

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING

October 19, 2021 Naples, Florida,

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 3:00 P.M. in REGULAR SESSION at Collier County Museum Lecture Hall, 3331 Tamiami Trail E, Naples, Florida with the following members present:

Chairman: John DiMarco, III (ZOOM)
Vice-Chairman: Arthur Dobberstein
James Bennett
Peter Berry
Devon Browne
James Caton (Excused)
Sonja Lee Samek (ZOOM)

ALSO PRESENT: Michelle Arnold, Director, Public Transit and Neighborhood Enhancement
Omar Deleon, Public Transit Manager, Collier Area Transit
Braian Morales, General Manager, MV Transportation
Brandy Otero, Principal Planner, Collier County Museums

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Dobberstein called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

2. Roll Call

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

Mr. Berry motioned to allow Chair DiMarco and Ms. Samek to participate in the meeting via ZOOM remote access due to an extraordinary circumstance. Second by Mr. Browne. Carried unanimously 4 - 0.

Chair DiMarco joined the meeting. A quorum of five was present.

3. Approval of Agenda

Chair DiMarco moved to approve the PTAC Agenda for October 19, 2021 as amended:

Add: Item 6. Reports and Presentations - d. Grants; e. Van Pooling

Second by Mr. Bennett. Carried unanimously 5 - 0.

4. Approval of Minutes

a. June 15, 2021 Minutes

b. August 17, 2021

c. September 21, 2021

Mr. Berry moved to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2021, August 17, 2021 and September 21, 2021 Public Transit Advisory Committee meetings as presented. Second by Mr. Bennett. Carried unanimously 5 - 0.

5. Committee Action

Election of Officers – 2021 - 2022

a. Nominations for Chair

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

Chair DiMarco retained the office of Chair of the Committee.

b. Nominations for Vice-Chair

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

Mr. Berry assumed the office of Vice-Chair of the Committee.

Ms. Samek joined the meeting. A quorum of six was present.

6. Reports and Presentations

a. Driver Shortage

*Mr. DeLeon presented an Executive Summary, *Driver Shortage*, to update the Committee on the status of the driver shortage noting:*

- The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact County transit operations.
- Public transit ridership experienced a 65% reduction at the peak of the pandemic.
- Ridership has increased to a level of 27% of pre-pandemic service levels.
- There is a national driver shortage for the Transportation Industry.
- Driver shortage affects both the Fixed Route and Paratransit services.
- The current labor market has affected the ability to attract and retain workers.

The document “*Third Amendment to Contract 18-7382 for Collier Area Transit (CAT) Fixed Route, Demand Response and Transit Operations Management Services (Grant Funded)*”, effective November 1, 2021, was distributed to the Committee.

The contractor, MV Contract Transportation, Inc., has requested modifications to the contract rates to address the workforce issues. Staff negotiated equitable adjustments to the rates set forth in the Agreement to encourage the Contractor’s ability to hire drivers to operate staff for both the Fixed Route and Paratransit Route services.

During Committee discussion the following was noted:

- CAT adheres to Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) criteria for employment standards.
- Benefits, except medical insurance, are offered to part-time employees.
- Demand for drivers is less on weekends, particularly Sunday, due to light route schedule.
- The County Attorney has reviewed the Contract No. 18-7382 (Third Amendment) and it is on the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) Agenda October 26, 2021, for approval.
- Federal Grants are being sought to offset the cost increases.
- The effective date is November 1, 2021. The MV Contract renews May 1, 2022, and 2023 for one year with an end date of April 30, 2024. There is no Sunset Provision.
- It is unknown if this action will solve the driver shortage problem.

Recommendation

Committee members agreed to endorse the Third Amendment to Contract 18-7382.

b. Marco Island Trolley Pilot

The project was funded through the Blue Zone program and proposed to run the weekend of December 4th however the Marco Island City Council does not support the concept.

c. November Service Changes

Mr. Morales presented an Executive Summary, “*November Route Changes*” to update the Committee on the service modifications to be implemented for the season schedule change on November 21, 2021. The following was noted:

- Proposed schedule modifications were subject to a *public comment period*.
- Staff will conduct a *public workshop* on November 5, 2021, at transit locations in the County.
- The public comment period end date and the public workshop date of November 5th coincide.

- Proposed changes affect ten (10) existing routes and eliminates Route 18 (slated to be eliminated through the Comprehensive Operations Analysis (COA) process).
- Enhancements consist of service frequency, consolidation, and realignment modifications.
- Several additional modifications to achieve cost neutral implementation are incorporated.

Response to Committee Comments:

- Many of the Comprehensive Operations Analysis (COA) near-term service enhancement recommendations are incorporated in the schedule update.
- Schedule modification information is available at seven (7) County government locations as well as the MV Transportation web site.

d. Grant Update

Electric Buses

The Pinellas Suncoast Transport Authority (PSTA) has assumed responsibility for solicitation of electric buses for Florida.

- PSTA requested quote solicitations in October 2021.
- On receipt of quotes, a contract proposal will be presented to their Board for approval.
- Collier County (CAT) will have the ability to purchase from their contract award.
- Two grants must be merged to finance CAT's electric bus purchase.
- The second grant is due to be awarded October 2021.
- Estimated time for purchase of electric bus(es) by CAT is eighteen (18) months.

Transit Development Plan Grant

Paratransit Service

- The granting agency declined to issue Uber a contract as the company did not meet the criteria to operate in Collier County.
- A Scope of Work (SOW) document for Paratransit service provision will go out for bid.

e. Van Pool Service

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) retained Enterprise to provide a turnkey van pool service. Staff will request performance and operation statistics

Van pooling for hotel chain employees, discussed at the Marco Island Summit, will be pursued by CAT as alternative commuter transportation.

Mr. DeLeon will:

- Determine number of established van pools.
- Gather operational statistics for the van pool services.
- Notify Mr. Browne of the solicitation advertisement.

7. Member Comments

In response to member inquiry on labor shortage, Staff noted on time vehicle maintenance performance is 98%.

8. Public Comments

None


October 19, 2021

9. Next Meeting Date

November 16, 2021 - Collier County Museum, Lecture Hall, 3331 Tamiami Trail East, Naples, FL.

There being no further business for the good of the County, the meeting was adjourned by order of the chair at 4:09 P.M.

Public Transit Advisory Committee






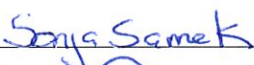

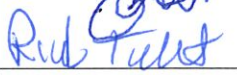

John DiMarco, Chairman

These minutes approved by the Board/Committee on _____ as presented _____ or as amended _____.

PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

“PTAC”

February 15, 2022

#	NAME	EMAIL	ORGANIZATION
1	Michelle Arnold	Michelle.Arnold@colliercountyfl.gov	Collier County PTNE, Director
2	Omar DeLeon	Omar.Deleon@colliercountyfl.gov	Collier County PTNE Public Transit Manager -CAT
3	 Elena Ortiz-Rosado	Elena.OrtizRosado@colliercountyfl.gov	Collier County PTNE Events & Sales Marketing Coordinator
4	Alexander Showalter	Alexander.Showalter@colliercountyfl.gov	Collier County PTNE Senior Planner – CAT
5	Braian Morales	Braian.Morales@Colliercountyfl.gov	MV General Manager 
6	 James Bennett	urb:naples@gmail.com	Parker Aerospace
7	 Sonya Samek	sameks@collierschools.com	Collier County Public Schools
8			
9	 Rick Tulest	rick@tulest.com	MV Tulest
10	Jacob Stauffer	jacob.stauffer@collier.gov.net	CAT
12	 Peter Berry	peter@berrytwo.com	
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