

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE of the
COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
MEETING MINUTES
November 25, 2024, 2:00 p.m.**

1. Call to Order

Ms. Middelstaedt called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

2. Roll Call

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

CAC Members Present

Elaine Middelstaedt, Chair
Karen Homiak
Dennis DiDonna
Dennis Stalzer
Fred Sasser

CAC Members Absent

Neal Gelfand, Vice-Chair
Josh Rincon
Michelle Arnold

MPO Staff

Anne McLaughlin, Executive Director
Sean Kingston, Principal Planner
Dusty Hansen, Senior Planner
Suzanne Miceli, Operations Support Specialist II

Others Present

Marcellus Evans, FDOT
Kathy Eastley, Collier County Transportation Planner

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Ms. Homiak moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Sasser seconded. Carried unanimously.

4. **Approval of the October 28, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Homiak moved to approve the October 28, 2024 meeting minutes. Mr. Stalzer seconded. Carried unanimously.

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

None.

6. **Agency Updates**

A. FDOT

None.

B. MPO Executive Director

Ms. McLaughlin mentioned that the supplemental handouts the committee had received included the summary of changes relating to item 7.A. and a new model run for item 8.A. that were made available after the CAC agenda packet was distributed.

7. **Committee Action**

A. Review and Comment on FDOT Draft FY2026-2030 Work Program

Ms. McLaughlin said that FDOT had just released the first draft of the FY26-30 Work Program.

Ms. McLaughlin reviewed the draft (which can be found in the November 25, 2024 CAC Agenda), mentioning that there were some beneficial projects for the Collier region, including adding lanes on I-75 from Immokalee Rd to Bonita Beach Rd and the Immokalee Diverging Diamond Interchange, both mostly funded by the Moving Florida Forward Infrastructure Initiative (MFF), as well as other I-75 improvements from Immokalee Rd to Pine Ridge Rd and Pine Ridge Rd to Golden Gate Pkwy.

FDOT had mentioned that there might not be enough funding for all project requests and some projects might have to rely on other types of funding than Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (SU) funds. The County was asked to present a list of project priorities, and although some projects would be deferred (including some bike-ped projects) there does not appear to be any projects deleted. The City of Naples got an Intelligence Transportation Systems (ITS) project funded for 2030.

Ms. McLaughlin invited Committee members to provide feedback on the draft.

This item was presented for review and comment only.

B. Review and Comment on Draft Scope of Work for Joint Lee/Collier Regional Congestion Management Process Element

Ms. McLaughlin said that FDOT asked Lee and Collier MPO to coordinate across boundary lines, so Lee and Collier committed to complete a joint regional Congestion Management Process (CMP), which would include road connections and improvements as well as signal timing for Alico Rd to Immokalee Rd, adding that Collier County is considered part of the Bonita Springs-Estero Urban Area. She anticipated the CMP scope of work would be ready for Technical and Citizens Advisory Committees (TAC & CAC) endorsement in January 2025.

Ms. McLaughlin mentioned that earlier that day, TAC member and Lee MPO Executive Director, Don Scott, said that FDOT had acquired \$250,000 in funding to do a feasibility study regarding merging the Collier and Lee MPOs.

The Committee reviewed the regional road network map (which can be viewed in the November 25, 2024 CAC Agenda).

This item was presented for review and comment only.

8 Reports & Presentations (May Require Committee Action)

A. Report on 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan – Status of Existing Plus Committed Model Run, Needs Plan, Public Outreach and Next Steps

Ms. McLaughlin recalled that when the MPO was working on the 2045 LRTP, TAC & CAC reviewed different model runs monthly, but that for the 2050 model run process, a list of proposed model runs had been presented all at once to achieve earlier model run approval.

Ms. McLaughlin reviewed the model runs (which can be viewed in the November 25, 2024 CAC Agenda), and said that the anticipated future employment and population rates in the region that were originally submitted were inaccurate, and that MPO's consultant, Jacobs Engineering, had worked with MPO to correct the data using the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan as a guide.

The MPO would be looking for projected transportation priorities based on the revised data, but since funding had not yet been included in the discussion, the Needs Plan was financially unconstrained. The next model run would be a connectivity model, in collaboration with Lee MPO, followed by a cost feasible run, then a transit run. Next steps would include public outreach, an interactive mapping tool, presentations to the board, and meeting attendance by Jacobs Engineering.

A group discussion followed regarding the resiliency and conservation concerns of the local community and the Committee reviewed a few specific projects.

9 **Member Comments**

Mr. DiDonna presented a map he had given to Commissioner Hall, which included a golf course and five buildings with approximately seven hundred residences that was being developed in his community, along with a new Publix, hotel, hospital, offices, and the largest high school in Collier County. He believed there were already struggles with road amenities, including the need for more sidewalks along Vanderbilt Rd. At a public meeting, Commissioner Hall said the county was moving as quickly as possible.

Mr. Sasser said he was looking forward to increased coordination with Lee MPO.

Ms. Homiak concurred, mentioning that she was hopeful that coordinated efforts would benefit Old 41, as the road crosses into Lee County.

Distribution Items

A. Administrative Modification #3 to the FY2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program -Operating Assistance for a Transit project

The item was distributed.

B. BCC Approval of Red-light Indicators for Intersection Safety

The item was distributed.

11. **Next Meeting Date**

January 27, 2025, 2:00 p.m. –Transportation Management Services Bldg. South Conference Room, 2885 S. Horseshoe Dr., Naples, FL, 34104 – in person.

12. **Adjournment**

Ms. Middelstaedt adjourned the meeting at 2:55 p.m.