



## CITRUS COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD (LCB)

Thursday, November 9, 2023

### MINUTES

The Citrus County Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (LCB) held a regular quarterly meeting at 10:30 a.m. at the Lecanto Government Building, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Room 166, Lecanto, Florida. The meeting was advertised in the Citrus Chronicle newspaper and the agenda was available on the Hernando/Citrus MPO website.

#### MEMBERS PRESENT

David Douglas, Vice Chair, Citizen Advocate – Transit User as Primary Means  
Dave Newell, Florida Department of Transportation, District 7  
Elizabeth Alacci, Florida Department of Children and Family Services  
Joanne Granger, Transit Services Director, Mass Transit Coordinator  
Cara Brunk, Florida Department of Elder Affairs  
Emilio Santiago, Florida Department of Health Care Administration  
Sheri Ellis, Local Representative for Children at Risk  
Walter “Bud” Osborne, Veteran Services Office Alternate  
Janet Clymer, Alternate, Regional Workforce Development Board  
Katie Lucas, Local Medical Community Representative  
Jeannette Estes, Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities Representative

#### MEMBERS ABSENT

Ruthie Schlabach, Chair, Citrus County Commissioner  
Stephen Brown, Person with a Disability

#### OTHERS PRESENT

Robert Esposito, MPO Executive Director  
Mary Elwin, MPO Coordinator  
Joy Turner, MPO Administrative Assistant III

#### MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

- Vice Chair Douglas called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and led the moment of silence.
- The Pledge of Allegiance and the introductions of Board and staff followed the moment of silence.
- A quorum was declared, and the affidavit of publication was read into the record.

#### APPROVAL/MODIFICATION OF AGENDA

**Motion:** A motion was made by Mr. Osborne to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lucas and the motion passed unanimously.

#### REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES – AUGUST 10, 2023, LCB REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

**Motion:** A motion was made by Ms. Lucas to approve the August 10, 2023, Minutes of the LCB’s Regular Public Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Newell and the motion passed unanimously.

#### REPORTS

##### Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) Quarterly Report – Joanne Granger, Transit Director

Ms. Granger, representing the CTC, reported that from July through September 2023, the CTC averaged 4,300 total trips. September was low due to the short month caused by the holiday and hurricane impact. Most trips continue to be nutritional, medical, and employment related, respectively.

##### Key Training Center Quarterly Report – Theresa Flick, Programs and Services Director

The Key Training Center reported that 8,893 trips for medical purposes were provided July through September 2023. Ms. Flick indicated there were no employment trips due to the March 2023 requirement from Agencies for Persons with Disabilities to redesign and eliminate employment activities from day programs. Trips for educational purposes (8,004), shopping (356), and recreational (534) were also provided.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **1. ANNUAL OPERATING REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR (CTC) AGENCY, Joanne Granger, Transit Director**

Ms. Granger stated the report was for door-to-door (paratransit) services from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, which is based on the State fiscal year versus the County fiscal year. She reported 26,697 trips were provided which is up from last year's 23,933. There is a significant increase in transportation disadvantaged (TD) trips totaling 22,256 versus 19,113 trips from the previous period. By category, most of the persons riding the bus are individuals over 60 (10,356), persons with disabilities (7,389), low income (5,034), and children at risk (133). Albeit individuals over 60 are only counted in their primary category, many are also persons with disabilities and/or low income. By trip purpose, nutritional was 8,957 trips because seniors are transported daily to dining centers, followed by medical (7,046), and employment (4,937). Ms. Granger noted more complaints are reported versus commendations; however, the process to document commendations has been modified and will be more significant for future reporting. The Key Training Center had a total of 61,847 trips of which the majority were for Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) at 56,280 trips.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Ms. Lucas to approve the Annual Operating Report of the Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) for Fiscal Year 2023, to authorize the Chair's signature thereon, and for submittal of the executed Annual Operating Report to the Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD). The motion was seconded by Mr. Osborne and the motion passed unanimously.

### **2. ANNUAL EXPENDITURE REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR (CTC) AGENCY, Joanne Granger, Transit Director**

**Motion:** A motion was made by Mr. Newell to approve the Annual Expenditure Report of the Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) for Fiscal Year 2023, to authorize the Chair's signature thereon, and for submittal of the executed Annual Operating Report to the Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD). The motion was seconded by Mr. Osborne and the motion passed unanimously.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS** - There were no citizen comments.

## **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

- Ms. Elwin shared that Elizabeth Alacci, Florida Department of Children and Family Services, gave a feature presentation at the Hernando County Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (TDLCB) meeting November 8, 2023. Ms. Elwin noted that Chair Schlabach would like to begin feature presentations on the services offered by the state agency the board member represents in order to foster dialog between the agencies and the public on what services are available. Ms. Alacci explained adult protective services for a vulnerable adult and how the Florida Department of Children and Family Services receives reports and investigates abuse. Furthermore, she explained how their agency works with other state agencies to provide services to a vulnerable adult. To report abuse, call the hotline at 1-800-96ABUSE (1-800-962-2873) or by completing a web report at [www.myffamilies.com](http://www.myffamilies.com).
- Bud Osborne volunteered to give a feature presentation at the February 8, 2024, regular public meeting and Ms. Lucas will give a feature presentation at the May 9, 2024, regular public meeting.

## **MPO DIRECTOR COMMENTS**

- FDOT Project #257165-3 US 41 from SR 44 to S of Withlacoochee Trail Bridge: Construction started October 3rd, 2023 (anticipated to last 2 years) and there will be a groundbreaking ceremony November 30, 2023. Location to be determined.
- Outlook meeting notices will be sent out for the 2024 Committees and Transportation Disadvantaged meetings.
- The LCB Annual Public Workshop will be held February 8, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. The LCB Regular Meeting will follow.
- 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) – Scope A was completed, and Scope B is underway. The final scopes, C and D, will need to be issued immediately after the new GPC contracts are approved by the MPO Board which is tentatively scheduled for December 7, 2023.
- Traffic Segment Studies in Citrus County (US41 and SR 200) and Hernando County (County Line Road and US 41) will commence upon the approval of new GPC contracts (anticipated December 7, 2023).

## **ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING**

Vice Chair Douglas adjourned the meeting at 11:18 a.m. The annual public workshop of the Citrus County Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (LCB) will be held on Thursday, February 8, 2023, beginning at 9:30 a.m., followed by the LCB regular meeting which will begin no earlier than 10:00 a.m. at the Lecanto Government Building, 3600 W Sovereign Path, Room 166, Lecanto, Florida. The meeting agenda and back-up materials are available online at: [www.hernandocounty.us/hernandocitrusmpo](http://www.hernandocounty.us/hernandocitrusmpo).