

**Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Board of County Commission Chambers  
Collier County Government Center  
3299 Tamiami Trail East, 3rd Floor  
Naples, FL 34112  
February 11, 2022  
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  
Councilman Greg Folley, City of Marco Island  
Commissioner Rick LoCastro, Collier County BCC District 1  
Councilman Tony Pernas, Everglades City  
Commissioner Andy Solis, Collier County BCC District 2 [arrived 8A]

**Members Absent**

None.

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

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**Councilman Perry** welcomed Tony Pernas to the Board and asked him to introduce himself.

**Councilman Pernas:** I've been on Everglades City Council for a while now. I used to work for the National Park Service.

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

**4.A. December 10, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

**Ms. McLaughlin:** There is one correction on page 2 of the minutes, it reads that the Triangle Development is at Radio and US 41, but it is at Davis Blvd and US 41.

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

**5. ELECTION OF CHAIR**

**5.A. Elect MPO Board Chair and Vice-Chair**

**Councilman Perry:** Introduced the topic of electing a new Chair and Vice-Chair and expressed his interest in serving as Chair.

*Commissioner Saunders moved to elect Councilman Perry as Chair. Commissioner Taylor seconded. Carried unanimously.*

*Commissioner Taylor moved to elect Councilman Folley as Vice-Chair. Commissioner Saunders seconded. Carried unanimously.*

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

None.

**7. AGENCY UPDATES**

**7.A. FDOT**

**Ms. Peters:** We have a community success story: the last component of the signal cabinet for SR 29 and Westclox was received January 19, the Notice to Proceed is expected on February 21<sup>st</sup> and it should be completed in 12 weeks. It's the pinnacle of partnering for safety, FDOT purchased the equipment and Collier County is installing, moving the need for Vision Zero.

**Commissioner McDaniel:** Thank you Board for supporting this dire need for Immokalee. This intersection is a death trap, but this will really help with the safety of that whole area. FDOT has been absent from the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) and Municipal Services Taxing Unit (MSTU) meeting, if you cannot attend, please send someone else. We have hybrid capacity, so someone online is welcome.

**Ms. Peters:** I will be there and if not, I'll send a delegate.

**Secretary Nandam:** The Secretary of Transportation, Kevin Thibault, was selected to be the CEO of the Greater Orlando Aviation Authority. He will stay through the legislative session in mid-March. The Transportation Commission will start the search for a new Secretary once his resignation is finalized. Additionally, the Assistant Secretary of Engineering and Operations, Courtney Drummond has

left the Department. The Chief of Staff was appointment by the Governor to be a Commissioner in Broward County. The Department is still stable and functioning and hoping for people as good as the current ones.

**Commissioner McDaniel:** Is there a progress report on the roundabout at SR 29 and SR 82?

**Ms. Peters:** Last I heard, a few weeks ago, they're anticipating completion in May.

**Commissioner McDaniel:** At 4:15 p.m. every day the traffic backs up on SR 29 from SR 82 to town, with accidents it is even worse.

**Ms. Peters:** We'll look into it.

#### **7.B. MPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

None.

### **8. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**

#### **8.A. CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)**

##### **8.A.1. Citizens Advisory Committee Chair Report**

Chair not present, report in agenda packet.

#### **8.B. TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)**

##### **8.B.1. Technical Advisory Committee Chair Report**

Chair present for questions, report in agenda packet.

#### **8.C. BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)**

##### **8.C.1. Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Chair Report**

**Mr. Bonness:** Presented the Chair Report in the packet. Also mentioned the kickoff event for the Naples Pathways Coalition's (NPC) Paradise Coast Trail which had about 200 attendees. Finally, described upcoming changes to Orange Blossom that will help cyclists and drivers that has been advocated for 25 years.

**Councilman McCabe:** Also attended NPC's open house. There was a Naples Daily News article about hit and runs, looking at maps and the projected areas it seems like the safest option is placing the trail along the Golden Gate Canal to get people off the road and into nature. It seems cost effective.

**Mr. Bonness:** There is a segment from Collier Boulevard (951) to Tropicana Boulevard that will run through that area. It is a beautiful place along the canal. There is Right-of-Way (ROW) for homesteaders and the Southwest Florida Water Management District so there could be a fight for that area.

**Commissioner McDaniel:** It's a great idea, I've often thought why aren't we using utility lines? If you move off roadways we can explore and it's a nice idea until talking to farmers. How are you going

to control them near farms? There's also personal property rights, subdivisions, and maintenance issues. It's not just as easy to put them there. As the trail comes to fruition, I would support moving off roadways.

**Councilman McCabe:** There is an ongoing conversation on property rights, not just with Golden Gate, it's the rail-trails and utility lines, it's something that has been fought back and forth, and proven not to be an intrusion. It's a benefit, it brings in more business to areas previously bypassed. I just want to begin a conversation. It seems the direction of the trail has been changed because of pressure.

**Mr. Bonness:** There is push back that the consultants are working through. The original idea was to follow canals. The Livingston Shared-Use Nonmotorized (SUN) Trail path uses Florida Power and Light (FPL) ROW following from Bonita Springs all the way through attaching to the Rich King Memorial Greenway and that was a fight for FPL ROW.

#### **8.D. CONGESTION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CMC)**

##### **8.D.1. Congestion Management Committee Chair Report**

Chair not present, report in agenda packet.

**Ms. McLaughlin:** There is one minor correction that will also be corrected in the minutes— we say the Wilson Widening is going to the Board of County Commissioners in February, but it went in January.

#### **8.E. LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD (LCB)**

##### **8.E.1. Local Coordinating Board Chair Report**

Committee did not meet.

#### **9. REGULAR BOARD ACTION (ROLL CALL REQUIRED)**

##### **9.A. Approve Addition of CAT Maintenance Building Reconstruction to 2021 Transit Priorities**

[Commissioner Solis arrives]

**Ms. Otero:** We are requesting approval of the addition of the CAT Maintenance Building Reconstruction to the transit priorities. We were notified by FDOT that there is an unprogrammed balance of about \$5 million that needs to be obligated by June 2022. CAT's building is in the 2045 LRTP and TIP as a rehabilitation project. As planning progressed it became evident that rehabilitation was not an option. This is directly related to the TIP amendment next on the agenda. Both TAC and CAC endorsed the project as a priority and to allocate \$3 million in funding.

**Commissioner McDaniel:** There's a limited number of priorities on the list, are we dropping something else off?

**Ms. Otero:** We're not dropping anything off the list.

**Councilman Folley:** What is the current state of the structure and how many people work there?

**Mr. DeLeon:** The currently facility is used for maintenance and operations. It houses operation dispatchers, where the drivers come in, additional staff, management supervisory staff, and co-located is fleet maintenance. This project is a replacement of facility that would have similar functions with operations and maintenance.

**Commissioner McDaniel:** Visit if you get a chance, its worth it to go. You can see the need, what's being asked is necessary.

*Commissioner Taylor moved to approve addition of CAT Maintenance Building Reconstruction to 2021 Transit Priorities. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. Carried unanimously.*

**9.B. Approve Amendment #4 to the FY 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Authorizing Resolution**

**Mr. Philips:** TIP amendment 4 is the transfer of \$3 million from SU funds to CAT for the reconstruction.

*Commissioner McDaniel moved to approve Amendment #4 to the FY 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Authorizing Resolution. Councilman Folley seconded.*

*Commissioner LoCastro – Yes.*

*Commissioner Solis – Yes.*

*Commissioner Saunders – Yes.*

*Commissioner Taylor – Yes.*

*Commissioner McDaniel – Yes.*

*Councilman Perry – Yes.*

*Councilman McCabe – Yes.*

*Councilman Folley– Yes.*

*Councilman Pernas – Yes.*

*Passed unanimously.*

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

**10.A. Election of Representatives to Serve on the Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) Board for 2022.**

**Councilman Perry:** Currently Commissioner McDaniel is the representative and Commissioner Solis is the alternate.

**Commissioner McDaniel:** I will continue to serve.

**Commissioner Solis:** If no one wants to I'll continue but it's an opportunity to excel.

[no other volunteers]

*Councilman Folley moved to elect Commissioner McDaniel as the MPOAC representative and elect Commissioner Solis as the alternate. Commissioner Taylor seconded. Carried unanimously.*

**10.B. Appointment of New Member to the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)**

**Ms. Otero:** Currently there are 3 vacancies, District 1, District 3, and Everglades City. With appointment of Councilman Pernas to the MPO Board, former Everglades City representative Tammie Pernas resigned. The application in your packet is for Elaine Middelstaedt to represent Everglades City.

*Commissioner McDaniel moved to appoint new member to the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). Commissioner Taylor seconded. Passed unanimously.*

**10.C. Approve Re-appointments to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)**

**Mr. Philips:** The terms for Alan Musico, Dayna Fendrick, and Joe Bonness expire in March. All are active and engaged with excellent attendance records.

*Commissioner McDaniel moved to approve re-appointments to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC). Councilman Folley seconded. Passed unanimously*

**10.D. Reappointment of a Local Coordinating Board (LCB) for Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) Member**

**Ms. Otero:** The term of Sherry Brenner, the representative of the disabled community, expires in March.

*Commissioner Solis moved to reappoint a member to the Local Coordinating Board (LCB) for Transportation Disadvantaged (TD). Commissioner Taylor seconded. Passed unanimously*

**10.E. Provide Staff Direction on Joint Regional Planning**

**Ms. McLaughlin:** Requesting the Board give staff direction on Joint Regional Planning following through on Commissioner McDaniel's proposal. Asking to revise interlocal agreement with Lee County as it is out of date. The suggestion is the creation of a joint subcommittee with Lee MPO because Collier MPO's urban area extends slightly into the Lee MPO boundary. The recommendation is to have the subcommittee meetings located within that boundary area. Adding Charlotte-Punta Gorda adds some complications with distance. The subcommittee would meet on a quarterly basis to discuss regional transit system, regional roadway system, SUN Trail system and other matters of joint regional concern as directed by their respective MPO Boards. The interlocal agreement was last amended in 2009.

**Commissioner McDaniel:** I attended the Lee Executive Committee meeting, has their MPO voted? [Ms. McLaughlin responded no]. They are bringing it up. I want to include Charlotte County, there hasn't been any regional communication to facilitate better interaction. Busses don't know County lines they just drive over them. It is logical that the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council was the overseer, but we've had 0 meetings in 5 years. The committee will not be making decisions, just listening, and bringing ideas back, the decision is left to individual MPOs. Communication is the key to success.

**Councilman Pernas:** Hendry County is also on our border, should they be included?

**Commissioner McDaniel:** Assuming the boards want to do it, I would be happy to reach out to Hendry County. Ms. McLaughlin will go to the Lee-Charlotte meeting on my behalf since I have a schedule conflict.

**Secretary Nandam:** The Department is very supportive of regional cooperation. Transit and transportation cross county lines, people cross them, especially for Lee and Collier Counties. The infrastructure bill has a lot of focus on regional planning. If we show this is happening, it could be helpful and give opportunities for funding. There are a couple of PD&E studies that cross county lines - Old 41 and the interstate study. When we come up with recommendations it would be great to have a regional body in place to present to and develop priorities with. Other projects will come up that cross county lines; it would be good to have a process in place so when we go after funding, we can show that there is regional planning. FDOT would like to have a representative on the regional subcommittee too.

**Councilman Perry:** Has Charlotte County been approached? Are they interested or just contemplating?

**Commissioner McDaniel:** We're on the agenda for February, they're aware of it. I commend Councilman Pernas for suggesting Hendry County. I want Charlotte County to participate.

The discussion on membership and alternates will take place at a later meeting.

*Commissioner McDaniel moved to follow staff recommendation for revising the interlocal agreement. Commissioner Saunders seconded. Passed unanimously*

#### **10.F. Approve New Board Meeting Start Time**

**Ms. McLaughlin:** This is a simple proposal. We've been successful in having meetings run short and efficiently; suggesting the option of starting at 9:30 a.m. to make it easier on people who have to drive a distance to attend the meeting. If the Board supports the change, staff will work out the logistics.

**Councilman Perry:** Secretary Nandam how long does it take you?

**Secretary Nandam:** 3 hours, but I stay overnight. Don't make a decision based on us.

*Commissioner McDaniel moved to Approve the new Board meeting start time of 9:30 a.m. Commissioner Saunders seconded. Passed unanimously.*

**Ms. McLaughlin:** We needed to know before we produced a corrected calendar, which also includes removing the tentative February joint meeting with Lee MPO. Now staff can work out logistics and distribute a revised calendar. The March Board meeting will start at 9:30 a.m.

**Commissioner Saunders:** The meetings have been very short, would it be possible to change to meeting every other month. We don't have Board meetings in January, July, and August already. Meetings would be longer, but it seems inefficient to meet every month if we don't need to meet.

**Ms. McLaughlin:** I will take it under advisement; there are times when we are meeting certain deadlines and it may require having two meetings in a row. There are other times when it would be possible to hold off on an item and postpone it until we have a more substantive agenda. Sometimes things seem not important, but they are on a tight deadline, such as TIP amendments required to meet construction schedules. If there is not a substantive reason to meet, I could check in with the Board Chair and decide to cancel a meeting then send out notice.

**Commissioner McDaniel:** There are time sensitive deadlines meeting with the Department. My concern is if we move off of our regular schedule, we would not have these meeting times scheduled if

they're needed. I would like consistency, maybe we can authorize necessary approvals and ratify in absentia to meet deadlines?

**Councilman Perry:** We are asking Ms. McLaughlin to take this into consideration.

**Commissioner Taylor:** I respectfully remind that the reason they are efficient now is the Executive Director. I remember 3-hour meetings. Before we jump in on whether or not we're willing, there may be a legality issue.

**Councilman Folley:** I like that in summer we don't have meetings. I wish our City Council meetings were as short. There may be an opportunity to consolidate March and April and September and October.

**Councilman Perry:** Consult with attorney.

**Ms. McLaughlin:** I will bring this back in March.

#### **10.G. Approve Amendment 4 to FY 20/21-21/22 Unified Planning Work Program**

**Ms. Otero:** The primary purpose is to add in the title for study that already has budget allocated to it – a regional fare study for transit. We are also reallocating funding in several tasks. It is net \$0 amendment. It was endorsed by the advisory committees. It also adds scope development for the 2050 LRTP. The summary tables are updated.

**Commissioner Taylor** asked about the match in Amendment 2 to the UPWP. **Ms. Otero** responded that Amendment 2 was required when FDOT changed 5305 grants to toll credits – a soft match - instead of a cash match and the MPO had to remove its local finding match.

*Commissioner McDaniel moved to Approve Amendment 4 to FY 20/21-21/22 Unified Planning Work Program. Councilman Folley seconded. Passed unanimously*

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

None.

#### **12. DISTRIBUTION ITEMS**

**Ms. McLaughlin:** We encourage members who have not attended the MPOAC's Weekend Institute to consider attending this year. Everyone who has attended has spoken highly of it. There is a virtual participation option. Contact us to register. [In response to a question] The same workshop is offered at the two different times and locations.

**Councilman Perry:** [In response to a question] I participated virtually last year. If nothing else the 8 pages of acronyms was helpful. It is a day and a half in duration. It is dense, there are some breaks. It was informative if you haven't been through it or if you don't understand MPOs, it's a good education.

#### **13. MEMBER COMMENTS**

**Commissioner McDaniel:** I encourage our board and all government meetings to have a hybrid option to invite the public. Mr. Bonness talked about it earlier, but I would like to see public meetings too. For the CRA and MSTU, we host them with hybrid capabilities to allow for virtual attendance. It



enhances participation. Give it consideration, there can be budgetary restraints, but I would like to keep that on the radar or at a future meeting. Technology is advancing, and in-person is preferred, but affording an opportunity for the community to participate is best. Thank you for supporting regionality.

**Councilman Folley:** I appreciate members for making me Vice Chair and welcome our new member.

**Commissioner LoCastro:** I will sign up for the May Weekend Institute.

**Councilman McCabe and Secretary Nandam** discussed the Gordon River Bridge and US 41. The bridge has certain requirements for shoulders, but FDOT will look for opportunities to make better bike accommodations.

#### **14. NEXT MEETING DATE**

**13.A. Next Meeting Date – March 11, 2022 - 9:30 a.m. Board of County Commissioners Chambers, 3299 Tamiami Trail East, Naples, FL 34112**

#### **15. ADJOURN**

*There being no further business, Councilman Perry adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:12 a.m.*