

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OF THE
COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
2:00P.M.
2885 S. Horseshoe Drive Naples, Florida 34104
March 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

1. Call to Order

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

2. Roll Call

Mr. Ortman called roll and confirmed that a quorum was present.

CAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Gary Shirk, Chairman, At- Large (arrived late)
Karen Homiak, District I (arrived late)
Susan Jones, City of Naples
Suzanne Cross, City of Naples
Pam Brown, At-Large
Russell Tuff, District III
Rick Hart, Persons with Disabilities
Robert Anderson, District V
Robert Phelan, City of Marco Island (arrived late)
William Stephens, District IV
Tammie Pernas, Everglades City
Neal Gelfand, District II

CAC MEMBERS ABSENT

Josh Rincon, Representative of Minorities

MPO STAFF

Eric Ortman, MPO Senior Planner
Karen Intriago, Admin. Assist.
Brandy Otero, MPO Senior Planner

FDOT

Victoria Peters, FDOT District 1 Liaison

OTHERS PRESENT

None

3. Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Ortman noted that Item 8A has been deferred to the next scheduled meeting.

Mr. Gelfand moved to approve the Agenda as amended. Second by Ms. Jones. Carried unanimously.

4. Approval of February 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Cross noted that under roll call the new members were not listed. **Mr. Ortman** stated that the changes will be made and be included as a distribution item for the next meeting.

Ms. Cross moved to approve February 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes as amended. Second by Mr. Hart. Carried unanimously.

5. Open to Public for Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

None.

6. Agency Updates

A. FDOT

Mr. Peters stated that the March 6th Snapshot will be used for the TIP. FDOT is taking it to the legislature, barring any earmarks or pulled projects, the Legislature usually accepts the Tentative Work Program as is. f.

Mr. Anderson asked for an update on the intersection on Immokalee Rd. and Randel Blvd. **Ms. Peters** noted that FDOT will hold a public hearing when the PD&E is finished; the meeting will likely be in the fall. Options being considered include a triple left turn with potential for a fly over.

Ms. Peters stated that the County will be hosting a public meeting on April 11th regarding the Randall Blvd. corridor. **Mr. Ortman** stated there are two projects, the intersection project and the County's corridor study along Randel Blvd.

Mr. Anderson expressed concern over the 47 acres that is being considered for a bus barn which can potentially cause traffic problems. **Mr. Ortman** noted that this concept is being discussed at the BCC and it is premature for any MPO discussion. **Mr. Anderson** noted that he would like to have the Estates newsletter included in the minutes due to the concern about including 150 buses in a bus barn without involving the community. **Mr. Ortman** noted that the concept of a bus barn is not an MPO Board issue, is currently out of the purview of the MPO and is a BCC item. **Ms. Homiak** noted that this topic pertains to the Board of County Commissioner and not the MPO Board.

Ms. Otero noted that currently the County is investigating potential uses for the property. As MPO staff there is no research that can be conducted when the information is currently conceptual. This is a BCC issue and not an MPO board issue.

Ms. Cross expressed concerns over left turns and questioned if there is another possibility other than a left turn. **Ms. Peters** noted that around the state the engineers are recommending moving away from left hand turns. **Ms. Peters** noted that she will bring this concern back to FDOT and get back to the committee with a response.

B. MPO Executive Director

Mr. Ortman stated that the MPO Board approved the contract for the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP); staff is currently working on issuing a notice to proceed to Jacobs Engineering. The LRTP must be completed and adopted by December 10th of 2020.

7. Committee Action

A. Endorse Amendment to FY 18/19-19/20 Unified Planning Work Program

Ms. Otero stated that the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is being amended to recognize funding from Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grants. Every year a placeholder for FTA funding is placed in the UPWP until the allocation is announced for the 5305 grants. The allocation has been announced and the Collier MPO is receiving \$144,874 in FY 18/19.

Ms. Otero noted that MPO staff had received notification from FDOT that the District will no longer be asking the MPOs in District 1 to contribute to the Districtwide Long- Range Transportation Plan modeling expense. The UPWP is being amended to reallocate this funding to help cover costs for the MPO's 2045 LRTP. Other changes noted in the amendment include revising the target dates for the Transit Impact Analysis, revising the budget tables, and the FTA grant application. Staff is recommending endorsement to the amendment to the UPWP.

Mr. Tuff moved to endorse the Amendment to FY 18/19-19/20 Unified Planning Work Program. Second by Ms. Homiak. Carried unanimously.

B. Endorse Amendment to FY2019-2023 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Ortman noted that this item was continued from the February 25th meeting per Committee request for addition background information. This is a federal project. FDOT is asking that this project be included in the TIP for transparency to the public. This project is being funded through the Federal Lands Transportation Program which exists only for federal agencies. The MPO Board is not deciding if the project will remain active.

Ms. Brown noted that this project has been going on since 2015 and questioned why it's being brought through the committees for endorsement if this is the first time that it's being seen. **Mr. Orman** stated that this project was included in the previous TIP as an administration modification. **Ms. Brown** noted that she had talked with Commissioner McDaniel whether these federal funds could be used to cover other federal projects that would be more beneficial for the public. **Mr. Ortman** noted that the County does not have access to these federal funds.

Ms. Cross questioned what the purpose was of improving Fritz Rd. **Mr. Ortman** noted that FDOT is requesting to add this amendment to the TIP, so the public can be aware of the project which will make improvements to Fritz Rd and the intersection of the road with SR29.

Ms. Peters stated that the project will continue regardless of the decision of the Board.

Ms. Homiak moved Endorse Amendment to FY2019-2023 Transportation Improvement Program. Second by Mr. Phelan. Motion passed 7- yes 4- no.

8. Reports and Presentations (May require committee action)

A. FDOT Planning Studio

Item has been deferred to next month.

B. Update and Comment on Draft 2019 Project Priorities

Mr. Ortman noted that the committee received a report back in December about FDOT's request to receive Transportation Project Priorities for FY 2024-2025. The final approved list of priorities must be submitted by July 1, 2019. Based on the MPO Board's allocation policy one hundred percent of the 2019 funds will go into congestion management projects. Staff focus has been on issuing a call for congestion management projects. MPO staff and the CMC have ranked these projects which are included as an attachment.

Ms. Cross questioned how roundabouts have been beneficial for the public use. **Mr. Ortman** noted that roundabouts can move traffic more efficiently than stop signs, they reduce the severity of crashes due to the low speeds and different collision angles. **Ms. Cross** asked if there is a possibility for making roundabouts bigger to allow bicyclists and pedestrians to travel through safely. **Mr. Ortman** stated that when roundabouts are designed bigger it can encourage people to drive faster.

Ms. Brown noted that Corkscrew Rd. needs to be addressed due to the amount of traffic that it receives daily. The County has built a left-hand turn at the intersection of SR82 and SR29 which has helped but it's also causing a bottleneck for travelers that travel from Fort Myers.

9. Member Comments

Under committee discussion it was noted that committee members are having difficulty locating parking to make it to the meeting on time and questioned if there were any locations with enough space to park. Mr. Ortman noted that he will look into the issue and update the committee prior to the next committee meeting.

Mr. TuffGelfand stated that he lives in the Dunes Community and after the bridge on Vanderbilt Beach Rd. was built there has been an increase in traffic and asked about the possibility that this section be studied.

Ms. Cross asked if there was a possibility to educate the public that cyclists are allowed on the sidewalk for their safety.

10. Distribution Item

None.

11. Next Meeting Date

April 29, 2019 – 2:00 p.m.

12. Adjournment

With no further comments or items to attend to, Ms. Brown adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.