

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

NAPLES, FLORIDA

JANUARY 15, 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
	Cliff Donenfeld
	Dewey Enderle (Excused)
	Sonja Lee Samek
	Benita Staadecker
	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 Support Specialist, Collier County PTNE
Elena Ortiz-Rosado, Events, Sales and Marketing Coordinator, PTNE
Jacob Stauffer, Transit Planner, 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 presented. Second by Vice Chair Berry. Carried unanimously 4 - 0.

4. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Staadecker moved to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2024, Public Transit Advisory Committee meeting as presented. Second by Vice Chair Berry. Carried unanimously 4 - 0.

Ms. Samek joined the meeting at 1:04 P.M. A quorum of five was present.

5. Committee Action

None

6. Reports and Presentations

a. Update on Transit Development Plan (TDP) Process

Mr. Showalter presented the Executive Summary “Update on Transit Development Plan (TDP) Process” to the Committee. He noted:

- The TDP process identifies recommendations and implementation strategies to achieve the goals and objectives of Collier Area Transit.
- 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.
- The TDP is a ten (10) year plan for transit needs, cost and revenue projections, community transit goals, objectives, and policies.
- The TDP serves as a planning, development and operational, guidance document.
- TDP Components include:
 - Mission, Goals, and Objectives – Overall purpose, specific, achievable targets, and actions to reach the goals.
 - Situational Appraisal – Identifying and addressing concerns.
 - Recommended Network Changes – Service Improvements and New Service.
 - Financial Element – Alternative funding sources required to implement initiatives.
 - Public Outreach – Public Surveys and Workshops, and Stakeholder interviews.
- The major update is developed in coordination with the Metropolitan Planning Organization’s (MPO) long range transportation plan.
- Collier Area Transit staff have been working with the Consulting Team of Stantec and MPO Staff to update the plan.
- The consultant has produced the Public Involvement Plan, consistent updates to each section of the TDP and identified new peers for comparison of transit systems.
- MPO and CAT Staff’s feedback and comments have been incorporated into the documents.

Approval Process Key Dates 2025

- March 1 - Complete TDP Draft
- March 1 - 30 Day Public Comment Period
- June 1 - Final Proposed TDP
- June 13 - Submission to MPO Board
- June/July - Submission to the Collier Board of County Commissioners

Comments

Mr. Showalter responded to queries:

- Venues to inform the public about proposed system changes include the County website, the County Commissioner newsletter, and Public Workshops. Additional Social Media venues will be researched.
- Suggested roadway network improvements such as integration of HOV lanes and lane restriction access for commercial trucks will be submitted to the MPO for evaluation.
- A light rail system (LRT) has not been considered for County transportation.

If members of the Committee have any comments or questions on the update they should contact Mr. Showalter.

b. Zero Emissions Plan Update

Mr. Showalter presented the Executive Summary “Zero Transmission Plan Update” to the Committee. He noted:

- CAT Staff, the MPO, and consulting firm Benesch have initiated the process to develop a Zero-Emissions Transition Plan.
- The Plan is a strategic initiative by CAT to transition the existing fleet of diesel busses, into a mixed fleet including zero or low-emissions alternatives.
- The plan is critical to grant applications related to zero or low-emissions purchases.
- The Plan will assess the financial, operational, and infrastructural changes required to adopt zero or low-emission technologies into CAT’s fleet.
- The goal is to provide a path forward to include these vehicles into CAT’s everyday fleet in a cost-effective and operationally efficient manner.

7. Member and Staff Comments

Member Information

- Committee Members data should be updated on the County website by March 31, 2025.

Marco Island Parking

- The Marco Island City Council voted to ban vehicle parking in the swales.

Traffic Congestion

- FDOT has identified projects for 2026 to eliminate congestion.

Collier Boulevard Widening Phase III

- The project is along Collier Boulevard between City Gate Boulevard North and Green Boulevard and involves widening Collier Boulevard from four to six lanes within the project limits. It includes realigning portions of the adjacent CR 951 Canal. The project is anticipated to complete design by mid-2025.
- The bus stop will be moved one block south and a traffic light will be added.

8. Public Comments

None

9. Next Meeting Date

February 19, 2025 - 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 1:33 P.M.


Public Transit Advisory Committee

John DiMarco III, Chair

These minutes approved by the Board/Committee on MARCH 19, 2025 as presented X or as amended _____.