

**CONGESTION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE of the
COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

**May 18, 2022
2:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes**

1. Call to Order

Mr. Khawaja called the meeting to order at approximately 2:05 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Mr. Philips called the roll and confirmed a quorum was present in the room.

CMC Members Present In-Person

Tony Khawaja, Chairman, Collier County Traffic Operations
Omar DeLeon, County Public Transportation & Neighborhood Enhancement (PTNE)
Dave Rivera, City of Naples
Karen Homiak, CAC Representative
Lorraine Lantz, County Transportation Planning
Alison Bickett, City of Naples
Dayna Fendrick, BPAC Representative

CMC Members Absent

Mike Daniel, City of Marco Island
Don Scott, Lee MPO

MPO Staff

Brandy Otero, Principal Planner
Scott Philips, Principal Planner
Anne McLaughlin, Executive Director

Others Present

Wally Blain, Benesch (virtually)
Ian Debnam, Benesch
Steven Andrews, FDOT Project Manager, Old US 41
Matt Dockins, RK&K Project Manager, Old US 41
Marlene Messam, County Transportation Engineering
Mario Puente, County Transportation Engineering
Nelson Galeano, County Transportation Planning
Jacob Stauffer, Collier Area Transit
Victoria Peters, FDOT

3. Approval of the Agenda

Karen Homiak moved to approve the agenda. Lorraine Lantz seconded. Carried unanimously.

4. Approval of the January 19, 2022 Meeting Minutes.

Karen Homiak moved to approve the March 16, 2022 minutes. Lorraine Lantz seconded. Carried unanimously.

5. Public Comments for Items not on the Agenda

None.

6. Agency Updates

A. FDOT

Ms. Peters: [provided following completion of Action Items on agenda due to late arrival.] Roundabout at SR 29 & SR82: final walkthrough May 19th, anticipated completion date June, 2022. Outstanding items include Traffic Monitoring System Loops and final punch list. Directional arrows and signs in-place.

SR82 final section from Hendry County line to Gator Slough: project let date 04/20/23, anticipated completion date TBD.

Southwest Connect I-75 South Corridor Master Plan: evaluating improvements to I-75 in Collier and Lee counties. Project team completed traffic analysis; currently evaluating alternatives - range of improvements include widening, managed lanes, modifying existing interchanges and evaluating need for new interchanges. Master Plan tentative schedule includes Public Outreach in the fall and draft Master Plan by end of calendar year.

Old 41 PD&E: presentations to MPO advisory committees underway and to MPO Board on June 10.

Speed Management Workshop: June 14th, 8:30am – 4:30pm, Southwest Area Office at 10041 Daniels Pkwy, Ft Myers. (large FDOT building behind the Daniels Rest Area). Workshop focuses on Safe Speeds and Counter Measures.

B. MPO Executive Director

Ms. McLaughlin: Filling in as minute taker because our Administrative Assistant accepted another position with the County.

C. Other Agencies

City of Naples

Ms. Bickett: City Council postponed hearing on Bike-Ped Master Plan from this afternoon to Friday this week. Survey results on Harbour Dr roundabout show 75% out of 200 respondents support proposal. Still some resistance.

Collier County Transportation Planning

Ms. Lantz: Transportation Engineering working on Collier Boulevard Widening Project, completes 2-mile section along 15-mile corridor, currently not six lanes. Project proposes multimodal improvements to enhance safety for all roadway users by reducing conflicts between vehicles and pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users. Transportation Planning finishing Collier Boulevard Bridge Location Study to evaluate potential locations (29th Avenue SW, 27th Avenue SW, and Golden Gate Parkway) for new bridge crossing CR 951 Canal. Since the Collier Boulevard Widening project will remove existing bridge at 25th Avenue SW to accommodate proposed improvements, locations are being evaluated for new replacement bridge to provide a connection between Collier Boulevard and 39th Street SW. [in response to question:] 25th Avenue SW was deemed not feasible. The final Bridge Location Study scheduled to be presented to the BCC at 6/28/22 meeting.

Collier County Traffic Operations

Mr. Khawaja: Countywide Network Upgrade project on track, all equipment has been delivered. We are in the implementation stage; have deployed the 7 locations test site and everything is working properly. Will be continuing our deployment to the rest of the network. Later we will be working with the FDOT and the City of Naples on connecting the network.

Mr. Rivera: Attended project status meetings but since updates only applied to County, will wait to attend when you get to City.

7. Committee Action

A. Endorse Origin & Destination (O&D) Study Methodology

Ms. Otero: introduced the Benesch team. Mr. Blain will provide overview of project methodology. MPO requesting committee endorsement of methodology. Distributed new hard copy hand-out – Collier County Future Land Use Map 2012-2025.

Mr. Blain: provided an overview of O&D study methodology provided in agenda packet. MPO requested analysis of trips to/from other counties and internal to Collier County to determine causes of congestion, feed into other MPO activities such as the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Access to data provided by Replica platform which compiles third-party sources to

extrapolate trip making patterns. Replica uses mobile location data: location-based services (such as free wi-fi), cellular network data, vehicle in-dash GPS data and point-of-interest data (example – data from internet location searches); resident demographic data, land use/real estate data and credit transaction data. Final step involves ground-truthing Replica data. Replica data from March through May 2021 – determined similar to pre-COVID travel patterns.

Collier County Planning Communities Map in agenda packet proposed for identifying O & D within Collier County. An alternative shown in newly distributed hand-out – County’s Future Land Use Map (FLUM). Appears to most closely reflect land use subareas basis for County Interactive Growth Model (CIGM), with links to FDOT D1 Regional Planning Model and the LRTP. Question for committee - should Planning Communities map or FLUM be used for O & D study? Planning Communities map has 15 subareas including the three incorporated cities (Naples, Marco Island, Everglades City). Benefit of FLUM may be more direct connection, consistency in forecasting land uses, trip generation characteristics. O & D study will identify time of day, types of trips, trip length, Average Weekday, and peak period traffic.

Mr. Khawaja: Planning Communities Map seems simpler and easier to use than FLUM, but can you explain why neither map shows Ave Maria?

Ms. McLaughlin: FLUM has an insert that shows Ave Maria and Rural Lands Stewardship Area, not included in hand-out today.

Ms. Otero: Need a blend of both maps – Planning Communities Map has best detail for west of Collier Blvd, FLUM east of Collier Blvd.

Mr. Galeano: Bicycling exploded due to COVID, is data available for walk/bike trips? Based on trip length data, 1/5 or 20% of all trips could be walkable or bikeable.

Mr. Blain: Trips less than 0.5 miles, under 2 miles in length could be bikeable but total universe of those trips is low which increases potential margin of error. Will have information on trip length for trips taken by car, can infer potential walkable/bikeable trips from that.

Ms. Otero: Will look into availability of bike/ped data. Transit data not available in this area.

Mr. Khawaja: What do you need from the committee today.

Ms. Otero: endorse the methodology so Benesch can complete the work and present to the Board in September. Will send a final map out to committee members.

Ms. Bickett moved to endorse the Origin & Destination Study Methodology. Mr. DeLeon seconded. Carried unanimously.

B. Review and Endorse Data for CMP Corridor Fact Sheet

Ms. Otero: introduced Benesch team. Mr. Debnam will give the presentation. Request is to endorse the types of data selected for inclusion on the fact sheets. Immokalee Rd. corridor provided as an example.

Mr. Debnam: Primary audience is the public; data from Replica and RITIS. First page/cover sheet same for all 10 corridors other than street name and map. Pages 2 and 3 contain text and graphics to illustrate data specific to each corridor. Types of data include Trip Purpose, Trip Distance, bottleneck occurrences (as defined by RITIS).

Ms. Fendrick: This came up at BPAC – why isn't US 41 identified as one of the most congested corridors?

Mr. Debnam: Described multi-modal, crashes, school traffic criteria factored into Tier 1 and 2 corridors identified in Transportation System Performance Report (2020).

Ms. Fendrick: US 41 has been studied and has safety concerns, bike/ped crashes.

Ms. McLaughlin: MPO conducts variety of plans and studies focusing on different issues. Safety concerns on US 41 identified in FDOT Road Safety Audit (RSA). Repaving project underway now is installing mid-block crossings with HAWK signals recommended by RSA.

Ms. Messam: What about planned improvements to a corridor – does the Fact Sheet include that?

Mr. Debnam: Top of last page, see map of planned improvements. Drawn from the MPO's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). In interest of being multi-modal, included proposed transit operational improvements. Not funded yet, but they're in the Transit Development Plan (TDP) and LRTP. Section on what residents can do to help reduce congestion is also multimodal – same on all Fact Sheets except for transit routes specific to each corridor.

Mr. Khawaja: take out roadway expansion project on Goodlette south of Immokalee, project already completed from Creekside south.

Ms. Fendrick: can you add something on causes of congestion? Limited alternate roads, lack of interconnected roads.

Mr. Debnam: under "What Else Can Be Done to Reduce Congestion" [same page], strategies vary by corridor based on causes of congestion.

Ms. Lantz: recommendation could include bike/ped improvements to address Dayna's concern, under "identify gaps in potential parallel roadways to create alternate routes to relieve traffic."

Ms. Otero: iterative process. can address in update to Transportation System Performance Report (TSPR), to be completed prior to next LRTP. Project Sheets will come back to committee in July.

Ms. Lantz moved to *Endorse the Data for the CMP Corridor Fact Sheet.* **Mr. DeLeon** seconded. Carried unanimously.

Mr. Debnam: regarding Attachment 2 CMP Strategy Matrix, strategies are tied back to evaluation matrix in the TSPR. Focused on realistic, quick fix, multimodal strategies.

Mr. Galeano: is this an evaluation matrix?

Mr. Debnam: No. Its purpose is to visualize strategies most applicable to each of 10 corridors, we used as guide in developing Fact Sheets.

8. Reports and Presentations (May Require Committee Action)

A. Old 41 PD& E Study – FDOT

Mr. Andrews: introduced Matt Dockins, RK&K, to give presentation in agenda packet.

Mr. Dockins: Design cost \$3million about even split between Lee/Collier counties. Purpose improve safety, include bike/ped facilities, address congestion, serve County industrial park. Collier County cross section - 4-lanes with bike lanes each direction, sidewalk on one side, shared use path on the other. Lee County cross section – 4 lanes with bike lanes and shared use path, space for future sidewalk when area develops and is needed.

Two alignment alternatives: 1) New quadrant road southeast corner Bonita Beach Rd intersection (former racetrack property) alleviate congestion at intersection Bonita Beach Rd and Old 41, serves as cut through to I-75. 2) option south of Veterans Memorial Blvd connection to cut off portion Old 41, desirable because Wiggins Pass Rd, Old 41 and Veterans Memorial Blvd closely spaced.

New traffic signals at Veterans Memorial Blvd and Railhead Drive (industrial park); median limits left turns so providing U-turn bulb-outs to allow trucks to make left turn/turn around. Roundabout option at Bonita Beach Rd/Old US 41 intersection in Lee County.

Construction cost estimate \$85 million roughly split in half between Lee and Collier County. Design, ROW, construction phases are not funded. Working with MPOs to identify funding.

Recently held two public workshops, one in person, on virtual. Received 300 comments. Concerns about access primarily, traffic noise.

Mr. Khawaja: with Alternate 2, will traffic light at shopping center be removed?

Mr. Dockins: that is our recommendation, warrants won't justify, but have to see development agreements to confirm whether it can be removed. Alternate 2 (removing segment of Old 41) creates space for stormwater pond; project requires 10 surface acres for stormwater ponds; all of land outside of floodplain is developed.

Ms. Messam: FDOT still interested in shared pond site with Veterans Memorial Blvd?

Mr. Dockins: Yes, will discuss at tomorrow's meeting.

B. Vanderbilt Beach Road Extension Project Status Update – Collier County

Ms. Messam: introduced Mario Puente who gave presentation in agenda packet.

Mr. Puente: Vanderbilt Beach Rd Extension (VBRX) project from Collier Blvd to 16th St NE, 7-miles; on books since 2005/2006. Working on Scope of services for next phase – extend to Everglades Blvd. Current phase includes 6 lanes to Wilson Blvd with 7' bike lanes both directions and Shared Use Path (SUP) on one side; transitions to 4 lanes from Wilson to Corkscrew Canal, 6.5' shoulders and SUP; from canal to 16th ST NE, cross section is 2 lanes with 6.5' shoulders and SUP. 200' ROW throughout corridor, expandable to 6 lanes.

Roadway improvements include new intersections with signals at Wilson Blvd, 8th ST and 16th ST NE; canal relocation to south of roadway from 29th St NW to 15th St. NW; directional median openings at St. Agnes Catholic Church/Weber Blvd; added turn lanes at VBR/Collier Blvd intersection, improvements at Weber Blvd and Douglas St intersections; stormwater management ponds wildlife fencing/crossings at 3 new canal bridges. Existing VBR becomes frontage road.

Mr. Rivera: why not narrow lanes and keep 7' bike lanes throughout?

Mr. Puente: safer to have wider lanes given speed and commercial traffic

Mr. Galeano: is it possible to do 12' path to meet FDOT shoulders?

Ms. Messam: possible but not realistic - bid opening is tomorrow; went with Greenbook standards.

Mr. Galeano: how much percentage multimodal?

Ms. Messam: project relieves congestion on two saturated roads – Immokalee and Golden Gate Blvd.

Mr. Puente: design started in 2006 with Jacobs, cost \$5.7 million; construction estimated at \$130.3 million. Bid opening tomorrow (May 19). ROW required acquisition of over 300 properties, cost \$32.5 million. Hope to get BCC approval on July 12th, issue Notice to Proceed for construction in September 2022. Three-year construction project.

Mr. Galeano: won't intersections become future commercial sites?

Ms. Messam: Golden Gate Estates has very little commercial development.

Mr. Galeano: diversity would create shorter trips.

Ms. Fendrick: have you considered elevated cycle tracks instead of 7' lanes? Safer with 45 mph speed.

Ms. Messam: plan calls for draining roadway to curb. Would have to rethink design. Have created several pullouts for sheriff's office. Installing permanent "Your speed is" signs.

Ms. Fendrick: any landscaping for sidewalk, for shade?

Ms. Messam: landscaping is funded separately, comes later.

Mr. Khawaja: count stations going in as part of project. VBR is already congested between Collier Blvd and US41.

9. Member Comments

None.

10. Distribution Items

None.

11. Next Meeting Date

July 20, 2022 – 2:00 p.m.

12. Adjournment

There being no further comments or business to discuss, Mr. Khawaja adjourned the meeting at 4:09 p.m.