

**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE of the
COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
MEETING MINUTES
September 23, 2024, 9:30 a.m.**

1. Call to Order

Ms. Lantz called the meeting to order at 9:32 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
Bert Miller, Collier County Growth Management Community Planning & Resiliency
Don Scott, Executive Director, Lee MPO
Harry Henkel, City of Everglades Mayoral Appointee
Omar De Leon, Public Transit Manager, Public Transit & Neighborhood Enhancement Division (PTNE)
Bryant Garrett, Collier County Airport Authority, Airport Operations Executive Manager
John Lambcke, Collier Schools Transportation
Ute Vandersluis, Naples Airport Authority

TAC Members Absent

Daniel Smith, Director of Community Affairs, City of Marco Island
Dave Rivera, City of Naples Traffic Operations Supervisor
Justin Martin, City of Marco Island Public Works Department Director
Margaret Wuerstle, Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council

MPO Staff

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

Others Present

Carmen Maldonado, FDOT
Kathy Eastley, Collier County Transportation Planner
Julianne Thomas, Conservancy of Southwest Florida

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Mr. Garrett moved to approve the amended agenda. Mr. Henkel seconded. Carried unanimously.

4. **Approval of the August 26, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Bickett moved to approve the August 26, 2024 meeting minutes. Mr. Garrett seconded. Carried unanimously.

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

None.

6. **Agency Updates**

A. FDOT

None.

B. MPO Executive Director

None.

7. **Committee Action**

A. Endorse Amendment 1 to the FY 24/25-25/26 Unified Planning Work Program

Ms. McLaughlin said the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) sets forth the MPO's budget and planning activities for a two-year period. It was approved by the MPO Board on May 10, 2024, for the time period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2026. The MPO reconciled consultant billing through June 30, 2024, for ongoing plans with the budget set forth in the UPWP. FDOT awarded MPO another approximate \$13,000 in transit planning funds and asked the MPO to amend the UPWP. With the reconciliation, the MPO was able to find additional funding to put towards the Congestion Management Process (CMP) plan, including the Collier and Lee MPO regional combined CMP, as well as increase MPO Staff salaries/fringe benefits, and transit-related travel for professional development and training. The amendment combines all said actions, and was anticipated to be presented to the MPO Board for approval on October 11, 2024.

Mr. Garrett moved to endorse an Amendment 1 to the FY 24/25-25/26 Unified Planning Work Program, and Mr. Scott seconded. Carried unanimously.

B. Endorse the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan Public Involvement Plan, and Chapters 1 & 3

Ms. McLaughlin said that Jacobs Engineering, Collier MPO’s consultant for the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), presented an overview of the draft 2050 LRTP, including the Public Involvement Plan, and Chapters 1 & 3 at the August TAC meeting to allow the Committee time to review the documents. The draft 2050 LRTP Public Involvement Plan, Chapter 1 (Introduction), and Chapter 3 (Planning Context and Decision-Making Framework), reflect updated 2045 LRTP elements that address new laws, policies and regulations which affect the 2050 LRTP. Since that presentation, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) had provided additional comments.

A group discussion followed, regarding some elements of the chapters as well as FDOT’s recent comments, including whether evacuation routes should be consistently described as “important” or “critical,” factors directing weighting, and how removing funds from congestion mitigation projects to fund transit could lead to busses being delayed by the same congestion that drivers would face. In light of FDOT’s comments being provided after the Committee had reviewed the draft, members agreed that more time for the Committee to review Chapter 3, as well as further discussions with FDOT with more specific details about Collier County, were needed.

The Committee agreed to endorse the Public Involvement Plan and Chapter 1 and defer Chapter 3 for further review.

Mr. Garrett moved to endorse the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan Public Involvement Plan and Chapter 1 as shown and defer Chapter 3 and Mr. Miller seconded. Carried unanimously.

C. Endorse an Amendment to the FY 25-29 Transportation Improvement Program (Transit)

Mr. Kingston said that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has requested that Collier MPO amend its FY25-29 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add a transit project, a non-budgeted FTA funds to Purchase vehicles/equipment for a replacement bus over 30 feet.

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A group discussion followed, regarding fuel option possibilities.

Ms. Bickett moved to endorse an Amendment to the FY 25-29 Transportation Improvement Program (Transit) and Mr. Miller seconded. Carried unanimously.

D. Endorse MPO’s Amended Public Participation Plan

Ms. McLaughlin said the MPO’s Public Participation Plan (PPP) was last updated in June 2020, with considerations for the Covid pandemic and hurricane recovery needs. The newly amended PPP was informed by the MPO’s Federal Certification Review in July 2024, which prompted staff to update the PPP to reflect current demographics and recently instated federal requirements. FHWA provided comments on the preliminary draft, which have been addressed, including adding an affordable housing element to the LRTP.

Mr. Miller moved to endorse the MPO’s Amended Public Participation Plan and Mr. Henkel seconded. Carried unanimously.

E. Endorse the 2025 MPO Meeting Schedule

Ms. McLaughlin said the 2025 schedule follows established meeting locations, dates and times with the exception of two MPO Board meeting dates listed for December 2025. This is due to the fact that the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) must be adopted no later than December 11, 2025, and the regularly scheduled MPO Board meeting falls on December 12, 2025. She said the goal would be to get the LRTP adopted at the November 2025 Board meeting, so the December 8th meeting date would not be necessary, and the December 12th meeting date would be adequate, but if the LRTP was not adopted in November 2025, Board Chambers was also reserved for Monday, December 8, 2025.

A group discussion followed, and the suggestion to move the November 2025 TAC meeting up a week, in light of the Thanksgiving holiday, was mentioned, as well as the suggestion to consider that pushing the LRTP adoption up to a November MPO Board meeting would cause a domino effect of the deadline being pushed further and further ahead in the year in the future. It was agreed that scheduling one MPO Board meeting date in December 2025 prior to December 12th would be most advantageous, and that finding a possible alternate November 2025 TAC meeting date would be on the table.

Mr. Henkel moved to endorse the 2025 MPO Meeting Schedule and Ms. Vandersluis seconded. Carried unanimously.

8 Reports & Presentations (May Require Committee Action)

A. Update on the Development of the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan

Ms. McLaughlin informed the Committee about the schedule, process, and current status of the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP), funded by a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant. The MPO and its consultant, TYLin, convened a Steering Committee comprised of members of the Bicycle and Pedestrian, Citizens and Technical Advisory Committees, the Community Traffic Safety Team, local Law Enforcement Officials and the County's Emergency Management Services, as required by the SS4A grant. The MPO would follow its usual committee process, with the addition of the Steering Committee.

MPO and TYLin were working on the CSAP and had hosted a virtual Steering Committee kick-off meeting on August 28, 2024. A follow-up virtual meeting was scheduled for October 10, 2024. Public outreach was in place to encourage citizens to participate in the development of the plan.

Ms. McLaughlin provided a presentation (which can be viewed in the September 23, 2024 TAC Agenda).

A group discussion followed, regarding the various safety issues that need attention in both Collier and Lee Counties, including driver behavior, crash fatalities and traffic signalization. A suggestion was made to reach out to local organizations related to safety.

B. Update on 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan Model Runs, Existing & Committed Network Deficiencies

Ms. McLaughlin informed the Committee of the current activities of the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), including proposed model runs and the Existing & Committed (E+ C) Network Deficiencies Plot. MPO’s consultant, Jacobs Engineering, was expected to present a report describing proposed model runs at the October committee meeting. FDOT’s consultant team, Traf-O-Data, had released the first model run - the E+C roadway network and 2050 socioeconomic (SE) data, utilizing information provided by all District 1 MPO’s and TPOs, and had developed a dashboard web application identifying potential roadway capacity deficiencies based on the assigned 2050 Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) model volumes and the assumed FDOT Level of Service D (LOS D) services volume.

Ms. McLaughlin reviewed the draft timeline and model runs (which can be viewed in the September 23, 2024 TAC Agenda).

9 Member Comments

None.

10 Distribution Items

None.

11. Next Meeting Date

November 25, 2024, 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 11:08 a.m.