

**MEETING MINUTES**

**LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD  
FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED of the  
COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
SPECIAL MEETING**

**Collier County Government Center  
Administration Bldg. F, IT Training Room, Fifth Floor  
3311 Tamiami Trail East, Naples, FL 34112  
October 4, 2023  
1:30 p.m.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**A. Roll Call**

**Ms. Siegler** called the regular meeting to order at approximately 1:31 p.m.

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

**Members Present**

Brett Nelson, Children at Risk  
Candice Monroy, Florida Dept. of Transportation  
Dylan Vogel, Citizens Advocate/User  
John Lambcke, Collier Schools Transportation Director  
Lisa O’Leary, Fla. Dept. of Edu./Div. of Vocational Rehab Services  
Michael Stahler, Florida Agency for Health Care Administration

**Members Absent**

Tony Pernas, MPO Board Member, Everglades City, LCB Chair  
Carmen Henry, Southwest Florida Regional Workforce Development Board  
Cheryl Burnham, Florida Association for Community Action  
Eileen Streight, Citizens Advocate/Non-User  
Gabrielle Galanti, Local Medical Community  
Leah Watson, Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
Lilith Sileika, Veterans Services  
Sarah Gualco, Area Agency on Aging SWFL-FL Dept. of Elder Affairs  
Tabitha Larrauri, Fla. Dept. of Children and Family Services

**MPO Staff**

Anne McLaughlin, Executive Director  
Dusty Siegler, Senior Planner  
Suzanne Miceli, Administrative Support Specialist II

**Others Present**

Brian Wells, Director, Public Transit & Neighborhood Enhancement  
Elena Ortiz-Rosado, Marketing Manager, Collier Area Transit  
Mari Maldonado, Paratransit Manager, Collier Area Transit  
Alex Showalter, Senior Planner, Collier Area Transit  
Kayla Castro, Operations Support Specialist, Collier Area Transit  
Daisy Diaz, Collier Area Transit

Omar De Leon, Public Transit Manager, Collier Area Transit  
Anthony Arfuso, Capital Consulting Solutions  
Victor Nguyen, Capital Consulting Solutions  
Jodi Rubenstein, Baker Senior Center

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Since Chair Pernas was not in attendance, Ms. O’Leary moved to elect Mr. Vogel as Acting Chair. Mr. Stahler seconded. Passed unanimously.*

*Ms. Monroy moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Stahler seconded. Passed unanimously.*

**3. BOARD ACTION (Roll Call Vote)**

**A. Review and Approve 2023 Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan Major Update**

**Ms. Siegler:** This is for the Board to review and approve the 2023 Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP) Major Update. The TDSP is a multi-year document that looks at development, service and quality assurance components related to the delivery of the Transportation Disadvantaged Program. This year, and every five years, Collier County is required to submit a Major Update to the TDSP, due to the re-designation of the Collier County Board of County Commissioners as the Community Transportation Coordinator.

**Ms. McLaughlin:** The TDSP Major Update must be approved by the LCB in October to meet the deadline for submittal to the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged in October. We at Collier MPO, are the planning agency, and we worked with the Collier County Public Transit and Neighborhood Enhancement Division and Capital Consulting Solutions to prepare the TDSP Major Update. A draft of the TDSP update was presented to the LCB at its September 6, 2023 meeting and has since been revised based on comments received from LCB Members, Technical and Citizens Advisory Committees, and follow-up review by MPO and Collier Area Transit staff.

**Ms. McLaughlin:** We received a public comment this morning from a representative of the Baker Senior Center in Collier County, which has been distributed to you today.

*Ms. Rubenstein, a representative of the Baker Senior Center, was present, and was invited to elaborate on the comment.*

**Ms. Rubenstein:** We have many frail seniors from all over Collier County as well as southern Lee County who choose not to take the paratransit bus because of the length of wait times for pick-ups and returns. Using paratransit takes their whole day. An eight-hour day is more than they can manage. The paratransit telephone and digital system is also a challenge for our seniors. They would like to get out more often, but the current paratransit service structure is too challenging for them, and they wish it was more user-friendly.

**Mr. De Leon:** PTNE is working to improve the paratransit service structure to try to make it more user-friendly, and we continue to request more vehicles to keep up with growth.

*Acting Chair Vogel asked if there any comments on this agenda item. There were none.*

*Ms. O’Leary moved to approve the 2023 Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan Major Update. Mr. Nelson seconded. Ms. Siegler called the roll call vote:*

*Mr. Lambcke – Yes*

*Ms. Monroy – Yes*

*Mr. Nelson – Yes*

*Ms. O’Leary – Yes*

*Mr. Stahler – Yes*

*Mr. Vogel – Yes*

*Passed unanimously.*

**4. NEXT MEETING DATE**

December 6, 2023 at 1:30 p.m., Regular In-Person Meeting, Collier County Government Center, County Administration Bldg. F, IT Training Room, 5th Floor, 3299 Tamiami Trail E., Naples, FL 34112.

**5. ADJOURN SPECIAL MEETING**

*No further business being conducted, Acting Chair Vogel adjourned the meeting at 1:58 p.m.*