

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OF THE
COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
2:00P.M.
2885 S. Horseshoe Drive Naples, Florida 34104
May 20, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

1. Call to Order

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

2. Roll Call

Mr. Ortman - called the roll and noted that a quorum was present.

CAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Karen Homiak, District I
Pam Brown, **Chair**, At-Large
Russell Tuff, District III
Rick Hart, Persons with Disabilities
Tammie Pernas, Everglades City
Robert Phelan, **Vice-Chair**, City of Marco Island
Susan Jones, City of Naples
Robert Anderson, District V
William Stephens, District IV
Susan Cross, City of Naples

CAC MEMBERS ABSENT

Gary Shirk, At- Large
Josh Rincon, Representative of Minorities
Neal Gelfand, District II

MPO STAFF

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

FDOT

Victoria Peters, FDOT

OTHERS PRESENT

Michelle Avola, Executive Director, Naples Pathways Coalition (NPC)
Jim Wood, Kimley-Horn, consultant to NPC

3. Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Phelan moved to approve the Agenda. Second by Ms. Pernas. Carried unanimously.

4. Approval of April 29, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Tuff moved to approve the April 29, 2019 Meeting Minutes as amended. Second by Ms. Jones. Carried unanimously.

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

None.

6. Agency Updates

A. FDOT

Ms. Peters – reporting on question Ms. Jones raised at prior meeting regarding safety considerations and alternatives to left-turns. According to FDOT Traffic Operations., no set rule in creating U-turns instead of left hand turns but recent studies show that removing left hand turns and creating U-turns is safer alternative. Prior traffic study done for Westclox and SR29 was in 2015. FDOT 2016 study indicates roundabout would be best alternative, but final decision has not been made.

B. MPO Executive Director

None.

7. Committee Action

A. Endorse FY2020-FY2024 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Ortman - presented executive summary. Noted that comment made during previous committee meeting regarding Collier County being responsible for maintaining CR29 within Everglades City limits will not be addressed the TIP due to the MPO not having responsibility for resolving the difference of opinion between the two entities. Other than what's shown in the TIP [Appendix G] no new public comments submitted. TAC met but was unable to take formal action this morning; provided comments modifying project description for TIGER grant. PTNE staff commented that CAT's transit buses will be WIFI accessible and a few bus shelters will be installed at the busiest stops, as addition to response to public comments in the TIP.

Ms. Brown - would like to see sign in sheets for future public meetings held in Immokalee.

Ms. Homiak moved to endorse FY2020-FY2024 Transportation Improvement Program. Second by Mr. Hart. Carried unanimously.

B. Endorse 2019 Project Priorities

Mr. Ortman – presented executive summary; noted that projects included in the attachment will be taken to the Board in June for adoption and inclusion in next year's TIP [FY21-25]. MPO allocates the roughly \$4.1 million in SU funds received annually according to a five-year rotating schedule to congestion management projects, bicycle and pedestrian projects and [new] bridges. This year the funds went to congestion management projects. The project priorities are included in the packet as an attachment.

Ms. Homiak moved to endorse 2019 Project Priorities. Second by Mr. Stephens. Carried unanimously.

C. Endorse Amendment to FY 2019-2023 TIP

Mr. Ortman – presented executive summary; purpose of amendment is to include TIGER Grant awarded to Collier County for Immokalee Complete Streets; necessary to ensure authorization of federal funds and planning consistency.

Mr. Phelan moved to endorse 2019 Project Priorities. Second by Ms. Homiak. Carried unanimously.

D. Endorse Resolution supporting Naples Pathways Coalition's Paradise Coast Trail Vision

Ms. Avola - presented the Paradise Coast Trail Conceptual Corridor (PPT available upon request); noted that Naples has seen an increase in distracted driving which has made it increasingly unsafe for bicyclists. Naples Pathway and Coalition (NPC) has been working on a trail that will make it safe for bicyclist to be on the road; a multiuse pathway which will allow pedestrians and cyclists to travel safely throughout the County. The Paradise Coast Trail (PCT) conceptual corridors are 2-mile-wide study areas; connect City of Naples to Ave Maria, Immokalee, Bonita/ Estero and south to Collier Seminole State Park. A few of the sections highlighted are already constructed and others are already identified in plans with other projects. The benefits of this corridor are that it will be more safe for commuter cyclists and support tourism.

Ms. Jones – Has any land been acquired for the trails. **Ms. Avola** - NPC has been working with MPO and County staff regarding projects that are being planned around the trail so that there can be a possibility to include a multiuse pathway and not just a sidewalk.

Mr. Phelan - Is there was a budget for the feasibility study? **Ms. Avola** – NPC is expecting cost to be between \$250,000 and \$500,000 for the entire 70 miles of trail.

Ms. Homiak moved to endorse Resolution supporting Naples Pathways Coalition’s Paradise Coast Trail Vision. Second by Mr. Hart. Carried unanimously.

8. Reports and Presentations (May require committee action)

A. 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) – Kick-Off

Ms. Otero - presented the PowerPoint “*Envision 2045 Collier MPO Long Range Transportation plan*” with an overview of the purpose of the 2045 LRTP, requirements, goals and opportunity for public input and outreach. The LRTP will include emphasis areas that must be addressed and consider the impact of autonomous/connected vehicles. Consultant will work closely with TAC to guide the 2045 LRTP and will give presentations to various committees. LRTP materials will be brought back in August so the committee can review. Requested comments on goals they would like to see in the plan, which currently include: ensure the security of transportation system, protect environmental resources, reduce roadway congestion, and promote freight movement. The TAC suggested that goals be included on autonomous vehicles, coastal resilience, sea level raise and mobility on demand.

Ms. Pernas – Will the LRTP include flying vehicles, if not, staff should consider including this technology in the plan as a statement. **Ms. Otero** - At the current moment, flying vehicles are not included. Staff is following FDOT’s guidance on automatic and connected vehicles (AV/CV). **Mr. Ortman** - attended an ACES workshop recently - no discussion regarding flying vehicles. FDOT’s guidance is that AV/CV technology should be broached but it can’t be modeled [at this time] due to lack of data. Committee members will have the opportunity to comment on this matter throughout the years. In response to questions from committee members, **Ms. Otero** responded that the MPO’s job is not to approve growth but acknowledge the transportation needs that will happen because of growth. This is the time to give comments and advocate for projects to be included in the Cost Feasible Plan. **Mr. Ortman** - The LRTP is the MPO’s central document; if a project is not included in the plan, it doesn’t get funded.

B. Discuss Expanding Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (SU) Project

Mr. Ortman – presented the executive summary. The MPO Board adopted a policy of programming its annual allocation of SU funds, around \$4.13 million, to three areas - congestion management, bike/ped and bridge projects - based on a 40/40/20 ratio. In order to develop a more robust list of projects priorities it was suggested to the MPO Board to expand the list of projects to include safety and roadway or transit capacity enhancement projects. The Board concurred, and Collier County’s Corkscrew Road Safety Project was added to the list of 2019 Highway Priorities. The TAC suggested using a three year work program instead of five years and having a maintenance agreement signed at an early stage of the process.

Under committee discussion, the consensus was that having a policy that is flexible would help determine how funds are spent. It was also agreed that including safety as a priority will allow for different funding opportunities.

C. Discuss Reconfirming Support for Project Priorities

Mr. Ortman – at the last MPO Board meeting it was discussed that the City of Naples took formal action to not sign the maintenance agreement on their beach access sidewalk projects. The City also requested that FDOT stop any work on the beach access sidewalk projects. MPO is aware that it is not a good business practice to start the initial phase of a project and have a project drop off. The City of

Naples project was identified as a priority in 2013; however, since then there has been a change with the membership on City Council as well as a few property owners, City staff tried to keep the project going by conducting public outreach, but the Council voted the project down. MPO staff recommends that a check-in point be conducted with the submitting agency a year prior to a project being funded in the TIP, to reconfirm that the project is still needed. County staff proposed that FDOT return to programming SU funded projects three years out instead of five years so there'd be less time between prioritization and construction.

Under committee discussion it was suggested there be a penalty to the submitting agency for dropping a project that was submitted.

9. Member Comments

Ms. Brown - A comment was made at the District 1 Rural Freight Mobility and Agriculture meeting that agricultural products cannot be transported in open containers on the interstate; this should be considered in the future because open agriculture products are allowed to be transported on SR29, it would allow for [agricultural] diseases to be spread to the environment. The meeting also identified the amount of agricultural trucks that travel on the interstate, but they didn't mention the amount of sand trucks that also travel on the interstate; asked if FDOT could take this under consideration.

10. Distribution Items

A. Revised March 25, 2019 Minutes

11. Next Meeting Date

August 26, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

12. ADJOURNMENT

With no further comments or items to attend to, Ms. Brown adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.