit – hotels, Waterside shops. Make it easier to attract employees. **Mr. Ortiz-Velez** – reached out to Arthrex – they’re interested in Creekside and Immokalee sites. Reached out to Marco Island hotels but no response – pandemic may have been a factor.

Mr. Phelan moved to endorse the CAT Park and Ride Study. Mr. Hart seconded. Passed unanimously

C. Endorse FDOT Vision Zero Safety Targets for Calendar Year 2021

Ms. McLaughlin - gave brief introduction reading from Executive Study in the agenda packet. Safety Targets must be adopted annually. The MPO has chosen in previous years to endorse the FDOT Vision Zero targets despite questioning the feasibility of attaining them. Reported on correspondence from FDOT Central Office received after TAC meeting this morning. FHWA requires State DOTs that don’t make substantive progress towards meeting targets to develop a HSIP Implementation Plan. FDOT has submitted draft for FHWA review. Nonetheless, MPO staff recommends endorsing FDOT’s targets and supporting FDOT’s safety projects within the MPO’s jurisdiction. It is then up to FDOT to explain its target setting philosophy to FHWA and to develop an implementation plan if targets are not met. If MPO developed its own targets, MPO would have to demonstrate substantive progress towards meeting them or FHWA would require MPO to prepare an implementation plan. Better to have FDOT work with FHWA than be the MPO’s responsibility.

Ms. Cross moved to endorse FDOT’s Vision Zero Safety Targets for Calendar Year 2021. Mr. Sasser seconded. Passed unanimously.

D. Review and Comment on Draft 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

Ms. McLaughlin – gave brief introduction reading from Executive Study in the agenda packet. Noted that Jacobs has made revisions to Chapter 1-6 based on comments received to-date and added a new chapter on Implementation and one on References. The chapters have been reformatted in the final form that the entire document will take when formally adopted by the MPO Board in December. Introduced consultant team – Jacobs.

Ms. Jones – gave a PPT presentation [available by requesting from MPO office]. Focused on changes made since committee reviewed draft of Chapters 1-6, pending changes still in process and the schedule for completion. Recent updates include the new Chapter 7 on Implementation; updated Chapter 6 (Cost Feasible Plan) to include congestion management priorities in the Local Road Safety Plan and updated the Transit CFP to include grant funding award to conduct CAT Bus Maintenance building repairs; updates regarding Adaptation of Coastal urban and Natural Ecosystems (ACUNE) study in Chapter 4 (Needs Plan) and new report from FDOT regarding Connected and Automated Vehicles methodology as applies to travel demand model runs conducted for Needs analysis. Pending changes include incorporating language regarding M-CORES, the I-75 Southwest Connect PD&E Study; the USACE Collier County Coastal Storm Risk Management Feasibility Study; the CAT Park and Ride Study, final Transit Development Plan; FHWA and FDOT LRTP Review Checklists and Tribal outreach. In addition, MPO staff has proposed adjusting use of SU Box funds to incorporate safety projects and major planning projects such as LRTP updates in addition to Bike/Ped, congestion management and bridges. BPAC, LCB and CMC are reviewing draft LRTP in addition to CAC and TAC. Will present draft LRTP to Board on November 13th. Final plan adoption on December 11, 2020.

Ms. Homiak – lots of mistakes on Figure 2-3 p2-4 (Collier County Planning Communities map). Look for latest update.

Ms. McLaughlin – seeking comments from the Committee, need to receive any additional comments the week of November 2nd, the earlier the better, but no later than noon on Friday, November 6th in order to report to the MPO Board at their November meeting.

8. Reports and Presentations (May Require Committee Action)

None.

9. Member Comments

Mr. Phelan - Planning Board item November 5th, why don't they seek comment from MPO? **Ms. Scott** - County Transportation Planning conducts highly prescribed review spelled out in Comprehensive Plan and development code.

Mr. DiDonna - requested and received update from Ms. Scott on Veteran's Memorial Road, concerned with Naples 1 project traffic impacts. **Ms. Scott** - entering third day of hearings. Highly prescribed review looks at capacity pm peak hour, peak direction travel; applicant looking at capacity improvements; will probably go to BCC on November 5th or later, if more hearings required.

10. Distribution Items

None.

11. Next Meeting Date

November 30, 2020 - 2:00 pm. - staff is checking to see if 2800 Horseshoe Drive North, Room 609/610 available - technological capability to host hybrid remote meeting. TBD Fully Remote or Hybrid Remote Meeting in which physical quorum required

11. Adjournment

*There being no further comment or business to discuss, **Mr. Sasser** made motion to adjourn. **Mr. DiDonna** seconded. **Mr. Gelfand** adjourned the meeting at 3:17 p.m.*