

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OF THE
COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
2:00P.M.
2885 S. Horseshoe Drive Naples, Florida 34104
April 29, 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

Karen Homiak, District I
Suzanne Cross, City of Naples
Pam Brown, At-Large
Russell Tuff, District III
Rick Hart, Persons with Disabilities
Tammie Pernas, Everglades City
Neal Gelfand, District II
Josh Rincon, Representative of Minorities (arrived late)
Robert Phelan, City of Marco Island

CAC MEMBERS ABSENT

Gary Shirk, Chairman, At- Large
Susan Jones, City of Naples
Robert Anderson, District V
William Stephens, District IV

MPO STAFF

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

FDOT

Victoria Peters, FDOT District 1 Liaison
Bill Howell, consultant to FDOT

OTHERS PRESENT

None

3. Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Ortman noted that item 7B had been revised and that the revision was being handed out at the meeting.

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

4. Approval of March 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Gelfand pointed out that he lived in the Dunes Community and not Mr. Tuff. It was also noted that Mr. Phelan was present at the meeting.

Mr. Tuff moved to approve the March 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes as amended. Second by Mr. Gelfand. Carried unanimously.

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

None.

6. Agency Updates

A. FDOT

Ms. Peters stated that she has been vetting projects for the Congestion Management Committee which is receiving 100% of the SU “Box” funds for the upcoming FY25 FDOT Work Program.

B. MPO Executive Director

Mr. Ortman stated that the committee members were each being provided with a hard copy of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.

7. Committee Action

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

Ms. Otero noted that this amendment is to roll forward the close out funds from the FY16/17 - 17/18 UPWP; the close out balance is \$293,424 which will be added to the second year of the current UPWP; funding will be available after July 1st. Funding has been added to the Administration, Long Range Planning, and Special Projects and Systems Planning tasks. The total PL funding for FY19/20 after the amendment will be \$839,988. An update to the FDOT soft match has also been done. In addition, since the funding to the PL has been changed the MPO agreement has also been updated. **Ms. Otero** noted that at the TAC meeting it was pointed out that one of the calculations on task one, page eight, under administration was incorrect and will be updated to reflect the correct total amount.

Ms. Brown stated that there are a few people in the updated members list that are no longer in those positions and that the list should be updated to reflect the most up to date information. **Ms. Otero** stated that some of the positions were not updated because the bylaws will be updated this summer. **Ms. Otero** noted that a new UPWP will be developed by March and that the positions will be updated then.

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

B. Endorse Amendment to FY18/19 – 22/23 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Ortman stated that FDOT has requested an amendment to ensure planning consistency and transparency and to meet the needs of Everglades City. The project has been around for several years and there has been some confusion over exactly what the project entails. The amendment will eliminate the confusion while also correcting some errors.

The first project sheet page reflects what currently is in the adopted TIP, the second page is what is being amended. The title has been updated to reflect the current scope of the project, the amendment is considered a major scope change as the change in the project length is greater than 20% of the original length going from 0.2 miles to 0.953 miles. **Mr. Ortman** noted that there currently is a sidewalk in this location, but it is in poor condition; this project will remove that sidewalk and replace it. MPO staff is completing the public involvement requirements as described in the Public Participation Plan; the amendment is on the MPO website and has been distributed via e-mail to a list-serve of interested parties. To date, no public comments have been received.

Mr. Gelfand questioned why the funds for this project are different from what is in the list of priorities. **Mr. Ortman** noted that the list of priorities was approved by the Board in June of last year. Since then FDOT has been vetting the projects which has resulted in some cost estimates being refined. The amounts listed when the priorities are submitted are initial estimates which are refined as work on the project begins. **Mr. Ortman** and **Ms. Otero** gave the committee a brief overview of how MPO projects make it into the TIP.

Discussion followed on the steps taken to avoid building a project and coming back in five years to tear it up for a new project. Jurisdictions and departments within jurisdictions collaborate and think about future projects to avoid this happening.

Ms. Homiak moved to Endorse Amendment Endorse Amendment to FY18/19 – 22/23 Transportation Improvement Program. Second by Mr. Gelfand. Carried unanimously.

C. Review and Comment on Draft FY2020- 2024 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Ortman noted that late last year FDOT provided MPO staff a Draft Tentative Work Program from which the TIP is developed. This is the first time the committee is seeing the complete Draft FY2020 – 2024 TIP but they have seen the lists of projects multiple times since December. The MPO has again developed the TIP in-house and continued the format used in last year's TIP with separate sections for each project category. Total programmed funding for the FY2020 -2024 TIP is \$494 million, an increase of \$95 million from the previous TIP. The draft TIP is available on the MPO website for public comment, no public comments have been received. Staff would like to receive comments from committee members a week from today's meeting. Staff will be seeking endorsement at the May 20th committee meeting, the draft is being taken to the MPO Board in May. In June, the Board will be asked to adopt the TIP which must be submitted to FDOT prior to June 30th. **Mr. Ortman** noted that in December at the FDOT E-Public Hearing several public comments were received and are included in an appendix. Comments from the TAC requested that the responses to these comments be included in the TIP. At the TAC, it was also noted that corrections were needed on pages 120 and 126 that concern Everglades City.

Ms. Pernas noted that on page 126, it mentions that CR29 goes through Everglades City and that the City is responsible for maintaining this section of the road. This information is incorrect; there is an interlocal agreement with Collier County that states that the City of Everglades maintains the right-of-way and the medians, and that Collier County is responsible for any improvements that are made to the road. **Ms. Pernas** noted that she can provide staff with the interlocal agreement.

Ms. Cross questioned if there was additional information that would be available on the website if further information is needed. **Mr. Ortman** noted that the MPO website has a direct link to FDOT where additional information will be available. **Mr. Ortman** also noted that if additional information is needed committee members are welcome to get in touch with him. **Ms. Otero** noted that the appendices also provide additional information. **Ms. Cross** asked if the project on Airport Pulling Rd. from Vanderbilt to Immokalee is creating extra lanes or if an overpass is being considered. **Mr. Ortman** stated that he will provide the committee with further information regarding that project.

Ms. Brown questioned if Immokalee could be included in the TIP as a separated section to allow the citizens of Immokalee to review the section thoroughly. **Mr. Ortman** noted that Immokalee is one of many Census Designated Places and not a municipality. He would inquire if the narrative could be expanded to include additional information on Immokalee in the narrative of next year's TIP and would update the committee at the next meeting.

Ms. Otero noted that the TIP starts with priorities that are set in the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and that those priorities feed into the TIP projects. Every year those priorities are updated by the MPO Board and sent to FDOT which, in turn, programs the priorities into the FDOT Tentative Work Program. The Tentative Work Program is used to develop the TIP. **Mr. Ortman** added that the MPO submits its priorities in a prioritized order; FDOT may deviate from this order based on existing or planned projects.

Mr. Howell noted that FDOT conducts traffic studies before they start design and plan so that the project will still be effective in 20 years. **Ms. Cross** questioned if those studies are revisited after they are made. **Mr. Howell** noted that these studies are reviewed.

8. Reports and Presentations (May require committee action)

A. FDOT Planning Studio

Ms. Peters noted that FDOT had started the Planning Studio and briefly described the objectives it seeks to achieve including:

- successfully laying the foundation for projects in District One by establishing goals for the state corridors
- integrating land use and transportation planning
- creating master plans which can be used as a reference point when future projects are developed
- alignment of local jurisdictions' goals with those of FDOT and
- greater FDOT focus on safety for all modes of travel

B. FDOT PD&E SR29, Oil Well Rd. to SR 822019

Bill Howell, consultant to FDOT, presented the PowerPoint "*SR 29 Project Development and Environment Study*" highlighting:

- Purpose and needs of the project are to accommodate future growth, reduce truck traffic in downtown Immokalee, improve mobility and connectivity within the regional transportation network and improve emergency evacuation capabilities
- Preferred alternative will be a 4-lane divided highway, and reconfiguring the signalized intersections of SR 29 at New Market Road and CR 846
- Proposed roundabout at SR 29 and Westclox.
- Reconfiguring the new alignment that goes parallel to New Market Rd. and ties into SR29 to the north of Immokalee.
- Total cost for the project is \$166,736,000
- Public hearing was held on November 15, 2018 and there were five public speakers and 14 written comments; four comments were in support of the preferred alternative and one was opposed; 14 comments related were to bike/ped accommodations; there were two comments in support of the roundabout and four opposed to the roundabout.
- FDOT is evaluating interim intersection improvements at SR 29 and Westclox Street

Ms. Brown questioned when the last signal warrant study was conducted for the intersection of SR29 and Westclox. **Mr. Ortman** stated that he will gather that information and get back to the committee.

C. Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan

Committee members were provided with hardcopies of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.

9. Member Comments

Mr. Gelfand asked when a study is conducted in any area, are post studies conducted after the project is finalized to determine if any issues were fixed with the project. **Ms. Otero** noted that in the Congestion Management Committee there are performance measures for before and after a project is completed, also in order to receive funding the project implementor is required to report on the project's performance after the project is completed. **Mr. Ortman** stated that this has occasionally been pursued in the past but that confounding factors make specifically assigning results almost impossible.

Ms. Brown questioned if there was anything that can be done for truck drivers to either use a specific lane or create an alternate route for trucks to drive through Immokalee. **Mr. Howell** noted that these specific designations can be requested.

10. Distribution Item

A. February 25, 2019 Minutes Revised

11. Next Meeting Date

May 20, 2019 – 2:00 p.m., a month earlier than normal due to Memorial Day

12. Adjournment

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