

**Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization
Board of County Commission Chambers
Collier County Government Center
3299 Tamiami Trail East, 3rd Floor
Naples, FL 34112
December 10, 2021
9:00 a.m.**

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councilman Perry called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Ms. Otero called roll and confirmed a quorum was present in the room.

Members Present (in BCC Chambers)

Councilman Paul Perry, City of Naples, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Burt Saunders, Collier County BCC District 3
Commissioner Penny Taylor, Collier County BCC District 4
Commissioner William L. McDaniel, Jr., District 5
Councilman Mike McCabe, City of Naples

Members Absent

Councilman Greg Folley, City of Marco Island
Commissioner Rick LoCastro, Collier County BCC District 1
Commissioner Andy Solis, Collier County BCC District 2

MPO Staff

Anne McLaughlin, Executive Director
Brandy Otero, Principal Planner
Scott Philips, Principal Planner
Danielle Bates, Administrative Assistant

FDOT

L. K. Nandam, District 1 Secretary
Wayne Gaither, Manager, Southwest Area Office (SWAO)
Victoria Peters, Community Liaison

Others Present

Trinity Scott, Collier County Deputy Department Head, Growth Management Department
Scott Teach, Deputy County Attorney
Lorraine Lantz, Collier County Transportation Planning (virtually via ZOOM)

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Perry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

4.A. Approval of Annual Local Contribution to the Metropolitan Planning Organization

Advisory Council

4.B. November 12, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Taylor moved to approve the Agenda, Previous Minutes and Consent Items. Commissioner Saunders seconded. Passed unanimously.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None.

6. AGENCY UPDATES

6.A. FDOT

Ms. Peters: We've extended our Community Outreach Plan and held two public meetings this week for the SR82/SR29 Roundabout in Immokalee, including an in-person meeting held this past Wednesday and a virtual meeting the following evening with FDOT Project Management staff in attendance. FDOT used lots of outreach methods: www.sr29roundabout.com, bilingual brochure, mailers, banners, variable message boards, and posters at the farmers market and library, Spanish radio Public Service Announcements. Also spoke to the head of the Immokalee Chamber of Commerce, he had heard from neighborhood members, and freight services that they're happy. The Chamber of Commerce will have a meeting on January 5, and FDOT will be there. The anticipated completion was originally August but might be as early as May.

Commissioner Taylor: It's good that outreach was bilingual, but there's a large Haitian, Creole speaking population, is there a possibility to include more languages?

Ms. Peters: We're aware of that population and will double check to see if it was also available in Creole.

Commissioner McDaniel: Attended virtually, pretty sure FDOT makes translations available if folks wanted it in Creole.

Commissioner Taylor: How to drive in a roundabout is good. We need that here.

Commissioner McDaniel: People are apprehensive because it's new, but after explaining the positive impacts - lower accidents counts, traffic continually flows, they understand and get happy. It's a high speed, long straight road with lots of freight traffic, trying to traverse it will be interesting.

Commissioner Taylor: We presented to Naples City Council about the Triangle [development at Davis and US41] and how the County works financially helping with the study and bringing traffic in downtown. There's a conversation about 1% tax and the city's share. Would like to improve pedestrian traffic over the Gordon River Bridge, Councilman McCabe may want to address that.

Councilman McCabe: It's a long-range plan but residents are asking about improvements for bike and pedestrian traffic. Is there something we can do short term, more immediate, to help with flow into the City?

Secretary Nandam: FDOT has done a planning study for US 41 starting at the 4-Corners area going east that includes the bridge. Part of the concept is to repurpose space on the bridge to

accommodate bikes and pedestrians. There's lots of opportunity in the geometry. We would like, per City Council direction, to work on a project development study for improvements in that segment as we're doing the drainage project. In a year we should have a good idea of changes. Whatever the outcome of the study, there will be improvements. In the next 5 years while doing the drainage project will be the best opportunity. Partnering with City is critical.

Councilman McCabe: The bridge has a pedestrian area on the side that's wide enough for 1.5 people but not for bikes. On the deck of the bridge there's a shoulder but that is not amenable to bike traffic unless they're very skilled; it induces lots of anxiety. Installing concrete barriers to cordon bikes off from traffic on the roadway - would that be an easy fix?

Secretary Nandam: Part of concept was to repurpose one lane and use the shoulder, but we cannot outright remove the shoulder because it's required for emergency breakdowns. It could narrow, but we will see what can be accommodated.

6.B. MPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

None.

7. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

7.A. CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

7.A.1. Citizens Advisory Committee Chair Report

Chair not present, report in agenda packet.

7.B. TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

7.B.1. Technical Advisory Committee Chair Report

Chair present for questions, report in agenda packet.

7.C. BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)

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

Chair not present, report in agenda packet.

7.D. CONGESTION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CMC)

7.D.1. Congestion Management Committee Chair Report

Committee did not meet.

7.E. LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD (LCB)

7.E.1. Local Coordinating Board Chair Report

Chair not present, report in agenda packet.

8. REGULAR BOARD ACTION (ROLL CALL REQUIRED)

8.A. Approve Amendment #3 to the FY 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Authorizing Resolution

Mr. Philips: Request approval to add three new transit projects and a wildlife crossing on SR 29 north of the Panther Refuge.

Commissioner McDaniel: When is the wildlife crossing coming?

Mr. Philips: It's being added to Fiscal Year 2022, doing the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) design this year. Once that's done, construction will begin about two years out.

Commissioner Taylor moved to approve Amendment #3 to the FY 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Authorizing Resolution. Commissioner Saunders seconded.

Commissioner Taylor – Yes.

Commissioner McDaniel – Yes.

Councilman Perry – Yes.

Commissioner Saunders – Yes.

Councilman McCabe – Yes.

Passed unanimously.

9. REGULAR BOARD ACTION (NO ROLL CALL)

9.A. Approve Fourth Amendment to Executive Director's Employment Agreement

Ms. McLaughlin: I'm requesting another 2-year term, extending to March 9, 2024

Commissioner Taylor: Wondering if you would like a longer term? I'd be fine with a 4-year term, you do such a good job.

Ms. McLaughlin: Thank you Commissioner, that is very generous, but I'm fine with 2-year term.

Commissioner McDaniel moved to Approve Fourth Amendment to Executive Director's Employment Agreement. Commissioner Taylor seconded. Passed unanimously.

9.B. Adopt the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Vision Zero Safety Performance Targets for Calendar Year 2022

Mr. Philips: This is the only performance measure that comes to the board annually, FDOT set measures to be 0 fatalities and 0 serious injuries. FDOT's targets were endorsed by Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). We are requesting Board adoption.

Councilman Perry: Does adopting the targets require anything else of the MPO?

Ms. McLaughlin: The MPO makes a good effort to include safety in everything it does. Safety is a project evaluation criterion in many of the Board's documents. This MPO does good job supporting FDOT's Vision Zero targets.

Commissioner McDaniel: How do you end up with 0.6 fatalities?

Secretary Nandam: It is measured in a rolling five-year average; the average is how we get the decimal point.

Commissioner McDaniel moved to adopt the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Vision Zero Safety Performance Targets for Calendar Year 2022. Commissioner Taylor seconded. Passed unanimously.

10. PRESENTATIONS (MAY REQUIRE BOARD ACTION)

None.

11. DISTRIBUTION ITEMS

None.

12. MEMBER COMMENTS

Commissioner McDaniel: Can we talk about the starting hour?

Ms. McLaughlin: I left messages and was able to speak to three board members asking whether it would be beneficial to move the starting time to 9:30. Responses were for, against and neutral.

Commissioner McDaniel: I think we should have it on the February Board agenda to discuss and debate. [Board members indicated agreement to posting item on an agenda.]

Councilman Perry: At a recent Naples City Council meeting there were safety concerns at Goodlette-Frank Road and Golden Gate Parkway. When traveling west on Golden Gate Parkway there's a continuous right turn lane; it creates a safety concern with Naples High School on the northwest corner and Freedom Park on northeast corner. Students and others cross Goodlette-Frank Road and end up on an island and must go across the turn lane with nonstop traffic. FDOT has a project on that entire intersection, would request safety concerns be included in the study.

Ms. McLaughlin: To clarify, it's not an FDOT project, they're two County roads. There is a prioritized bike-ped project to look at a possible pedestrian overpass from the Gordon River Greenway. To Freedom Park. We're bringing forward a revision to the bike-ped priorities that makes it clear that the project scope is to look at at-grade solutions too. An overpass is expensive and has environmental issues. Related to the request is trying to restore good bike-ped connections from that neighborhood to the park and schools. I spoke to Trinity Scott because it falls within the County's purview; her recommendation is to ask County staff to look at the safety record first. A second look at alternative ways to improve that whole hub is very critical for bike-ped connections. We're investigating it collaboratively and looking at the safety record and options. Perhaps when we come forward with new bike-ped project priorities, there's an opportunity to expand the study of how to cross Golden Gate Parkway to include how to cross Goodlette-Frank Road.

Councilman Perry: Include working with City staff who are working on the City's bike-ped master plan.

Commissioner Taylor: In previous years, the concept of constructing a pedestrian bridge over Golden Gate Parkway was raised and became a huge issue; most of the City Council were opposed. Also note that the County's new diverging diamond will need instructions so the public knows how to drive it.

Commissioner McDaniel: If you pay attention to signs and traffic flow, it is good.

Commissioner Taylor: What's the cost?

Secretary Nandam: It varies but the benefit is you can generally fit it into existing Right-of-Way. It reduces the number of signal phases, reduces lost time, and increases capacity.

Commissioner Taylor: Please don't look for a path across the diverging diamond.

Secretary Nandam: Or we look at what is the right treatment to separate bikes from the interchange. The middle or outside, works if you protect them.

13. NEXT MEETING DATE

13.A. Next Meeting Date – February 11, 2022 - 9:00 a.m. Board of County Commissioners Chambers, 3299 Tamiami Trail East, Naples, FL 34112

14. ADJOURN

*There being no further business, **Councilman Perry** adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:33 a.m.*