

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE of the
COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
MEETING MINUTES
April 28, 2025, 2:00 p.m.**

1. Call to Order

Ms. Homiak called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Ms. Miceli called the roll and confirmed a quorum was present.

CAC Members Present

Karen Homiak, *Chair*
Fred Sasser, *Vice Chair*
Dennis DiDonna
Dennis Stalzer
Neal Gelfand
Harry Henkel
Kevin Dohm
Misty Phillips

CAC Members Absent

Becky Irwin
Josh Rincon
Michelle Arnold

MPO Staff

Dusty Hansen, Senior Planner
Sean Kingston, Principal Planner
Suzanne Miceli, Operations Support Specialist II

Others Present

Marcellus Evans, FDOT (*arrived during item 7.B.*)
Alex Showalter, Collier County PTNE
Patrick Post, public

3. Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Dohm moved to approve the agenda. **Mr. Henkel** seconded. *Carried unanimously.*

4. **Approval of the March 24, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Sasser moved to approve the March 24, 2025 meeting minutes. Mr. Dohm seconded. Carried unanimously.

5. **Public Comments for Items not on the Agenda**

Mr. Post said he was a member of Friends of BERT (an advocacy group for the Bonita Estero Rail Trail and the greater Florida Gulf Coast Trail in Lee County). He said Bonita Springs City Council voted to pledge \$17 million toward the project. Estero already pledged \$15 million, and Collier County Commissioners agreed to give \$900,000 in January, with the possibility of giving more. Mr. Post was reaching out to organizations and businesses in the area to generate awareness and sponsorship.

A group discussion followed, and it was mentioned that there would be different widths along the trail and high usage was anticipated. **Mr. Dohm** encouraged Mr. Post to attend a Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) meeting.

6. **Agency Updates**

A. FDOT

Mr. Evans had nothing to report.

B. MPO

Ms. Hansen said that at the last CAC meeting, MPO Staff announced that Carbon Reduction grant funds were returned by the State to the Federal Government. Since that time, FDOT had been able to balance the work program for FY26-30, and more information on the impacts would be discussed in item 7.E.

7. **Committee Action**

A. Endorse an Amendment to the FY 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program – Capital for the new Transit O&M Facility and Operating for Hurricane Relief for Transit

Mr. Kingston said The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) requested the Collier MPO to amend its FY 2025-2029 TIP to add two transit projects which include operating funds for transit to support hurricane relief and capital funds for the new Transit Operating and Maintenance Facility.

Mr. Dohm moved to endorse the Amendment to the FY 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program – Capital Funds for the new Transit Operating and Maintenance Facility and Operating Funds to Support Hurricane Relief for Transit. Ms. Phillips seconded. Carried unanimously.

B. Ratify Endorsement of FDOT's Revised Pavement and Bridge (PM2) and System (PM3) Performance Targets for the National Highway System

Ms. Hansen said the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) had revised the Pavement and Bridge (PM2) and System (PM3) Performance Targets for 2025 for the National Highway System (NHS). The NHS for Collier County includes US 41/SR 45, I-75, SR 29 and CR 951/Collier Blvd. from I-75 to US 41. The revised PM2 target lowers the percentage of NHS bridges in poor condition from 10% to 5%. The revised PM3 target raises the Person-Miles Traveled on the Interstate that are Reliable from 70% to 75% and the Person Miles Traveled on the Non-Interstate NHS that are Reliable from 50% to 60%.

Because of the March 30, 2025 deadline, the Revised Performance Targets were presented to the MPO Board for approval prior to being presented to the Technical and Citizens Advisory Committees (TAC/CAC). The MPO Board approved the Revised PM2 and PM2 targets at its April 11, 2025 meeting and staff was requesting an after-the-fact endorsement from CAC.

***Mr. Gelfand** moved to ratify the endorsement of FDOT's Revised Pavement and Bridge (PM2) and System (PM3) Performance Targets for the National Highway System. **Mr. Stalzer** seconded. Carried unanimously.*

C. Endorse New Transportation Regional Incentive Program Priorities for 2025

Ms. Hansen said that FY2031 on the 2025 list includes three projects for Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) funding, in coordination with Lee County MPO. TRIP is a discretionary grant program that provides State matching funds up to 50% of total project costs for improvements identified and prioritized by regional partners.

Projects added for Collier County are Santa Barbara/Logan Blvd improvements, including adding bike lanes and sidewalk improvements from Painted Leaf Lane to Pine Ridge Road – requesting \$3.1 million for construction. Since publication of the agenda packet, MPO staff had corrected errors on the list for the project, which were specifying that the project phase is Design and the improvements are expansion from 4 to 6 lanes. Also included is the Pine Ridge Road widening from 4 to 6 lanes from Logan Blvd to Collier Blvd., requesting \$2.9 million for preliminary engineering, to include bike/ped improvements to fill-in the current gap in facilities. Lee County's added project is Ortiz Ave widening from 2 to 4 lanes from SR 82 to Luckett Road, requesting \$8 million for construction.

A group discussion followed regarding some of the projects and the question of whether usage is measured post shared-use path and trail project completions, and that Santa Barbara Blvd. and Logan Blvd would flow into a bottleneck until the project was given further funding.

***Mr. Dohm** moved to endorse the New Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) Priorities for 2025. **Mr. Henkel** seconded. Carried unanimously.*

D. Endorse Updated Transit Priority List for 2025

Ms. Hansen said Collier Area Transit (CAT) submitted an updated transit priorities list to the MPO. CAT's updated Transit Priorities List for 2025 includes is comprised of projects set forth in the Park and Ride Study, Transit Asset Management plan, and the Major Transit Development Plan (TDP). The updated list does not include additional priorities and the 2025 list omits the previously funded Radio Rd facility and Immokalee transfer station improvement projects. The list would be further updated with completion of the TDP Major, now underway.

Mr. Sasser moved to endorse the Updated Transit Priority List for 2025. Ms. Phillips seconded. Carried unanimously.

E. Review and Comment on the draft Annual List of Project Priorities for SU Box Funds

Ms. Hansen said the Committee was being provided with the opportunity to review and comment on the draft annual List of Project Priorities (LOPP) for Surface Transportation Block Grant-Urban (SU) and Transportation Alternative (TA) funds. Next steps would be the MPO Board preview and Technical and Citizens Advisory Committee endorsements in May 2025, followed by MPO Board adoption in June 2025.

Three Collier County projects removed from FDOT's Work Program due to the elimination of carbon reduction grant program funds by Governor DeSantis and were added to the 2025 LOPP: Collier County Lake Trafford Rd Sidewalk and Bike Lanes, Naples Sidewalks on 26th Ave, and ITS Vehicle Detection Update. The list priority includes projects deleted from the Draft Tentative Work Program FY26-30 first, moving projects from design to construction second, prioritized projects from prior years that remain unfunded third, and new project priorities fourth. The LOPP is organized by fiscal year based on the annual \$6.2 million SU Box allocation less \$500,000 reserved for over-runs. The annual allocation of SU Box funds is approximately \$4.7 million in SU and \$1.5 million in TA funds, for a combined total of approximately \$6.2 million. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee's single new priority project submitted by the City of Marco Island; totals \$1.9 million. Committee members were encouraged to provide feedback.

Ms. Hansen reviewed the LOPP data (which can be viewed in the April 28, 2025 CAC Agenda).

F. Review and Comment on Updated Status of Highway, Freight & Safety and SUN Trail Project Priorities for 2025

Ms. Hansen said this item was being provided for informational purposes, as no changes to priorities had been made. Funding status was updated to reflect the final Work Program snapshot for FY 2026-2030. The majority of the updates are from Moving Florida Forward except for the Old 41 project.

New SUNTrail priorities would be identified upon completion of two PD&Es currently underway: Collier to Polk Regional Trail and Livingston FPL Trail Extension from Radio Rd to Collier County Line.

FDOT is the lead agency for both projects. The MPO Board will also receive the updated lists for review at its May meeting.

G. Endorse an Amendment to the Collier MPO 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan to add Moving Florida Forward Funding for I-75/Immokalee Interchange Improvements

Mr. Kingston said this was an amendment to the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and authorizing resolution to add the Immokalee Interchange Improvement project, funded by Moving Florida Forward, to the Cost Feasible Plan (CFP) to maintain planning consistency with FDOT's FY 2026-2030 Work Program, and recent Federal and State appropriations and project phases added or changed. Fiscal constraint would be maintained by the addition of Moving Florida Forward funds and other State revenues for Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) CFP.

Mr. Dohm moved to endorse an Amendment to the Collier MPO 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan. Mr. Henkel seconded. Carried unanimously.

H. Review and Comment on First Draft FY2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program project sheets

Mr. Kingston said the first draft of the narrative portion of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was presented to the Committee for review and comment at the March 24, 2025 CAC meeting. Project sheets were not included because the final FDOT FY26-30 Work Program Snapshot had not been released. Since then, FDOT distributed download files of the final FY26-30 Work Program snapshot. The Committee was invited to submit their comments. The draft FY2026-2030 TIP would be presented to the MPO Board for preview in May 2025.

8 Reports & Presentations (May Require Committee Action)

None

9 Member Comments

Mr. DiDonna said that our area needs another north-south route to get drivers off the I-75 from the Southwest Regional Airport to Miami and Ft Lauderdale. Citizens need to speak out.

A group discussion followed, and it was mentioned that a light rail had been discussed as part of BRT (Bus Rapid Transit) study by FDOT, and that a light rail in the middle of the highway to the airport had also been discussed by Collier and Lee Counties, and that there was an application submission for grant funding for a multi-County feasibility study to look at passenger rail.

Mr. Henkel said in three years, US 41 would be 100 years old.

10 Distribution Items

None.

11. Next Meeting Date

*May 19, 2025, 2:00 p.m. –Transportation Management Services Bldg., South Conference Room,
2885 S. Horseshoe Dr., Naples, FL, 34104 – in person.*

12. Adjournment

Ms. Homiak adjourned the meeting at 3:23 p.m.