

**Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Board of County Commission Chambers  
Collier County Government Center  
3299 Tamiami Trail East, 3rd Floor  
Naples, FL 34112  
March 13, 2026 | 9:30 a.m.**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**\*\*HYBRID REMOTE – IN-PERSON AND VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Chair Pernas** called the meeting to order at approximately 9:30 a.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Ms. Hansen** called roll and confirmed a quorum was present in the room.

**Members Present (in BCC Chambers)**

Councilor Tony Pernas, *Chair*  
Councilor Bonita Schwan, *Vice Chair*  
Commissioner Burt L. Saunders  
Commissioner Chris Hall  
Commissioner Dan Kowal  
Commissioner Rick LoCastro  
Commissioner William L. McDaniel, Jr.  
Councilor Berne Barton  
Councilor Scott Schultz

**Members Absent**

None

**MPO Staff**

Carmen Monroy, Executive Director  
Sean Kingston, Planner III  
Dusty Hansen, Planner II  
Suzanne Miceli, Operations Support Specialist II

**FDOT**

Wayne Gaither, Director, District 1 Southwest Area Office  
Jason Heironimus, Public Information Officer  
Erica McCaughey, Community Planner

**Others Present**

Trinity Scott, Collier County Transportation Management Services Department Head  
Scott Teach, Esq., Deputy County Attorney  
Lorraine Lantz, Planning Manager, Collier County Transportation Planning  
Don Scott, Lee MPO Executive Director  
Lakshmi N. Gurram, Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO Executive Director  
Michelle Avola Brown, Naples Pathways Coalition  
Jeff Kramer, Center for Urban Transportation Research  
Robb Gregg, Center for Urban Transportation Research  
Tia Boyd, Center for Urban Transportation Research  
Mike Harris, Kimley-Horn  
Ravyn Sylvia, Kimley-Horn  
Olivia Puga, Collier County Procurement Services  
Michael Dorweiler, HNTB

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Chair Pernas** led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA, PREVIOUS MINUTES AND CONSENT ITEMS**

**4.A. Approval of February 13, 2026 Meeting Minutes**

**4.B. Recommendation to approve the selection committee’s ranking of Request for Professional Services No. 25-8402, “MPO General Planning Services,” and authorize staff to begin contract negotiations with the top four ranked firms, so that proposed agreements may be brought back to the Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization for consideration at a future meeting.**

*Commissioner McDaniel moved to approve the agenda, previous minutes, and consent items and Vice Chair Schwan seconded. Passed unanimously.*

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None.

**6. AGENCY UPDATES**

**6.A. FDOT**

**Mr. Gaither** reported that asset management staff inspected the US 41 northbound intersection at Royal Cove Drive and identified issues now under repair, including drainage-related problems and the removal of outdated, unused infrastructure. FDOT continues monitoring US 41 for dips or other concerns. The January 2026 litter-collection totals: 34 tons along arterials, 21 tons along I-75, and 31 tons at Collier rest areas, with overall litter levels appearing to improve during the first quarter. A public hearing for the

design phases of the SR 29 reconfiguration and enhancement projects is scheduled, with an in-person open house on March 19, 2026 at the Immokalee Sports Complex and a virtual meeting on March 24, 2026.

**6.B. MPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**Ms. Monroy** reported that the MPO newsletter has been temporarily paused while staff review all public-facing communications for ADA compliance under new guidance. Recommendations will be provided once the review is complete. Following last week’s update on the Florida legislative bill proposing a consolidation study for Charlotte, Lee, and Collier MPOs, FDOT and Tallahassee confirmed this morning that the bill is no longer moving forward and is expected to be withdrawn. Staff will continue monitoring it until a final determination is made.

**7. CHAIR REPORTS**

**7.A. LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD CHAIR REPORT**

**7.A.1. Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged**

**Mr. Kingston** reported that the Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged (LCB) held both its annual public workshop and regular meeting on March 4, 2026, where attendees offered comments praising the paratransit system as well as suggestions for improvement. The workshop included a presentation on the annual TD program, approval of the FY 2026-27 rate model, and a fare study update from consultants Johnson and Benesch.

**8. REGULAR BOARD ACTION (ROLL CALL REQUIRED)**

None.

**9. REGULAR BOARD ACTION (NO ROLL CALL)**

None.

**10. PRESENTATIONS (MAY REQUIRE BOARD ACTION)**

**10.A. Center for Urban Transportation Research Report and Presentation on Collier and Lee MPO Consolidation Feasibility Study: Local Elected Official Survey Results and Guided Board Discussion**

**Ms. Monroy** said it was CUTR’s third presentation to the Board, following the initial kickoff presentation and an interim report. She added that the day’s discussion focused on feedback received from a survey of elected officials in Lee and Collier Counties.

**Mr. Kramer** and **Mr. Gregg** provided a presentation, which can be viewed in the March 13, 2026, MPO Board Agenda.

A group discussion followed, highlighting differing elements of consideration regarding continuation of the consolidation feasibility study. Board members expressed concerns over the value of further workshops, the lack of information, and limited participation from the Lee County MPO Board. Several members emphasized that existing coordination efforts between the two MPOs are already strong and could be further improved without pursuing consolidation. The conversation concluded with consensus to discontinue participation in the consolidation process while encouraging continued staff-level regional collaboration.

*Commissioner Hall moved to discontinue the process of consolidation, and to discontinue any process that would have further consolidation discussion and workshop, and Commissioner McDaniel seconded. Passed unanimously.*

**11. DISTRIBUTION ITEMS**

**11.A. MPO Advisory Council Weekend Institute**

*The item was distributed.*

**11.B. Letter of Support for Miccosukee Tribe’s BUILD Grant Application for the Snake Road Safety Project**

*The item was distributed.*

**12. MEMBER COMMENTS**

**Vice Chair Schwan** noted that, in addition to tracking the number of stops involving bicycles, e-bikes, and other micromobility devices under the Marco Island e-bike ordinance, staff are now also collecting data on related citations.

**13. NEXT MEETING DATE**

**13.A.** Next Meeting Date: April 10, 2026, 9:30 a.m., Board of County Commissioners Chambers, 3299 Tamiami Trail East, Naples, FL 34112.

**14. ADJOURN**

*There being no further business, Chair Pernas adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:30 a.m.*