

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

NAPLES, FLORIDA

JUNE 19, 2024

LET IT BE REMEMBERED, the Public Transit Advisory Committee in and for the County of Collier, having conducted business herein, met on this date at 1:00 P.M. in REGULAR SESSION at Collier County Museum Lecture Hall, 3331 Tamiami Trail E, Naples, Florida with the following members present:

Chair:	John DiMarco, III
Vice-Chair:	Peter Berry
	Dewey Enderle
	Sonja Lee Samek
	Benita Staadecker
	Open Seat
	Open Seat

ALSO PRESENT: Brian Wells, Director, Collier County PTNE
Omar DeLeon, Public Transit Manager, Collier County PTNE
Alexander Showalter, Senior Planner, Collier County PTNE
Keyla Castro, Operations Specialist, Collier County PTNE
Elena-Ortiz Rosado, Marketing Manager, Collier County PTNE
Jacob Stauffer, Transit Planner, MV Transportation
Nolan Begley, Fixed Route Manager, MV Transportation

1. Call to Order

Chair DiMarco called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

2. Roll Call

Roll call was taken, and a quorum of four was established.

3. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Staadecker moved to approve the Agenda as amended:

Add: 5) Committee Action, d. 5307 & 5339 Program of Projects Update.

Second by Vice Chair Berry. Carried unanimously 4 - 0.

4. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Enderle moved to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2024; Public Transit Advisory Committee meetings as presented. Second by Vice Chair Berry. Carried unanimously 4 - 0.

Ms. Samek joined the meeting at 1:03 P.M. A quorum of five was present.

5. Committee Action

a. Endorsement of FY24 Annual Progress Report

Mr. Showalter presented an Executive Summary “*Fiscal Year 2024 Transit Development Plan (TDP) Annual Update*” for consideration which identifies recommendations and implementation strategies to achieve the goals and objectives of Collier Area Transit.

He noted:

- To receive State Block Grant Funds for system operations, each transit agency must develop a Transit Development Plan (TDP) Major Update every five (5) years and an Annual Progress Report for all other years.
- The FY2023 TDP report outlines Collier Area Transit’s progress made over the past year towards achieving the goals and objectives identified in the last TDP Major Update, approved October 27, 2020, by the BCC and FDOT on December 14, 2020.
- The TDP Annual Progress report outlines the ten-year planning document that recommends implementation strategies to achieve the goals and objectives and evaluates discrepancies in the implementations that differ with the TDP Major Update.

Strategic Plan for Mobility

- Evaluate demographics and travel behavior.
- Assess existing travel needs.
- Assess existing transit/mobility services.
- Conduct Public involvement outreach.
- Identify mobility gaps.
- Determine transit/mobility needs and goals.
- Develop mobility solutions.
- Develop service implementation and funding programs.

TDP Update

- Past year's accomplishments compared to original TDP steps taken to attain Goals, Objectives and Policies.
- Analysis of any discrepancies between the plan and the implementation for the past year.
- Revisions to the Implementation Program.
- Steps taken to attain Goals, Objective, and Policies.
- Revised Transit Priorities and Financial Plan.

Accomplishments

- Past Year Service Changes – Removal of Last Loops (11,12,13,14,17) and stretching of route times for OTP increase.
- Bust Stop Improvements – 36 ADA improvements, 14 shelter installations and 2 bench installations.
- Projects of Note: Redesigned Paradise Beach Trolley; CAT Operations and Transfer Station and Immokalee Transfer Station.

Steps taken to attain Goals, Objectives, and Policies

- Install a minimum of 10 ADA-compliant, accessible bus stops per year.
 - Complete Regional Service and Fares Study.
 - Increase Ridership.
 - Attend or host a minimum of 6 events.
 - News and Media Posts regarding service update.
 - Technology Upgrades.
 - Maintain Vehicles.
 - Annual Grant Applications.
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- Funding in the Financial Section of the TDP Annual Progress Report for FY2025-2034 is for planning purposes only.
 - The TDP Annual Progress Report includes utilizing the Collier Area Transit Public Participation Plan process endorsement from the Public Transit Advisory Committee and a fifteen-day public comment period.
 - The public comment period commenced June 18, 2024, and expires on July 3, 2024.
 - Public comments received will be included in the record communicated to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) for final approval before transmitting to FDOT.
 - The proposed final TDP will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners for consideration on July 23, 2024.
 - The deadline to submit all TDP updates to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for approval is September 1, 2024.

The Committee suggested expanding the Public Participation Process venue to enhance social media and include additional news publications.

Recommendation

Vice Chair Berry motioned to approve the Collier Area Transit Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Progress Report to the Transit Development Plan. Second by Ms. Staadecker. Carried unanimously 5 – 0.

b. Membership Application

Mr. Showalter reported there are two seats available on the Public Transit Advisory Committee (PTAC). The terms are for 3-years, and an application was received from Cliff Donenfeld.

Recommendation for Cliff Donenfeld

Chair Di Marco recommended the Board of County Commissioners appoint Cliff Donenfeld to the Public Transit Advisory Committee. Second by Mr. Enderle. Carried unanimously 5 – 0.

The recommendation will be placed on the Board of County Commissioner's *Consent Agenda*.

c. Election of Officers

Mr. Showalter reported in accordance with Ordinance No. 2016-07 the Advisory Committee must elect a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson from among its members annually.

Nomination for Chair

Vice Chair Berry nominated John DiMarco for the position of Chair of the Public Transit Advisory Committee for one year, or until a successor is appointed. Second by Mr. Enderle. Nominations were closed, and no others were tendered. Carried unanimously 5 - 0.

Mr. DiMarco retained the Chair.

Nomination for Vice Chair

Chair DiMarco nominated Peter Berry for the position of Vice Chair of the Public Transit Advisory Committee for one year, or until a successor is appointed. Second by Ms. Staadecker. Nominations were closed, and no others were tendered. Carried unanimously 5 - 0.

Mr. Berry retained Vice Chair.

d. 5307 & 5339 POP Update

Mr. DeLeon presented updates to the “*Endorsement of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA)*” to the PTAC Advisory Committee of the Program of Projects for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Sections 5307, and 5339 grant application submittals derived from discussions with FDOT.

Section 5307 FY24

- The Public Transit Neighborhood Enhancement (PTNE) Division receives federal grant funds for the management of the Collier Area Transit (CAT) system annually.
- Collier County is located within the Bonita Springs/Naples Census Urbanized Area.
- A portion of the Section 5307 funding received is shared with Lee County.
- The total amount allocated to the Urbanized Area Formula Program is \$6,844,463 of which \$5,025,205 was awarded to Collier County, \$176,792 to FDOT, and \$1,642,466 distributed to Lee County.

- In discussions with FDOT, the FDOT split was revised to \$132,084 for CAT and \$44,000 to LeeTran.
- Projects proposed for the appropriated funding may include:
 1. Transit Improvement Projects include the rehabilitation of bus stops.
 2. Security and Safety enhancement by replacing Intelligent Transportation Equipment.
 3. Provision of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Paratransit services.
 4. Funding for a replacement bus.
 5. Preventative maintenance.
 6. Fixed Route and Paratransit operational expenses.

Section 5339

- The program provides capital assistance for new and replacement buses, related equipment, and facilities.
- Collier County is the designated recipient for the urbanized area.
- The amount allocated to the Bonita Springs/Naples Urbanized Area for USC Section 5339 Bus and the Bus Facilities Urbanized Area Formula program would be \$474,920.
- Project proposed for the funding may include the purchase of a 40-foot bus.

Financial Split Update

An update was provided on the new split of the FDOT allocated funds between CAT and LeeTran.

Recommendation

Vice Chair Berry motioned to endorse the financial split modifications between CAT and LeeTran of FDOT's allocated funds to the Collier Area Transit 5307 & 5309 FY24-25 Program of Projects Federal Grant Funds. Second by Chair DiMarco. Carried unanimously 5 – 0.

Discussions ensued regarding Paratransit service improvements between Collier and Lee Counties.

6. Reports and Presentations

None

7. Member and Staff Comments

None

8. Public Comments


None

9. Next Meeting Date

July 17, 2024 - 1:00 P.M.
Collier County Museum Lecture Hall
3331 Tamiami Trail E
Naples, FL. 34104

10. Adjournment

There being no further business for the good of the County, the meeting was adjourned by the chair at 1:34 P.M.


Public Transit Advisory Committee

John DiMarco III, Chair

These minutes approved by the Board/Committee on August 21, 2024 as presented X or as amended _____.