MEETING MINUTES

LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD
FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED of the
COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
PUBLIC WORKSHOP
Board of County Commission Chambers
Collier County Government Center
3299 Tamiami Trail East, 3rd Floor
Naples, FL 34112
March 3, 2021
1:30 p.m.
**Virtual participation via ZOOM

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Roll Call with Self Introductions

Commissioner Solis called the public workshop to order at approximately 1:34 p.m.

Ms. Otero took roll call and confirmed a quorum was present.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Solis led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present In-person
Commissioner Andy Solis, Collier County BCC District 2, Chair
Susan Corris, SWFL Regional Workforce Development Board
Dale Hanson, FDOT
Leah Watson, Agency for Persons with Disabilities

Members Participating Remotely
Signe Jacobson, FL Agency for Health Care Administration
Sherry Brenner, Citizens Advocate
Oscar Gomez, Veterans Service

Members Absent
Cheryl Burnham, Florida Assoc. for Community Action
Dylan Vogel, Citizens Advocate
John Kasten, Collier County School Board
2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Ms. Corris moved for approval of the agenda. Ms. Watson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

3. ANNUAL PUBLIC WORKSHOP ON LOCAL TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED (TD) PROGRAM AND PROCESS

Brandy Otero gave brief overview of the purpose of the public workshop and how it is advertised to the public.

A. Public Comments on Local TD Program and Process

Ms. Malburg read a letter regarding her concerns into the record. The letter is available upon request. Ms. Malburg commented on the difficulty and stress caused to persons like herself who have a disability due to excessive time waiting for paratransit to arrive, excessive time traveling to/from destination and lack of clarity regarding scheduling rules.

Ms. Arnold responded that outer communities have a 2-hour window to pick-up; this does not include travel time. Policies were established by the Local Coordinating Board (LCB) and can change if LCB decides to. Logistical problem to picking up passengers within rural areas and urban areas and maintaining a 1-hr window. Anticipate some improvement after Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approves contract for new dispatch and scheduling system in terms of more efficient service. Probably more appropriate to review policies after we see what new service can do. TIGER Grant will build new transfer station in Immokalee. Have parking lot now, new station will be covered and out of the elements. Construction to start in 2022.

Commissioner Solis How does 2-hour window work?

Mr. DeLeon Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that time required to complete the trip must be compatible to the time it would take to complete the trip on fixed route service. Takes
1.5 hours to travel from Immokalee to urban area; paratransit must provide comparable service.

Ms. Malburg What is return policy?

Ms. Arnold Pickup versus drop off. We schedule travel time plus the 2-hour window.

Ms. Malburg It took half a day to complete her trip, with 2-hour wait for pick-up plus 2-hour travel time.

Ms. Arnold We need to do discuss with drivers and phone service so they provide better information; it’s all in the riders’ guide; we have a recorded version of the riders guide on the website, but a presentation to passengers would be helpful.

Ms. Otero We will see the CTC evaluation at the next meeting; I am concerned with the windows; educating the public is key.

B. Member Comments on Local TD Program and Process

None.

C. Annual TD LCB Training

Ms. Otero gave a presentation for annual training via PowerPoint. The training provided an overview of the TD program and process. Specifically highlighted the purpose of the MPO and the LCB, the purpose of the Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged, requirements of the LCB and the TD program, and the purpose of the Community Transportation Coordinator. The presentation is available upon request.

4. ADJOURN ANNUAL PUBLIC WORKSHOP

With no further comments Commissioner Solis adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:13 p.m.