# Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization

# Board of County Commission Chambers

# Collier County Government Center

**3299 Tamiami Trail East, 3rd Floor**

**Naples, FL 34112**

**February 14, 2020**

**9:00 a.m.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at approximately 9:00 A.M.

# 2. ROLL CALL

**Brandy Otero** called roll and confirmed a quorum was present.

**Members Present**

Councilman Reg Buxton, City of Naples, Chair

Councilman Erik Brechnitz, City of Marco Island

Councilman Terry Hutchison, City of Naples

Councilwoman Elaine Middelstaedt, City of Everglades City, Vice-Chair

Commissioner Andy Solis, Collier County BCC District 2

Commissioner William L. McDaniel, Jr. District 5

Commissioner Penny Taylor, Collier County BCC District 4

Commissioner Burt Saunders, Collier County BCC District 3

Commissioner Donna Fiala, Collier County BCC District 1\*\* Arrived at 9:08 a.m.

**Members Absent**

**MPO Staff**

Anne McLaughlin, Executive Director

Brandy Otero, Principal Planner

Eric Ortman, Senior Planner

Karen Intriago, Administrative Assistant

Josephine Medina, Senior Planner

**FDOT**

L. K. Nandam, District 1 Secretary

Wayne Gaither

Victoria Peters

**Others Present**

Bill Gramer, Jacobs Engineering

Joe Bonness, Chair – BPAC

Scott Teach, County Attorney’s Office

Valerie Nowottnick, Minute Taker

# 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**Commissioner McDaniel** led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. ELECTION OF CHAIR (NOT REQUIRED)**

**4.1 Elect MPO Board Chair and Vice-Chair**

***Commissioner Taylor*** *nominated* ***Councilwoman Middlestaedt*** *for Chair.* ***Councilman Buxton*** *seconded. Unanimous vote.* ***Commissioner McDaniel*** *nominated* ***Commissioner Saunders*** *for Vice Chair.* ***Commissioner Taylor*** *clarified that, historically, the Vice Chair becomes Chair and the position rotates among the cities and the county.* ***Commissioner McDaniel*** *amended the motion to nominate* ***Councilman Brechnitz****.* ***Councilwoman Middlestaedt*** *seconded. Unanimous vote.*

# 5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA, PREVIOUS MINUTES AND CONSENT ITEMS

**5.A. December 13, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

***Councilman Brechnitz*** *moved for approval of the Agenda, Previous Minutes, and Consent Items.* ***Councilman Buxton*** *seconded. Passed unanimously.*

# 6. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

# None.

# 7. AGENCY UPDATES

**7.A. FDOT**

**Ms. Peters** – Updated Board on current Work Program Cycle. FY 21 - 25 program is being reviewed by legislature. FDOT has begun vetting new projects including bicycle and pedestrian priority project list for FY 22 - 26.

**Mr. Nandam –** Updated Board regarding current projects and noted that FDOT is having active conversations with Governor’s Office regarding pending legislation. Very minor variations in proposed budget items. Also, yesterday we had our 4th task force meeting for the M-CORES project, covered all the comprehensive plans in the 9 county area and delved into the alternate corridor evaluation process and how we are going to go about that. Next task force meeting is March 4, 2020, in Highlands County.

**Councilman Brechnitz** asked about schedule for SR951 resurfacing project. **Ms. Peters** – the project is currently underway. Utilities have been located. Does not have final date but could be approximately one year.

**7.B. MPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**Ms. McLaughlin** – First electronic newsletter was just sent out to County residents. Plan is to issue newsletter on a monthly basis. [Copy of newsletter was provided on-screen.] Highlights: Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) – FDOT is running District 1 planning model to identify deficiencies. Jacobs will use that data to create network scenarios as well as budget. Transit Development Plan (TDP) is being handled by Tindale Oliver. Josephine Medina is project manager. Park & Ride Study – Jacobs is consultant. Josephine Medina is project manager. Transit Impact Analysis – Tindale Oliver is consultant. Brandy Otero is project manager. **Ms. McLaughlin** mentioned that staff members have been conducting ride-alongs and working on the annual review of Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) [paratransit] services. Commissioner Fiala (Chair) and Harold Kurzman (Vice Chair) of the Local Coordinating Board also participated. Brief discussion by **Commissioner Fiala** regarding depth of services provided by paratransit transportation. **Ms. McLaughlin** – Transportation System Performance Report & Action Plan (TSPR) is being handled by Tindale Oliver. Brandy Otero is project manager. Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP) is being handled by Tindale Oliver. Eric Ortman is project manager. Mentioned Regional News items including: M-Cores and I-75 regional study. FDOT to have meeting in Moore Haven on February 13, 2020 regarding M-Cores study. I-75 Managed Lane Study – FDOT to have public meeting on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at North Collier Regional Park Exhibit Hall. All links in newsletter are live and website is up to date on approved and/or pending documents. Ms. Otero is working on Unified Planning Work Program. Mr. Ortman is working on Transportation Improvement Program FY21.

**Commissioner Saunders** – asked if website is ADA compliant. **Ms. McLaughlin** – Mr. Ortman is researching ADA compliance and bringing MPO’s website into compliance. **Commissioner Saunders** – mentioned previous lawsuit against County that was settled. **Mr. Teach** – an item will be coming to the County Commissioners with a vendor who will address ADA compliance [for the County].

# 8. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

**8.A. CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)**

**8.A.1. Citizens Advisory Committee Chair Report**

**Mr. Ortman -** gave the Committee Chair report contained in the agenda packet.

**Commissioner Taylor** – inquired about responsibility for creating methodology of report and the criteria used on Park and Ride Study. **Mr. Ortman** – Deferred to Ms. Medina and Mr.Gramer with Jacobs Engineering to respond. **Ms. Medina** – currently working with Technical and Citizens Advisory committees (TAC,CAC) on developing criteria (i.e., locations, etc.) **Mr. Gramer (Jacobs Engineering)** – presented initial criteria to TAC and CAC that mentioned locations along transit routes, locations along existing corridors, visibility, and use of existing infrastructure such as commercial business parking lots. Criteria will be more refined at next TAC and CAC meetings. **Commissioner Taylor** – commented about importance of project. Inquired about using existing parking lots at commercial businesses for park & ride areas. **Mr. Gramer** – existing parking lots are being considered along with enticements to business owners to allow usage. Suggested possibility of “event chains” linked to location of park and ride lots (i.e., choosing locations near shopping centers to facilitate multi-tasking). Brief discussion by Board followed. **Mr. Gramer** – seeking various locations and anticipate businesses welcoming the idea. **Ms. Medina** – also investigating churches and other entities. **Commissioner Taylor –** inquired about timeframe and how long it will take to implement plan. **Mr. Gramer –** currently gathering data at this stage and reviewing reports from other municipalities. Fast tracking the milestones – trying to get it in place by October so it can be incorporated into the LRTP.

# 8.B TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

**8.B.1. Technical Advisory Committee Chair Report**

**Ms. McLaughlin** gave the Committee Chair report contained in the agenda packet.

# 8.C BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)

**8.C.1. Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Chair Report**

**Mr. Bonness** gave the Committee Chair’s report. Committee met on January 21, 2020. Mentioned recent fatal accident at Livingston Rd. and Marabella Lakes Drive. Suggests causes of crashes are cell phone usage and epidemic of running red lights while making right-turns, and not stopping at stop signs. Mentioned the FDOT Public Service Announcement (PSA) on traffic safety that was broadcast during the Super Bowl. Committee actions: Unanimously endorsed and approved the amendment to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan including adding maps and showing the bicycle and pedestrian deficiencies on Goodlette Frank between Vanderbilt Beach Road and Immokalee Road. BPAC also endorsed a suggestion to the County that a separate pathway be considered during the design phase. Discussed the removal of Goodlette Frank as a priority was overlooked in the plan (it had been prioritized in earlier pathways plans) and the 4000 feet of missing shoulders. Discussed SUNTrail application - had been completed for 2 ½ mile track between Greenway and Six L’s Farm Road but US 41 will be widened at some point, which would include the proposed path. By end of month, Logan Blvd. will connect from Stone Creek to Lee County line. 1.5 mile of Collier – 1 mile is Lee County.

**Commissioner McDaniel** – road should be opening by end of January. **Mr. Bonness** – (showing illustration of Logan Blvd.) – discussed logistics and composition of Logan Blvd, noted that cyclists appreciate the shared use path. Questioned ability of emergency vehicle to get through due to being single lane road. Significant amount of lakes and bodies of water on both sides of roadway will result in wildlife crossings. Curb design will trap turtles within driving lanes. Was not considered.

**Commissioner Fiala** – inquired about the greenway near Davis Blvd. and recent accident that occurred – asked about efforts to get lights. **Mr. Bonness** - trying to get full stop sign instead of flashing light or a red light. Brief discussion about upcoming plans for area generally.

**Commissioner Taylor** – inquired about status of project to widen US 41 going east beyond 951 between Greenway and Six L Road. **Councilwoman** **Middelstaedt** – will be 4 lanes total for 3-4 mile stretch in that area. **Mr. Nandam** – FDOT has plans regarding that area. **Ms. Peters** – project manager has been assigned and project is currently being reviewed. Traffic counts do not call for widening. FDOT anticipates road will [eventually need to] be widened and pathway will be built. Project has been stalled because of traffic counts in area.

**Commissioner Taylor** – does FDOT consider sea level rise when it reviews areas for construction that may be prone to flooding. **Mr. Nandam** – FDOT reviews stormwater and drainage as it relates to sea level rise. Currently working with University of Florida on correct model. Resiliency officer will incorporate innovative drainage solutions. Project was on hold pending funding but still active.

**Commissioner McDaniel -** what can [BPAC] committee do to educate public. Suggested system-wide educational program with increasing penalties for violating texting laws, etc. Brief discussion regarding vehicle safety features and efforts to educate public about bike and pedestrian laws in conjunction with Collier County Sheriffs. **Commissioner McDaniel** would like Board to assist with campaign. **Mr. Bonness** - will bring idea to BPAC and work in partnership with FDOT. **Mr. Nandam** – FDOT has statewide program for safety. Collier County is focus area for “Alert Today/Alive Tomorrow” campaign. Discussed specific agencies that should be involved in program management and how a committee could be formed.

**Councilman Hutchison** –how does county rank compared to other counties in terms of dedicated bike pathways; need to know where we fit in terms of what we provide to citizens and how county is ranked against other counties. **Commissioner Taylor** – issue is obedience of laws – not lack of bike paths. Queried whether bikes are still considered vehicles. **Mr. Nandam** – bicycles are defined under Florida statutes as vehicles, but they must follow rules of the road. Lengthy discussion regarding observations of bicyclists in community, violations of traffic laws, and integration of enforcement with police. **Commissioner Solis** - need to coordinate education efforts with law enforcement.

**Commissioner Fiala** – inquired about installation of traffic light on Davis and the timeline. **Mr. Nandam –** crossing is at power lines and location interferes with proposed light. Area is being reviewed and FDOT is working with Collier County Sheriff Office (CCSO).

**Commissioner McDaniel** – rather than forming a new committee, can Community Traffic Safety Team (CTST) be involved to help with educational campaign. **Mr. Nandam** – FDOT needs direction from Board on who should be involved. Discussion followed regarding how to get CTST involved in the educational campaign.

***Commissioner McDaniel*** *moved to ask the CTST to become involved to enhance the educational prospects of the pedestrian and bicycle traffic.* ***Commissioner Fiala*** *seconded. Passed unanimously.*

# 8.D CONGESTION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CMC)

# 8.D.1 Congestion Management Committee Chair Report

**Ms. Otero** – Gave committee Chair report contained in the agenda packet. Next CMC meeting is on March 18, 2020 at 2:00 pm.

# 8.E LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD (LCB)

**8.E.1 Local Coordinating Board Chair Report**

**Ms. McLaughlin –** no meeting in January.

# 9. REGULAR BOARD ACTION (ROLL CALL REQUIRED)

**9.A. Approve an Amendment to the FY 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Authorizing Resolution**

**Mr. Ortman** presented the Executive Summary contained in the agenda packet. (1) ADA improvements at select bus stops for $250,000; (2) $500,000 to buy replacement bus for CAT; (3) $55,000 operating assistance for Good Wheels. TAC and CAC unanimously endorsed amendment.

***Councilman Hutchison*** *moved to approve amendment.* ***Commissioner McDaniel*** *seconded. Comments were opened.*

**Commissioner McDaniel –** inquired about providing financial support to Good Wheels and whether that has been done historically. **Ms. Otero** - Good Wheels has received a 5310 grant to fund operations from FDOT. This amendment is required in order for the funding to be received.

*Roll Call vote:*

*Commissioner Taylor: Yes*

*Commissioner Solis: Yes*

*Councilwoman Middelstaedt: Yes*

*Councilman Brechnitz: Yes*

*Commissioner McDaniel: Yes*

*Commissioner Fiala: Yes*

*Councilman Buxton: Yes*

*Commissioner Saunders: Yes*

*Councilman Hutchison: Yes*

*Motion passed unanimously.*

# 10. REGULAR BOARD ACTION (NO ROLL CALL)

**10.A Election of Representatives to Serve on the Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) Governing Board for 2020**

**Ms. McLaughlin –** meetings are held quarterly in Orlando. Current representatives are **Councilman Buxton** and **Commissioner McDaniel** is alternate.

***Commissioner Saunders*** *moved to keep current representatives on MPOAC Council;* ***Commissioner Fiala*** *seconded. Passed unanimously.*

# 10.B Endorse Amendment to Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP)

**Mr. Ortman** – amendment originated from emails between Board member, Commissioner Solis, and Arthrex representatives. Requested sidewalks on east side of Goodlette Frank be extended between Vanderbilt Beach Road and Immokalee Road. Discussed review of physical location and assessment of need for improvements. Goodlette is scheduled to be widened in FY 2024. Bicycle and pedestrian facilities will be incorporated into widening project. BPAC, TAC, and CAC endorsed amendment with additional map. Additional language inserted in amendment requests County to consider bicycle and pedestrian needs in road designs.

**Commissioner Solis** – what effect does amendment have on project? **Mr. Ortman** – road will be widened in FY 2024; two-year design process occurs prior to construction. **Ms. McLaughlin** – County staff has given assurances that bicycle and pedestrian facilities will be included in design. Board can give County specific recommendations, but amendment language intentionally provides flexibility and discretion on the County’s part in implementation. **Commissioner Solis** - brief discussion regarding intersections and roadways that are not adequately designed for bicycles and pedestrians. **Mr. Bonness** – Goodlette-Frank Road is the best opportunity to install access for pedestrians and bicyclists in a greenway. **Commissioner Solis** – continued discussion regarding urgency of initiating construction prior to FY 2024. **Commissioner Taylor** – asked if someone from Growth Management was in attendance. **Ms. McLaughlin** – no one is present. **Councilman Buxton** – mentioned previous interactions with Arthrex and acknowledged that request for bicycle/pedestrian accommodations on Goodlette is appropriate. **Commissioner Brechnitz** – inquired about timeline to complete design. **Mr. Ortman** – it takes that long for engineers to put plan together. **Commissioner Solis** – should not have to wait for road widening to implement shared use path. **Commissioner Fiala** – agreed with **Commissioner Solis**. Paved walking path could be installed now rather than waiting for road widening project. Something needs to be done now with imminent opening of Arthrex building on Goodlette. **Commissioner Solis** – committed to working with County staff to get project underway and completed. **Ms. McLaughlin** – project has been funded with Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) money which shows close collaboration between County and FDOT. Will convey Board directive to County staff. Design may need more time and County can explain whether there are issues involving drainage and right-of-way to consider. Will express Board’s urgency in getting project completed.

***Councilman Solis*** *moved to ask that the project be expedited so action occurs sooner than FY 2024, to move forward on continuation of greenway, and for County staff to give update on project as soon as possible while also expediting construction process.* ***Commissioner Fiala*** *seconded. Passed unanimously.*

***Commissioner Brechnitz*** *moved to endorse the amendment to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.* ***Commissioner Buxton*** *seconded. Passed unanimously.*

# 11. PRESENTATIONS (MAY REQUIRE BOARD ACTION)

None.

# 12. DISTRIBUTION ITEMS

[No discussion.]

# 12.A. Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) Legislative Newsletter(s)

**12.B. Administrative Modification to FY2020-FY2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

**13. MEMBER COMMENTS**

**Councilman Hutchison –** asked about congestion management study (draft survey) and who is targeted audience. **Ms. Otero** – all residents of Collier County. **Councilman Hutchison –** how will survey be communicated. **Ms. Otero** – using social media and also giving it to MPO advisory committees for distribution. It will be on MPO website as well as listserv members. Trying to get many people involved. Brief discussion pertaining to other digital mediums including message boards.

**Commissioner Fiala –** problem along US 41 from SR 951 to Greenway Road. Very dark road at night although lighting is being installed. FDOT does not allow signage for communities in right of ways. **Mr. Nandam** – per statute not allowed to put signs on state highway system. Suggested installation of signage at corner by intersection on property lines. Brief discussion regarding options.

**Councilman Brechnitz –** On February 20-23, 2020, the Vietnam Wall will be in Marco Island at Veterans Community Park. It is a ¾ size replica of the wall in Washington DC. Marco Island is the only Florida community to host it as well as being the first on the tour of the United States.

**Commissioner Solis –** is sidewalk project at US 41 and Pine Ridge continuing to Pelican Marsh. **Ms. Peters** – confirmed it is a sidewalk project.

**Commissioner Taylor –** compliments to **Ms. McLaughlin** for newsletter. **Ms. McLaughlin** – also recognized **Ms. Intriago** and **Mr. Ortman** for their assistance.

# 14. NEXT MEETING DATE

**14.A. Next Meeting Date – March 13, 2020 - 9:00 a.m. Board of County Commissioners Chambers, 3299 Tamiami Trail East, Naples, FL 34112**

**15. ADJOURN**

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:40 a.m.