

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE of the
COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Main Conference Room
2885 Horseshoe Drive North
Naples, FL 34104**

February 24, 2020 2:00 p.m. Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

Mr. Gelfand called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

2. Roll Call

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

CAC Members Present

Neal Gelfand, Chair, District II
Tammie Pernas, Everglades City (Left at 3:00 pm, resulting in
loss of quorum during discussion of item 8A as noted)
Suzanne Cross, City of Naples
Fred Sasser, City of Naples
Karen Homiak, District I

CAC Members Absent

Pam Brown, At-Large
Robert Phelan, Marco Island
Gary Shirk, At-Large
Russell Tuff, Vice-Chair, District III
Rick Hart, Persons with Disabilities
Josh Rincon, Representative of Minorities

MPO Staff

Anne McLaughlin, Director
Eric Ortman, Senior Planner
Karen Intriago, Administrative Assistant

Others Present

Valerie Nowotnick, Minute Taker

3. Approval of the Agenda

Ms. Cross moved to approve the agenda. Ms. Pernas seconded. Carried unanimously.

4. Approval of the January 27, 2020 Meeting Minutes.

Ms. Homiak moved to approve the minutes as amended. Ms. Cross seconded. Carried unanimously.

5. Public Comments for Items not on the Agenda

N/A.

6. Agency Updates

A. FDOT

None.

B. MPO Executive Director

Anne McLaughlin - No formal update. **Mr. Ortman** announced that this would be his last meeting with the committee due to having accepted a job with Blue Zones.

7. Committee Action

A. Review Draft FY 20/21-21/22 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Ms. McLaughlin – Seeking comment and review from committee members of draft 2-year UPWP. This is the budget document for the MPO for the next two fiscal years. Preliminary draft due to FDOT by March 15, 2020. Final plan due by May 15, 2020. Brandy Otero, Principal Planner, is attending FHWA conference but offered these comments: (1) Changes made to the format of the draft were to reduce size of document (recommended by FDOT and FHWA); (2) needed to address new State planning emphasis areas (safety, system connectivity, resilience and automated/connected/electric vehicles/ride sharing services (“ACES”)); (3) have continuation of studies (2045 LRTP, Local Road Safety Plan, Transit Development Plan, Park & Ride Study); (4) implementing of public service announcements (i.e., videos) for safety campaign. FHWA is very interested in public engagement this year and MPO could expand outreach. Focus on safety and FDOT visions. Funding for safety and PSA campaign on local road safety plan would be approximately \$100k in F/Y 2021. Other study is a second transportation system performance report (80k +/-) allocated over two fiscal years. Also new transit study but waiting for transit planners over at PT&E and the results of the transit development plan. Specific category funding was discussed. Overall funding for fiscal year 2021 is \$1.365 million due to all the plans continued over from prior years; funding for FY 22 is about \$852,000. Final amounts depend on amount of roll-over from prior years. Draft document will be presented to MPO Board at March meeting and submitted to FDOT prior to March 15, 2020. Committees will see the draft again on April 27, 2020 for final endorsement. Final report will be presented to MPO Board on May 8, 2020 for transmittal to FDOT on May 15, 2020. Seeking committee members comments and questions. TAC made suggestion to produce a video about how to navigate roundabouts including cars, pedestrians, and bicyclists.

Ms. Homiak – has observed bicyclists using crosswalks and sidewalks rather than designated lanes. Ongoing problem even in her neighborhood. **Mr. Ortman** – County is considering having a Leading Pedestrian Intervals at crosswalks to add a little bit more time on crosswalk signals. Committee members had lengthy discussion regarding educating bicyclists about laws, etc. including educational classes in schools to students. **Mr. Gelfand** – questioned where data is obtained on safety initiatives (i.e., accidents, etc.) and how MPO will evaluate effectiveness of Public Service Announcements (PSAs). **Mr. Ortman** – education and enforcement have been demonstrated to be highly effective. The Local Road Safety Plan will address these directly. **Mr. Gelfand** – question regarding FDOT safety measures and whether all MPOs have to address the same safety performance measurements. **Ms. McLaughlin** – The performance measures are national [everyone has to address.] FDOT came up with safety performance targets. Most MPOs, including Collier, have adopted the FDOT safety targets - zero fatalities, injuries – acknowledging that the committee did not endorse them. **Mr. Gelfand** – because zero isn't realistic. **Ms. McLaughlin** - FDOT and federal government give MPOs freedom as long as expectations are met. Each MPO may have slightly different story to tell – bicyclists, minorities, older drivers, non-native residents are more likely to be involved in crashes due to language barriers, etc. We know where the highest crash corridors are, and who may be involved. **Ms. Cross** – the issue is reaching the target audience; message needs to have a call to action. **Ms. McLaughlin** – very hard to document effectiveness of a safety campaign. Lengthy discussion regarding options for enforcement of bicyclist/pedestrian/motorist laws and need for coordination with law enforcement agencies. **Ms. Cross** – walking paths and bike lanes should have markings such as arrows to show proper direction of travel. Recommends spending more money on getting the message to the audience as opposed to the creation of the message. **Mr. Gelfand** – getting message out to children is good but seniors need to be educated; go through their communities and have presentations to educate. **Mr. Ortman** – it is almost impossible to actually determine cause/effect of accidents because there are so many variables involved. **Mr. Gelfand** – should look at trends over time. **Ms. Cross** – noted there are performance measures in the UPWP, what is the baseline data. **Ms. McLaughlin** – the UPWP performance measures are general. Can bring the MPO's actual adopted performance measures and targets and present to the committee at a later date. **Mr. Ortman** – UPWP says what the MPO is going to do and how much it could cost. **Ms. McLaughlin** – Other studies [in the UPWP] include funding a second Transportation System Performance Report in the latter 2 years. Estimated cost is \$80k; addresses traffic congestion; required by the MPO's adopted Congestion Management Process to update report every 2 years. Placeholder for a transit study, Collier County to identify. In addition, may need to put money aside to amend LRTP due to outstanding studies that will not have been completed in time - ACES, resiliency, etc. In FY 2021, (approximate amounts): \$1.4M – continuation of a lot of studies, different funds that are rolled into the same budget (i.e., planning funds, S/U funds, transportation funds, etc.). In FY 2022, \$853k. **Ms. Cross** – seems to be flat budgeting on expenses (i.e., personnel costs, etc.). **Ms. McLaughlin** – budget is conservative; Collier County increased rent payments slightly, but provides a lot more in terms of resources - Human Resources, legal services, etc.; being short-staffed has allowed us to keep personnel expenses down. The UPWP will be circulated again in April. The draft UPWP is released to generate comments from FHWA, FDOT, and MPO committees.

8. Reports and Presentation

A. Update on 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

Ms. McLaughlin – Goals, objectives, and decision-making framework was approved by Board. Public Involvement Plan written specifically for LRTP was also approved. Projections for socioeconomic data out to 2045 submitted to FDOT using County Interactive Growth Management (CIGM) program. The CIGM can project population; allocates socio-economic data to Traffic Analysis Zones based on certain criteria. Had conference call involving FDOT and Jacobs in January regarding FDOT external stations and recommended growth projections on two major routes – I75 and US 41. Assessed current and projected traffic counts. FDOT and LRTP consultants concurred that traffic counts are trending pretty flat for last 12 years – the prior LRTP estimated 3% growth. For 2045 LRTP, lowered it to 2.5% for I-75 and 2% for US 41. Left room for growth because it is increasing in eastern Collier County. Next Steps: (1) need information from FDOT D1 model run – E+C Network with 2045 projections – preliminary release date is February 15, 2020. (2) Jacobs to provide technical reports from Phase One - Existing Conditions to TAC/CAC for review in March, MPO Board in April - including Automated, Connected Electric vehicles and ride-sharing Services (ACES), resiliency, and revenues; (3) Jacobs also to provide Alternative 1 Cost Feasible network scenario due to FDOT March 15, 2020. FDOT is behind in releasing information that was due on February 15. **Mr. Gelfand** – do traffic projections consider seasonal variation - high-season, mid-season, low-season. **Ms. McLaughlin** – Will answer the question in detail when we present results of traffic model runs. Long-range planning is geared more towards average traffic conditions rather than high season; basis is variety of policies regarding Level of Service adopted by the cities, the County and by FDOT.

[**Ms. Pernas left the meeting.**]

Discussion continued pertaining to financial feasibility of projects in the LRTP. The LRTP must be adopted by December 2020 – no extensions.

B. Draft Public Participation Plan Amendment

Ms. McLaughlin - The changes to the Public Participation Plan (PPP) are available for public review. The PPP was adopted in February 2019. Amending now because staff members found errors under Transit and Transportation Disadvantaged sections, and in preparation for the FHWA's Federal Certification Review later this year. The committee will be invited to participate in that review; and will be briefed on outcome. FHWA has clarified what is expected in MPO PPPs: specific language about coordinating with federal land management agencies on the development of LRTP and TIP. FHWA wants to see a list of agencies and explanation of how coordination will take place. FHWA also expects to see actual text (versus summaries) of federal and state statutes, including Florida Sunshine Law notification requirements. **Mr. Gelfand** – asked about comments received during 45-day period. **Ms. McLaughlin** – typically do not get much feedback/comments from public on the PPP. **Mr. Ortman** – no comments received last time the PPP was amended; no comments so far this time. When TIP was adopted, did not get any comments. MPO has started using social media and getting responses. **Ms. McLaughlin** – used Facebook to get comments regarding public's perception about congestion. Received over 1000 comments. **Mr. Sasser** – is Facebook only medium being used. **Ms. Cross** – other options are Twitter, Instagram. **Ms. McLaughlin** – will consider suggestions and recommendations on social

outlets. Discussion about using State overhead signs on Interstate or other locations to announce opportunities to comment on plans. **Ms. McLaughlin** – not likely to be allowed on state roads, signage very tightly controlled on interstates. **Ms. Cross** – despite lengthy section on English as Second Language in the PPP, the conclusion is that translations aren't required. Key documents should be translated. **Mr. Ortman** – MPO documents are often translated into Spanish and Creole. **Ms. McLaughlin** – the MPO goes above and beyond federal [ESL] requirements in providing translations and accommodations for non-English speaking population. Lengthy discussion regarding translating documents and messages for non-English speaking citizens. **Mr. Ortman** – public commentary is open until March 26, 2020.

9. Member Comments

Mr. Sasser – roundabout discussion was important. Inquired when MPO will address the M-CORES toll roads. **Ms. McLaughlin** – There are task force opinions that must be considered first. Suggested sending comments to task force members if prefer not to wait. LRTP consultant, Jacobs advises that M-CORES could have ramifications for Collier LRTP. That would be the time to engage the MPO. The task force should do their evaluation first. Mentioned the MPO meetings online and that FDOT-D1 Secretary, L. K. Nandam, frequently gives updates on M-CORES at MPO Board meetings.

Mr. Gelfand – insurance industry should have good data and actuarial info on safety features (i.e., anti-theft systems, crash mitigation systems, number of accidents, etc.) Asked if FDOT or MPO is consulting with insurance companies to acquire that data from them for use in surveys, studies, etc. **Ms. McLaughlin** – Nationally, reporting on ACES includes overview of insurance data –will ask Jacobs to include in report for the LRTP. **Ms. Cross** – insurance companies are ready to deploy insurance by the minute for car services.

10. Distribution Items

A. Revised Minutes November 25, 2019

Mr. Gelfand - minutes were distributed to all members in agenda packet.

11. Next Meeting Date

*March 30, 2020 – 2:00 p.m.
2885 Horseshoe Drive South, Main Conference Room*

12. Adjournment

Mr. Sasser is not going to make next meeting due to personal commitments. With all business having been conducted, Mr. Gelfand asked for motion to adjourn. However, there no longer being a quorum, the request could not be acted on. Ms. McLaughlin noted that a formal motion is not required; the Chair can adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.