

**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE of the
COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
MEETING MINUTES
March 24, 2025, 9:30 a.m.**

1. Call to Order

Ms. Bickett called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Ms. Miceli called the roll and confirmed a quorum was present.

TAC Members Present

Alison Bickett, *Chair*, City of Naples Public Works, Deputy City Engineer

Don Scott, *Vice-Chair*, Lee MPO Executive Director

Christopher Mason, Collier County Growth Management Department Community Planning & Resiliency,
Division Director (*arrived during Item 7.A.*)

Bryant Garrett, Collier County Airport Authority, Airport Operations Executive Manager

David Rivera, City of Naples, Traffic Operations Supervisor

Kathy Eastley, Collier County Transportation Planning, Planner III

Margaret Wuerstle, Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council, Executive Director

Omar De Leon, Public Transit & Neighborhood Enhancement Division (PTNE), Public Transit Manager

Ute Vandersluis, Naples Airport Authority, Senior Airport Development Coordinator

TAC Members Absent

John Lambcke, Collier Schools Transportation Director

Daniel Smith, City of Marco Island, Director of Community Affairs

Justin Martin, City of Marco Island, Public Works Department Director

MPO Staff

Anne McLaughlin, Executive Director

Dusty Hansen, Senior Planner

Sean Kingston, Principal Planner

Suzanne Miceli, Operations Support Specialist II

Others Present

Marcellus Evans, FDOT

Alex Showalter, Collier County PTNE

Juan Suarez, Benesch

Others Present via Zoom

Wally Blain, Benesch

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Mr. Garrett moved to approve the agenda. Ms. Wuerstle seconded. Carried unanimously.

4. **Approval of the February 24, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Scott moved to approve the February 24, 2025 meeting minutes. Mr. De Leon seconded. Carried unanimously.

5. **Public Comments for Items not on the Agenda**

None.

6. **Agency Updates**

A. FDOT

Mr. Evans announced the upcoming public meeting for the State Road 78 project in Lee County on Wednesday, April 2 from 6-7 p.m., virtual and in-person.

B. MPO Executive Director

Ms. McLaughlin had nothing to share beyond the agenda.

7. **Committee Action**

A. Review and Comment on the First Draft FY26-30 Transportation Improvement Program

Ms. McLaughlin announced that the presentation would cover the narrative portion of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The Project Sheets portion will follow later because the final FDOT snapshot won't be produced until April due to the timing of this year's legislative session. An interactive map is available to get an idea of the projects in store, which will be updated with the approval of this TIP. The narrative portion has been updated to current state and federal requirements and publications, local statistics and projects. The TIP is being presented now for Committee initial review to get feedback (comments were requested to be provided within two weeks). A further updated draft TIP is anticipated to be brought back in April for review, and then for Committee endorsement in May. **Ms. McLaughlin reviewed the draft TIP narrative portion (which can be viewed in the March 24, 2025 TAC agenda).**

Mr. Scott commented on funding and how Moving Florida Forward makes a big difference for the short term.

Ms. McLaughlin asked Mr. Evans whether FDOT would be updating the 667 Report, which is about facilities affected by storm damage, asking if there was one for 2025 and how soon it would be published. **Mr. Evans** answered that he would investigate it.

B. Review and Comment on First draft Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan – continued from February

Mr. Kingston reminded the Committee that he had given an overview of the major components of the plan at the last meeting and that the project consultant, Capital Consulting Solutions, gave a presentation that addressed comments received from the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC), and Technical and Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings in February.

*Following this introduction, **Mr. Kingston** gave this presentation, (which is included in the meeting materials) and asked for additional comments.*

Ms. Bickett commented, when Mr. Kingston mentioned how CAC requested a sidewalk at Horseshoe Drive, that the City of Naples Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan has this in it, but there are challenges with trees and stormwater. **Ms. McLaughlin** mentioned a more feasible solution may be soft-surfaced pathways around these obstacles.

Ms. Vandersluis added that the Naples Airport is looking into the connection between Gordon River Greenway and River Reach and will pass on more information once it comes to her.

Mr. Scott said to reconsider the evaluation criteria on Cost. Cost for Local Projects is 25% whereas for Regional Projects it is 15%. It would make more sense if these were reversed since local projects are spending local money versus regional projects, where the money is from an outside source.

8 Reports & Presentations (May Require Committee Action)

A. Draft Transit Zero Emission Fleet Transition Plan by Benesch

Ms. Hansen announced that Collier County Public Transit & Neighborhood Enhancement Division and the MPO have coordinated a transit zero and low emission fleet study, which evaluates the prospect of incorporating zero and low emission vehicles in CAT's fleet, including feasibility, the current state of alternative fuel technology and reliability, infrastructure needs, high-level cost estimates, and funding source opportunities. The study was to be presented to the MPO Board on April 11 and subsequently submitted to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) for approval. Completion of the study is a requirement for certain federal discretionary transit grants.

***Mr. Blain** provided a presentation on the study findings and recommendations (as included in the meeting materials). A group discussion ensued thereafter.*

9 Member Comments

Ms. Eastley announced the Golden Gate Parkway Corridor Congestion Study public meeting has been postponed until August. She also mentioned how Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) and County Incentive Grant Program (CIGP) grants will be presented for approval to the BCC tomorrow, one of which will change the MPO List of Project Priorities.

Ms. Bickett stated at the last City Council Workshop, FDOT presented on the stormwater project between Golden Gate Parkway and Four Corners. It was decided to move forward with the design of stormwater improvements. A group discussion ensued, and Ms. Bickett elaborated on the phasing of the project. She also reported in detail on the network changes between Four Corners and Goodlette-Frank Road.

Mr. Scott reported on the status of the study to consolidate Collier and Lee MPOs. He also brought up the subject of bicycle, pedestrian, and micromobility ordinances and what the jurisdictions within his MPO are doing about it. **Ms. McLaughlin** commented that the BCC will have an ordinance on that topic as a discussion item at tomorrow's BCC meeting. **Ms. Bickett** added that the County decision may affect the City of Naples, which is also considering an ordinance on the issue.

10 Distribution Items

None.

11. Next Meeting Date

April 28, 2025, 9:30 a.m. –Transportation Management Services Bldg., South Conference Room, 2885 S. Horseshoe Dr., Naples, FL, 34104 – in person.

12. Adjournment

Ms. Bickett adjourned the meeting at 10:47 a.m.