TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OF THE
COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Collier County Growth Management Division
Planning & Regulation, Rooms 609 & 610
2800 North Horseshoe Drive
Naples, FL 34104
9:30 A.M.

April 29 Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order
Ms. Lantz called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

2. Roll Call
Mr. Ortman confirmed that a quorum was present.

TAC MEMBERS PRESENT
Lorraine Lantz, Collier County Transportation Planning, Chair
April Olson, Conservancy (non-voting)
Tim Brock, Everglades City
Michelle Arnold, PTNE
Ute Vandersluis, City of Naples Airport Authority
Don Scott, Lee County MPO
Daniel Smith, City of Marco Island

TAC MEMBERS ABSENT
Debra Brueggeman, Collier County Airport
Andy Holland, City of Naples
Gregg Strakaluse, City of Naples
Tim Pinter, City of Marco Island
Dan Hall, Collier County Traffic Operations

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

FDOT
Victoria Peters, FDOT
Deborah Chesna, FDOT
Bill Howell, consultant to FDOT

OTHERS PRESENT
Betty Osceola, Miccosukee Tribe

3. Approval of the Agenda
Ms. Lantz noted that item 7B has been revised and that the revised version had been handed out.

Mr. Brock moved to approve the Agenda. Second by Mr. Smith. Carried unanimously.
4. Approval of March 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Lantz commented that Debra Brueggemann and Justin Lobb fill the same position and are both shown on the meeting minutes as members present and absent. Also noted a misspelling of Randall Blvd. Mr. Ortman noted that these corrections will be made and included as a distribution item at the next meeting.

Mr. Brock moved to approve the March 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes with the changes noted. Second by Ms. Vandersluis. Carried unanimously.

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

None.

6. Agency Updates

A. FDOT

Ms. Peters stated that she has been vetting the congestion management projects which are receiving 100% of the SU “Box” funds for the upcoming FY25 FDOT Work Program.

B. MPO Executive Director

Mr. Ortman stated that the committee was provided with a hard copy of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan which was adopted by the MPO Board in March.

Ms. Lantz congratulated Ms. Otero on her promotion to Principle Planner.

7. Committee Action

A. Endorse Amendment to FY 18/19 – 19/20 Unified Planning Work Program

Ms. Otero noted that this amendment is to roll forward the close out funds from the FY16/17 -17/18 UPWP; the close out balance is $293,424 which will be added to the second year of the current UPWP; funding will become available after July 1st. Funding has been added to the Administration, Long Range Planning, and Special Projects and Systems Planning tasks. The total PL funding for FY19/20 after the amendment will be $839,988. An update to the FDOT soft match has also been done. Ms. Otero noted that since the funding to the PL has been changed the MPO agreement has also been updated.

Ms. Lantz questioned if this amendment will complete the funding gap for the LRTP. Ms. Otero noted that there is still a gap but there is an opportunity in the next UPWP to close the remainder of the funding gap. Staff has been having conversations with FDOT about using SU funding for the LRTP.

Under committee discussion it was discussed if there would be possibilities of creating a different funding category that will allow MPOs to cover funding in different areas.

Ms. Lantz noted that the columns on task one on page eight under administration are not adding up correctly. Ms. Otero noted that those calculations will be corrected.

Mr. Smith moved to Endorse Amendment to FY 18/19 – 19/20 Unified Planning Work Program with the changes noted. Second by Mr. Brock. Carried unanimously.

B. Endorse Amendment to FY 18/19 – 22/23 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Ortman noted that FDOT has requested that a second project sheet be included with the amendment. The first page is the original TIP page; the second page reflects the amendment. Per FDOT, the headers and footers has also been updated. The map is now orientated in the customary position with north at the top of the map. Mr. Ortman noted that the amendment also corrects the project length from 0.2 miles to 0.953 miles. MPO staff is completing the public involvement requirements as described in the Public Participation Plan. The amendment is on the MPO website, has been distributed via e-mail to a list-serve of interested parties and may also be commented on at any MPO meeting. To date, no public comments have been received.
Ms. Peters noted that FDOT’s Work Program staff requested this change and noted that this amendment counts as a major scope change as the distance has increased by more than 20 percent. The previous project was called Sidewalks Everglades City at Various Locations which was very vague; the projects’ title has been changed to reflect the current scope of the project.

Mr. Brock asked if the southern limits of the new project were accurate stating that he thought the city limits extended to the Chokoloskee Bridge. Mr. Ortman noted that the southern terminus will be corrected to match the Everglades City limit. Ms. Peters noted that a survey will be conducted before project work begins.

Mr. Smith moved to Endorse Amendment to FY 18/19 – 22/23 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) with the changes noted. Second by Mr. Brock. Carried unanimously.

C. Review and comment on Draft FY2020 – 2024 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Ortman noted that this is the first time the committee is seeing the complete Draft FY2020 – 2024 TIP although they have been seeing the list of projects beginning in December with the first FDOT snapshot. The MPO has again developed the TIP in-house and continued the format used in last year’s TIP with separate sections for each project category. Total programmed funding for the FY2020 -2024 TIP is $494 million, an increase of $95 million from the previous TIP. The total funding includes $125 million of resurfacing primarily on I-75 and US41. The draft TIP is available on the MPO website for public comment, no public comments have been received. Staff would like to receive comments from committee members a week from today’s meeting. Staff will be seeking endorsement at the May 20th committee meeting. The draft is being taken to the MPO Board in May. In June, the Board will be asked to adopt the TIP followed by submitting it to FDOT prior to June 30th.

Ms. Olson commented on the bike path trail project of San Marco Rd. from Vintage Bay Drive to Goodland Rd. stating that there is a mangrove system on both sides of the road and the Conservancy would want to make sure that the project does not impact the mangrove system. Ms. Olson noticed that there was a new project on SR29 from Oil Well to Sunniland Nursery Rd. that was not included in the previous TIP and stated that the Conservancy will be involved in the process and will be providing comments for this project. Ms. Otero gave a brief overview of how MPO priorities make it into the TIP and that projects must be in the LRTP in order to be in the TIP. Ms. Lantz noted that the FDOT Tentative Work Program is what determines what will be included in the TIP.

Ms. Lantz questioned how the comments received at the public library were being addressed. Mr. Ortman noted that the comments were responded to at the meeting. In response to a request from Ms. Lantz the MPO/FDOT responses will be added to the public comments’ appendix.

8. Reports and Presentations (May require committee action)

A. FDOT Planning Studio

Ms. Deborah Chesna noted that the District Secretary decided that the FDOT systems planning office needed to be split up and focus on land use and transportation with highways being included in the complete streets program. FDOT’s complete streets policy was passed statewide in 2014; in 2015 there was a complete street implementation plan; in 2016 Complete Streets Coordinators were hired; and in 2018 the Planning Studio was put into play. Ms. Chesna presented the PowerPoint “Planning Studio, FDOT District One” highlighting:

- The Planning Studio’s purpose is to successfully lay the foundation for projects by establishing goals for the state corridors
- Integration of land use and transportation planning and stakeholder engagement
- Masterplans will be created for state roadways, starting off with a pilot project on US41 in Charlotte County; these master plans may be used as reference points when projects are being considered
- Internal alignment of various FDOT departments
• Alignment of local jurisdictions’ goals with FDOT’s
• The Department is focusing on safety for all modes of travel

Ms. Lantz asked how local agency visions for a state road work together with the Planning Studio.

Ms. Chesna noted that FDOT is not in control of land use policy. If the County or the local jurisdiction has a vision, then they have a part in the process by developing proper language in their Land Development Code (LDC) to achieve that vision.

Mr. Brock questioned if the Planning Studio will have a website where local agencies can search if different counties share the same vision. Ms. Chesna noted that at the current moment there is not a district-level website but that it could be proposed. Currently there is a statewide complete streets website.

Mr. Scott stated that connecting the money to the complete streets policy was how to get it done and questioned if the Planning Studio will be the driving force behind how grants will be awarded. Ms. Chesna noted that it wouldn’t be the Planning Studio. The complete streets group which has monthly meetings will be able to answer any concerns as to how funding will be allocated.

B. FDOT PD&E SR29 Oil Well RD. to SR82
Mr. Bill Howell, consultant to FDOT, presented the PowerPoint “SR 29 Project Development and Environment Study” highlighting:

• The purpose and needs of the project include accommodating future growth, reducing truck traffic in downtown Immokalee, improving mobility and connectivity within the regional transportation network, and improving emergency evacuation capabilities
• The preferred alternative will be a 4-lane divided highway and reconfiguring the intersections at SR 29 with Westclox St. and CR 846. There is a proposed roundabout at SR 29 and Westclox
• Reconfiguring the new alignment that goes parallel to New Market Rd. and ties into SR29 to the north of Immokalee
• Total project cost is $166,736,000
• Public hearing was held on November 15, 2018 and there were five public speakers and 14 written comment sheets: there were four comments in support of the preferred alternative and one opposed; 14 comments were related to bike/ped accommodations; there were two comments in support of the roundabout and four opposed
• FDOT is evaluating interim intersection improvements at SR 29 and Westclox Street

Mr. Smith asked what negative comments were received on the roundabout? Mr. Howell stated that there are many factors including personal bad experiences, some badly design roundabouts and fear of the unknown. Education will be important to help the public understand how to use a roundabout.

Mr. Ortman asked if there will be a separated bike path for this project. Mr. Howell stated that there are certain portions that are currently showing a path from Westclox to SR82 on the west side and then from Farm Worker Way up to south of Airport Rd.

C. 2019 Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan
Committee members were provided with hardcopies of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.

9. Member Comments
Mr. Brock thanked the MPO for coming to Everglades City.

10. Distribution Items
None.
11. **Next Meeting Date**
   
   *May 20, 2019 at 9:30 am which is a week earlier than normal because of Memorial Day.*

12. **ADJOURNMENT**
   
   *With no further comments or items to attend to, Ms. Lantz adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m.*