

**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE of the
COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
MEETING MINUTES
November 25, 2024, 9:30 a.m.**

1. Call to Order

Ms. Lantz called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

2. Roll Call

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

TAC Members Present

Lorraine Lantz, Chair, Collier County Transportation Planning Manager
Alison Bickett, Vice-Chair, Traffic Engineer, City of Naples Public Works
Tonia Selmeski, Collier County Growth Management Community Planning & Resiliency
Bryant Garrett, Collier County Airport Authority, Airport Operations Executive Manager
Don Scott, Executive Director, Lee MPO
Margaret Wuerstle, Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council
Omar De Leon, Public Transit Manager, Public Transit & Neighborhood Enhancement Division (PTNE)

TAC Members Absent

Daniel Smith, Director of Community Affairs, City of Marco Island
Dave Rivera, City of Naples Traffic Operations Supervisor
John Lambcke, Collier Schools Transportation
Justin Martin, City of Marco Island Public Works Department Director
Harry Henkel, City of Everglades Mayoral Appointee
Ute Vandersluis, Naples Airport Authority

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
Chris Mason, Collier County Growth Management Community Planning & Resiliency Director
Kathy Eastley, Collier County Transportation Planner
Juliann Thomas, SWFL Conservancy

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

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

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

Ms. Wuerstle moved to approve the October 28, 2024 meeting minutes. Ms. Bickett . 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 handouts the committee had received included the summary of changes relating to item 7.A. and a new model run for item 8.A.

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, and that **Mr. Evans** had created a spreadsheet of the Summary of Changes.

Ms. McLaughlin reviewed the draft (which can be found in the November 25, 2024 TAC Agenda), mentioning that the Collier region would benefit from the Moving Florida Forward (MFF) initiative with some large projects on I-75, including beginning the design phase of widening I-75 from Golden Gate Parkway to Bonita Beach Rd. in various segments. At the September TAC meeting, FDOT said there was not enough funding for all project requests, but local allocations, including Transportation Alternative and Carbon Reduction funding, were able to help some more projects move forward. No projects had been deleted.

Mr. Scott said that the plan was that work would begin on the design phase for widening I-75 from Immokalee to Bonita Springs, and then move to south to Pine Ridge and the Immokalee Road Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) reconfiguration.

A group discussion followed, as members reviewed project status updates. It was noted that some projects had been allotted more Surface Transportation Block Grant (SU) funds, some that had not but still remained in the Work Program, some projects which had been deferred. **Ms. Lantz** asked **Mr. Evans** to confirm that the Immokalee Interchange DDI project did not need local funds as shown in the draft.

Mr. Scott mentioned that the public hearing for the draft would occur December 9, 2024 through December 13, 2024.

Ms. McLaughlin asked for members to review the draft and send their comments, and she would share them with the MPO Board at the December 13, 2024 meeting.

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

Mr. Scott said Lee MPO and Collier MPO made a commitment to complete a joint Congestion Management Process (CMP) since state legislation had asked for a study to be conducted regarding consolidation feasibility. Each MPO would use their current plans to start the study, as both Lee and Collier MPOs had recently updated their CMPs and add a regional element jointly, looking mainly at the Bonita Springs Area, from Alico Road on the north end to Immokalee Road on the south end.

Mr. Scott reviewed the map of the regional network (which can be viewed in the November 25, 2024 TAC Agenda), mentioning that the plan would be focusing on commuter traffic between Lee and Collier, there would be public involvement through committee meetings and public workshops, and that the MPOs have an overlap in two of their general planning contract consultants.

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 reviewed the model runs (which can be viewed in the November 25, 2024 TAC Agenda) and said that previous socioeconomic data that had been submitted was inaccurate in regard to anticipated future employment and population rates in the region, which affected the traffic congestion projections that were presented. The MPO's consultant, Jacobs Engineering, worked with MPO to correct the inaccurate data using the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan as a guide.

A group discussion followed regarding connectivity issues, using transit as a congestion solution, the funding status of some of the congestion projects, and the possibilities of moving funding around to attend to the most urgent congestion problem areas.

9 Member Comments

Ms. Selmeski introduced herself as Bert Miller’s alternate for the Collier County Growth Management Community Planning & Resiliency Division.

Mr. Mason introduced himself as Collier County Growth Management Community Planning & Resiliency Division Director, and said the division was fairly new and currently handling several studies, including a vulnerability assessment, repetitive loss area analysis, and a repeat flooding study, serves as staff liaison to the Army Corp’s Coastal Storm Risk Management Feasibility Study, and facilitates the community rating system. He invited Committee members to reach out if they wanted to learn more information.

Mr. De Leon said Collier Area Transit was working on the Transit Development Plan (TDP) as part of the LRTP, including a ten-year horizon plan, and just kicked off a zero emissions for alternative fuel methods for vehicles study.

Mr. Scott said that FDOT had funded a consolidation study, anticipated to begin at the end of 2025, with a \$250,000 budget, and that Collier and Lee MPOs would be looking for a joint consultant.

Ms. Lantz said that Collier County would be holding a public meeting for the Wilson Blvd project on December 9, 2024. The project was expected to be presented to the Collier County Board of County Commissioners in spring of 2025.

10 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, 9:30 a.m. –Transportation Management Services Bldg. Main Conference Room, 2885 S. Horseshoe Dr., Naples, FL, 34104 – in person.

12. Adjournment

Ms. Lantz adjourned the meeting at 10:34 a.m.