

**Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Board of County Commission Chambers  
Collier County Government Center  
3299 Tamiami Trail East, 3rd Floor  
Naples, FL 34112  
December 11, 2020  
9:00 a.m.**

**\*\*HYBRID REMOTE – IN-PERSON AND VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at approximately 9:05 a.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Brandy Otero** called roll and confirmed a quorum was present.

**Members Present (in BCC Chambers)**

Commissioner Andy Solis, Collier County BCC District 2  
Councilman Paul Perry, City of Naples  
Councilman Mike McCabe, City of Naples  
Commissioner Rick LoCastro, Collier County BCC District 1  
Commissioner William L. McDaniel, Jr. District 5

**Members Present (virtually and via phone)**

Councilwoman Elaine Middelstaedt, City of Everglades City, Chair  
Commissioner Burt Saunders, Collier County BCC District 3  
Councilman Greg Folley, City of Marco Island

**Members Absent**

Commissioner Penny Taylor, Collier County BCC District 4

**MPO Staff**

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

**FDOT**

L. K. Nandam, District 1 Secretary  
Victoria Peters  
Wayne Gaither  
Jennifer Marshall

**Others Present**

Scott Teach, Deputy County Attorney

Lorraine Lantz, Chair, Technical Advisory Committee  
Trinity Scott, Collier County Transportation Planning  
Bill Gramer, Jacobs Engineering  
Colleen Ross, Jacobs Engineering  
Tara Jones, Jacobs Engineering  
Michelle Arnold, Public Transit and Neighborhood Enhancement (PTNE) Division  
Omar Deleon, PTNE  
Jodi Walborn, Blue Zones  
Laura Lockwood-Herrscher  
Mark Dillon  
Michelle Avola-Reese, Naples Pathways Coalition  
Paul Blucher, Attorney

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Commissioner McDaniel** served as Chair [pursuant to Hybrid Remote board meeting protocol] and called the meeting to order.

**Commissioner LoCastro** led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA, PREVIOUS MINUTES AND CONSENT ITEMS**

**4.A. November 13, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

*Commissioner Solis moved to approve the November 13, 2020 minutes and consent items. Commissioner LoCastro seconded. Passed unanimously.*

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

(There were none.)

**6. AGENCY UPDATES**

**6.A. FDOT**

**Ms. Peters** – The public hearing for the new Draft Tentative Work Program FY22-FY26 will take place online Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup> through Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup> 2021 and in-person on Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at Southwest Area Office (at SWIFT SunGuide Center, Daniels Rest Area exit off I-75) from 10 am to noon. Will send email out through MPO in upcoming weeks.

**6.B. MPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**Ms. McLaughlin** – introduced herself to Commissioner LoCastro noting they haven't met or spoken yet.

**7. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**

**7.A. CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)**

**7.A.1. Citizens Advisory Committee Chair Report**

**Ms. McLaughlin** – noted that Committee Chair is not present to give report, which is available in the agenda packet.

**7.B. TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)**

**7.B.1. Technical Advisory Committee Chair Report**

**Ms. McLaughlin** – introduced Lorraine Lantz, Chair of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). **Ms. Lantz** – Read report into record of TAC meeting held on November 30, 2020. Noted that two members voted against endorsement of Transit Impact Analysis because they felt it should go to Board of County Commissioners first.

**7.C. BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)**

**7.C.1. Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Chair Report**

**Ms. McLaughlin** – this was the first committee meeting after the Governor’s Executive Order allowing virtual meetings expired. The Committee was unable to muster a quorum, therefore the meeting could not be held. **Commissioner McDaniel** – not everyone is comfortable attending meetings in-person with the spike in COVID-19, let concerns be known to the Governor’s Office, request extension of EO.

**7.D. CONGESTION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CMC)**

**7.D.1. Congestion Management Committee Chair Report**

**Ms. McLaughlin** – this committee was also unable to achieve a quorum and therefore did not meet.

**7.E. LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD (LCB)**

**7.E.1. Local Coordinating Board Chair Report**

**Commissioner Solis** – Read report into the record of LCB meeting held on December 2, 2020 via Zoom.

**8. REGULAR BOARD ACTION (ROLL CALL REQUIRED)**

**8.A. Approve the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)**

**Ms. McLaughlin** – at long last the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan is up for the

MPO Board's approval. The LRTP has been revised to address public and agency comments received since the Board was briefed on the plan in November. Public comment period continues through this meeting; any comments received today will be added to summary in Technical Compendium. FHWA requires MPO to adopt 2045 LRTP this month. Both the CAC and TAC unanimously recommended endorsement of the LRTP at their meetings on November 30<sup>th</sup>. Staff and consultant will conduct final review for grammatical errors and typos – and correct Scrivener's errors prior to submitting to FDOT by way of the MPO Document Portal. Consultant will give a brief presentation on the Plan today; presentation addresses concerns raised by the Conservancy. A representative of the Conservancy has registered to speak on this item today after the presentation.

**Mr. Gramer** – presented PPT [slides are available for review in the agenda packet]. Noted changes made since draft 2045 LRTP was presented to the Board on 11/13/20, including updates to Roadway and Transit Cost Feasible Plans (CFP), revenue forecast, added Executive Summary, incorporated public outreach activities and comments, added Technical Compendium of support documents. Referenced comments received from Conservancy of Southwest Florida on 11/6/20 regarding opposition to 3 road projects in CFP: Benfield Rd, I-75/Everglades interchange and Big Cypress Parkway. Showed history of projects in past LRTP Needs and CFP. Roadways identified as needed due to projected growth, congestion on existing roadways, policy limitations on roadway expansions; status of County studies, development approvals; all 3 projects will go through extensive environmental review and permitting; mitigation costs included in cost estimates. Staff does not recommend making any changes to CFP. CAC and TAC have endorsed the plan as it is.

**Ms. Olson** – presented PPT [slides available for review upon request made to MPO office, will be included in 2045 LRTP, Technical Compendium, Appendix F, Public Comments] Benfield Rd, Big Cypress Parkway and New Interchange new Everglades Blvd should be removed from CFP. History of being on a list does not mean project is appropriate. Could be on list at request of a landowner, despite opposition letters from environmental agencies, high mitigation costs. Big Cypress parkway will primarily function as a development [required] road rather than serve regional function. Regarding Benfield Road – County never studies travel demand alternatives to building another road to alleviate congestion, as the 2040 LRTP suggested. New interchange on I-75, vicinity of Everglades Blvd not required; access already allowed in emergency, funding should be directed elsewhere.

**Commissioner McDaniel** – greater emphasis should be given to assessing environmental impacts, for content of PD&E studies defers to FDOT. **Secretary Nandam** – agree PD&E process takes environmental impacts and mitigation into account; this was a large part of the discussion during M-CORES task force meetings. **Councilman McCabe** – need to consider environmental mitigation up front, before deciding on alignment, consider no-build option. **Commissioner McDaniel** – have all the comments we received included in the LRTP? **Ms. McLaughlin** – Yes. In the Technical Compendium. **Commissioner McDaniel** - include the Conservancy's presentation and comments made today **Ms. McLaughlin** – Yes.

*Commissioner Solis moved to approve 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan. Commissioner LoCastro seconded. Roll Call vote taken.*

*Commissioner Solis – Yes*  
*Councilwoman Middelstaedt – Yes*  
*Councilman Folley – Yes*  
*Commissioner McDaniel - Yes*  
*Commissioner LoCastro – Yes*  
*Councilman Perry – Yes*  
*Commissioner Saunders – Yes*  
*Councilman McCabe - Yes*

*Passed unanimously.*

**8.B. Approve an Amendment to the FY 2021-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Authoring Resolution**

**Ms. McLaughlin** – FDOT requested amendment to add FTA Grant Award to Collier Area Transit for rehabilitation of a bus maintenance building; funds programmed in FY 2021, roughly \$11.3 million total cost. CAC and TAC voted to endorse.

*Commissioner Solis moved to approve Amendment to the FY 2021-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Authoring Resolution. Commissioner LoCastro seconded. Roll Call vote taken.*

*Commissioner Solis – Yes*  
*Councilwoman Middelstaedt – Yes*  
*Councilman Folley – Yes*  
*Commissioner McDaniel - Yes*  
*Commissioner LoCastro – Yes*  
*Councilman Perry – Yes*  
*Commissioner Saunders – Yes*  
*Councilman McCabe - Yes*

*Passed unanimously.*

**9. REGULAR BOARD ACTION (NO ROLL CALL)**

**9.A. Accept the Transit Impact Analysis Study**

**Ms. Otero** – Objective is to review and accept the study that Tindale Oliver will present. The MPO, in partnership with PTNE, contracted with Tindale Oliver to identify opportunities to mitigate impacts on the transit system by development. Although staff includes transit when possible in the process, there is currently no formal process in place for transit in the development review process. The study reviewed the current processes in place and is intended to provide recommendations that will be passed on to Collier County and the municipalities after acceptance by the MPO Board. It will then be up to each jurisdiction to decide which elements to move forward with for further study with for further study and implementation.

**Mr. Miller**– presented PPT [slides are available for review in the agenda packet]. Highlighted study purpose and process, summary of key findings and potential approaches, recommendations and next steps. **Commissioner LoCastro** – is CAT best utilizing taxpayer dollars by dynamically adjusting routes in response to Covid-19? **Mr. Miller** – the data shows that Collier County faces geographic challenges to pack buses. People rely on transit to get to work, however because of relatively low density, it is difficult to get people in one spot to pack buses.

**Commissioner McDaniel** – the TAC suggested an acceptance of the report [rather than approval] based on the lack of participation of the cities. Will this be shared with the cities? **Ms. Otero** – this was initiated as a County study; however the results will be shared with the City of Naples and the City of Marco Island and can be used by either municipality. Discussion ensued regarding the next steps for Collier County. **Councilman Folley** – would looking at different modes include determining if buses are the right way to go? **Ms. Arnold** – As a part of the planning process, the right vehicle is evaluated.

*Commissioner Solis moved to Accept the Transit Impact Analysis Study. Commissioner LoCastro seconded. Passed unanimously.*

#### **9.B. Approval of Annual Performance Review of MPO Executive Director**

**Ms. McLaughlin** – request Board approval of Annual Performance Review.; apologized for being late this year. Period of performance dates from 10/1/19 through 9/30/20. Review criteria based on Board’s Strategic Plan and Director’s job description. Five Board members submitted reviews. Aggregated scores and forms are in packet. Would like to thank Board members for supportive comments.

*Commissioner Solis moved to approve Annual Performance Review of MPO Executive Director. Commissioner LoCastro seconded. Passed unanimously.*

#### **9.C. Approve a Strategic Plan for FY 2021**

**Ms. McLaughlin** – proposed FY 2021 Strategic Plan similar to previous years with focus on public outreach, interagency collaboration, analysis, reporting, communication and teamwork, adds focus on effective and efficient use of resources in anticipation of financial constrictions resulting from reduced revenues related to ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

**Commissioner McDaniel** – next year, bring strategic plan forward earlier to allow time to work with newer Board members, Marco Island and City of Naples representatives, and include their input.

*Commissioner Solis moved to approve Strategic Plan for FY 2021. Commissioner LoCastro Seconded. Passed unanimously.*

#### **9.D. Approval of MPO Director’s Annual Performance Evaluation Plan**

**Ms. McLaughlin** – required by Director’s Employment Agreement, relates directly to new Strategic Plan for FY 2021; section on job description performance has not changed. Suggesting limiting reporting to five top items in each category; streamlining with intention of moving to on-line survey format such as Survey Monkey.

**Commissioner Solis** – online survey would be welcome; look into Qualtric platform.

*Commissioner Solis moved to approve MPO Director’s Annual Performance Evaluation Plan. Commissioner LoCastro seconded. Passed unanimously.*

## **10. PRESENTATIONS (MAY REQUIRE BOARD ACTION)**

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

**Ms. Marshall** – provided an update on 4 FDOT projects currently going through PD&E stage: SR 29 from Oil Well Road to SR 82; SR 29 from I-75 to Oil Well Rd; CR 887 (Old US 41) to Lee County Line; CR 846 (Immokalee) at Randall. Added new project – 16<sup>th</sup> St Bridge now in PD&E.

### **10.B. Presentation on Draft Local Roads Safety Plan**

**Ms. McLaughlin** – Introduced Demian Miller, Tindale Oliver, consultant on Local Roads Safety Plan. Noted contract is expiring end of December and MPO staff will complete the final plan after reviewing and refining the recommendations and implementation sections with advisory committees.

**Mr. Miller** – presented PPT [available for review in agenda packet]. Highlights include: Collier County has better safety performance than the State. Most crashes occur along major roads, the majority of which are County-owned and maintained. Older road users do not disproportionately contribute to crashes in Collier County, whereas younger and middle-aged adults are over-represented in reported crashes. Fewer traffic citations issued per capita and per vehicle miles traveled in County than average. Focus areas are: Non-motorized (2% of all crashes, 15% of all severe injuries and 24% of fatalities); Intersection (18%, 35%, 25%); Lane Departure (10%, 22%, 40%) and Rear End (60%, 20%, 6%). Infrastructure related recommendations include: Speed Management, Alternative Intersections, Bike-Ped Design Best Practices, rural highway improvements. Education and Enforcement recommendations include: targeted traffic enforcement, bike light and retroreflective material give-away, young driver education, bike/ped education, Vision Zero policy at local level.

**Commissioner LoCastro** – why aren’t crashes involving motorcycles mentioned in analysis. **Mr. Miller** – motorcyclists are an emphasis area identified by FDOT, but involvement in crashes is relatively low in Collier County. **Commissioner Solis** – Collier performs well compared to State statistics, but how does Collier performance compare with national statistics?

**Mr. Miller** –State of Florida performance is among the worst nationally in terms of bike/ped crashes. Florida developed auto-dominated infrastructure with emphasis on high speed travel; cyclists and pedestrians are most vulnerable because not encased in steel. **Councilman McCabe** - speed management to protect nonmotorized users is critical. **Mr. Miller** – drivers have tunnel vision at high speeds and at night, moderate speeds down to 35 mph for bike/ped safety. **Commissioner McDaniel** – coordinate enforcement recommendations with Office of County Sheriff. **Councilman Folley** - experienced steep reduction in on-the-job injuries over a ten-year period when industry adopted Vision Zero.

## **10.C. FY 2020 Annual Report**

**Ms. McLaughlin** – gave PPT presentation on Annual Report on performance measures [e report and presentation posted on MPO’s website]. Highlights include: overview of two-year operating budget, fluctuation in funding amounts expansion of public outreach using online outreach during COVID pandemic; Transportation System Performance Report established baseline conditions for congestion related measures, transit and bike/ped.

**Councilman Folley** - questioned why Marco Island not represented in survey on congestion. **Ms. McLaughlin** – did not respond to social media outreach, will need to do targeted outreach to residents on future studies.

## **11. DISTRIBUTION ITEMS**

### **11.A. 2021 MPO Calendar**

**Ms. McLaughlin** – calendar has been updated since draft was distributed last month.

## **12. MEMBER COMMENTS**

**Councilwoman Middelstaedt** – congratulated Ms. McLaughlin on positive reviews

**Councilman Folley** – congratulated MPO on adoption of 2045 LRTP

**Commissioner Solis** – noted increased participation in virtual Town Hall meetings over in-person meetings, targeting outreach to specific communities can be effective.

**Councilman McCabe** – FDOT met with Naples City Council regarding 4 corners intersection. Told FDOT that what’s needed is to eliminate through traffic, move it out of downtown.

**Commissioner McDaniel** – directed comment to Ms. Lantz. Bridge Study was to go to BCC in December but did not. Reach out to public, give update, need to keep them informed. Issue involving recent FDOT letter to County regarding lack of toll revenue to fund operations at Fire Station 63 on I-75. **Secretary Nandam** – toll revenues programmed by statute, excess were to go to Fire Station; toll revenues are down by half, there are no excess funds this year. **Commissioner**



**McDaniel** – solution is to increase toll rate to fund Fire Station, critical to I-75 operations, incident response.

**13. NEXT MEETING DATE**

**13.A. Next Meeting Date – February 12, 2020 - 9:00 a.m. Board of County Commissioners Chambers, 3299 Tamiami Trail East, Naples, FL 34112**

**14. ADJOURN**

*There being no further business, Commissioner McDaniel adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:30 a.m.*