

**METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

1:30 p.m., June 7, 2023

Cape Coral Public Works Building
815 Nicholas Parkway E., Cape Coral, FL
Green Room/A200



AGENDA

Call to Order

Roll Call

New Business

1. Public Comments will be Taken at Each Item
2. *Review and Approval of the March 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes
3. +Review of the Year End Audit for FY 2021/2022 (CLA)
4. Presentation and Discussion on the Cape Coral Evacuation Route Study (Don Scott)
5. Update on the 2020 Urban Area Allocation Discussions and the Proposed Joint Meeting
6. Information on Recently Released 2021 Florida Travel Trends Report (Don Scott)
7. Overview of the June 16th MPO Board Meeting Agenda (Don Scott)

Other Business

8. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
9. Announcements
10. Information/Distribution Items

Adjournment

* Action Items + May Require Action

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Calandra Barraco with the Lee County MPO at 239-330-2243 or by email at cbarraco@leempo.com at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired call (800) 955-8770 Voice / (800) 955-8771 TDD. The MPO's planning process is conducted in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes. Any person or beneficiary who believes they have been discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, or familial status may file a complaint with the Lee County MPO Title VI Coordinator, Calandra Barraco, at 239-330-2243, or in writing at P.O. Box 150045, Cape Coral, Florida 33915-0045.

**METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

1:30 p.m., March 8, 2023

Cape Coral Public Works Building
815 Nicholas Parkway E., Cape Coral, FL
Green Room/A200



Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by MPO Board Vice-Chair/City of Cape Coral Mayor John Gunter.

The roll was recorded by MPO staff. There was a quorum. Those MEC members in attendance included Lee County Commissioner Kevin Ruane; City of Sanibel Councilmember Michael Miller; City of Fort Myers Councilmember Fred Burson; Village of Estero Vice-Mayor Jon McLain; City of Bonita Springs Deputy Mayor Fred Forbes; City of Cape Coral Mayor John Gunter; and Town of Fort Myers Beach Councilmember John R. King. Others in attendance included MPO Legal Counsel Derek Rooney; City of Cape Coral Police Department Officer; Victoria Peters with FDOT; Laura Dodd with the City of Cape Coral; Ned Baier with Volkert; Charles Heines with the Trust For Public Land; members of the public Barry Freedman, Steve Novosad, Marsha Ellis, Patty Whitehead, Deb Orton, and Emily Porter; and MPO staff Don Scott, Ron Gogoi, and Calandra Barraco. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

New Business

Agenda Item #1 - Public Comments Taken at Each Item

Vice Chair Gunter noted public comments would be taken at each agenda item.

Agenda Item #2 - *Review and Approval of the January 11, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Deputy Mayor Fred Forbes made the motion to approve the January 11, 2023 Meeting Minutes. Councilmember John R. King seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #3 - +Provide Input on the Bonita Estero Rail Trail Feasibility Study

Mr. Ned Baier with Volkert provide a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on purpose, team, rails-to-trails program information, example of the Legacy Trail, map of proposed Rail Trail area and SUN Trail network, rail corridor market value, funding, feasibility study content, study area, methodology, alternatives, map of alignments, safety and security on trails, example of Snoqualmie Valley Trail, public involvement, feasibility study status, study findings, and next steps. The presentation can be accessed at the following link: [Bonita Estero Rail Trail](#) Mr. Baier introduced Mr. Charles Heines with the Trust for Public Land who provided information on their role in the process. Vice-Chair Gunter asked if there were any member questions or comments. The Executive Committee members discussed option three, additional options or alignments, Estero portion of project funding, time line for funding, options to generate funds, adding time frame to contract for acquisition of funding, hurricane impact, support of bicycling, Bonita Springs Council support, definition of pathway, requirements for SUN Trail funding, right-of-way constraints for option three, large number of crossings for option three, state roads along configuration, types of taxes, funding used in other area, and percentage of support for funding. Vice-Chair Gunter asked if there were any public comments. Members of the public Mr. Steve Novosad, Marsh Ellis, Berry Freedman, Patty Whitehead, Deb Orton, and Emily Porter provided public comments on this agenda item. In addition, Mr. Scott handed out printed versions of public comments on this agenda item received via email prior to the meeting.

Agenda Item #4 - Update on the 2020 Urban Area Census Data Changes and Activities

Mr. Don Scott provided a Power Point presentation on the 2020 Census Data and Maps Release that included slides with information on MPO activities related to the 2020 Census, population changes, 2020 census map, 2000 census map, 2010 census map, urbanized area population estimates, growth, Transportation Management Area (TMA) table, Federal funding allocations, funding impacts, previous actions on urbanized census changes, and current urban area census actions. He asked if there were any comments or questions. The presentation can be accessed at the following link: [Urban Area Census Data](#) Vice-Chair Gunter asked if there were any member comments on this agenda item. The committee discussed urban area and metropolitan statistical area designations, population estimates and sources, coordination with FDOT, allocations, and permanent population. Vice-Chair Gunter asked if there were any public comments on this agenda item. There were none.

Agenda Item #5 - Information on the Safe Streets for All Grant Award

Mr. Scott provided a Power Point presentation on the Safe Streets For All (SS4A) Grant Award that included slides with information on background, funding, National Roadway Safety Strategy, Safe System Approach, basics of roadway safety, types of SS4A grants, overview of FY 2022 SS4A grants, roles and responsibilities of grant recipient, requirement of grant agreement, execution of grant agreement, and expenditure of Federal grant funds. The presentation can be accessed at the following link: [Safe Streets for All](#) Vice-Chair Gunter asked if there were any member comments on this agenda item. The committee briefly discussed criteria for funding. Vice-Chair Gunter asked if there was public comment on this agenda item. There was none.

Agenda Item #6 - Review of the Current Proposed Transportation Legislation and Member Projects

Mr. Scott provided a Power Point presentation on the current proposed legislation and member projects that included slides on existing legislation and list of appropriations projects. The presentation can be found at the following link: [Legislation and Appropriations](#) Vice-Chair Gunter asked if there were any member or public comments on this agenda item. There were neither.

Agenda Item #7 - Overview of the March 17th MPO Board Meeting Agenda

Mr. Scott provided information on the upcoming MPO Board meeting agenda items including previous meeting minutes, Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Certification, FDOT Certification, Bonita Estero Rail Trail, Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons, and legislation. Vice Chair Gunter asked if there were any member or public comments on this agenda item. There were neither.

Other Business

Agenda Item #8- Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

A member of the public, Ms. Marsha Ellis, provided a public comment on items not on the agenda.

Agenda Item #9 – Announcements

There were no announcements.

Agenda Item #10 - Information/Distribution Items

Mr. Scott mentioned the information and/or distribution item that was included in the agenda packet and [posted to the MPO website](#) on an upcoming public meeting regarding a project on SR 78. Mr. Scott said he would include additional public meeting notices in the MPO Board packet. Vice-Chair Gunter asked if there were any other comments. There were none.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed here: [MEC March 8, 2023](#)

* Action Items + May Require Action

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REVIEW OF THE END OF YEAR AUDIT FOR FY 2021/2022

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Review and comment on the MPO's end of year audit for FY 2021/2022.

Staff of the MPO's auditor, CliftonLarsonAllen LLP, will present an overview of the FY 2021/2022 year-end audit and hard copies will be provided at the meeting. A link to the document is provided here: [FY 2021/2022 Audit](#)

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON THE CAPE CORAL EVACUATION ROUTE STUDY

DISCUSSION ITEM:

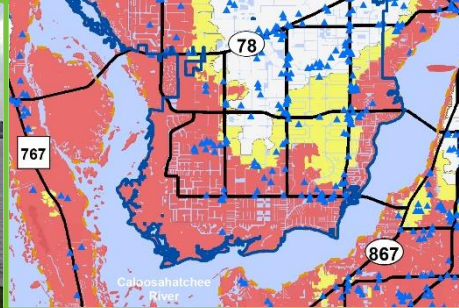
The Cape Coral evacuation route study started last year consistent with MPO action that was taken as part of the development of the 2040 Long Range Plan. The purpose of the study is to look at the existing and future roadway network and determine if the planned roadway network is what would be needed to meet the evacuation needs of the growing community. This is expected to be used to justify infrastructure improvements to meet future transportation needs

The consultant has been working on the base year model and has now started running alternatives to see what roadway improvements could be made to help reduce evacuation times. Staff will present the status of the study to date along with discussing potential improvements to test.

City of Cape Coral Evacuation Route Study

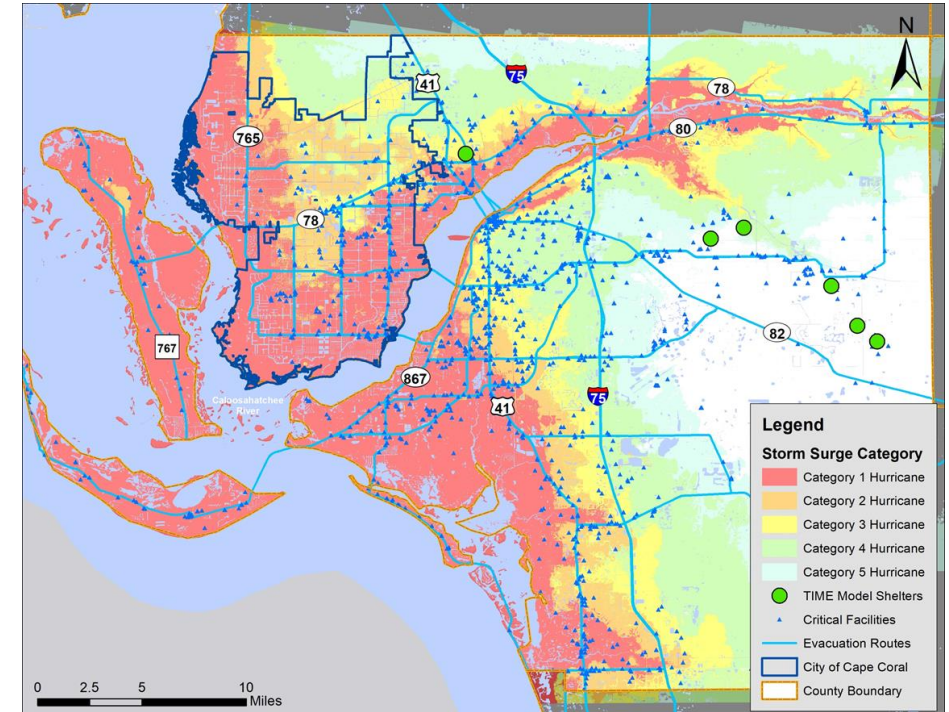
Performed on behalf of the City of Cape Coral and the
Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization

Study Progress Overview



Study Objectives

- “Determine whether regional roadway improvements can maintain or reduce the out-of-city, -county and -regional evacuation times.”
- Develop a Refined Evacuation Model
 - 2020 and 2045 levels
 - Utilize the latest TIME Model from the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM)
 - Review and update model inputs (Socioeconomics, Evacuation Zones, Networks, Input Data)
 - Updates / Review focus on the City of Cape Coral, with attention given to relevant Lee County roadways, evacuation zones, shelter facilities, and other variables
- Use the model to evaluate up to 20 evacuation scenarios
- Provide the City of Cape Coral and the Lee County MPO with recommended strategies that will help to reduce clearance times



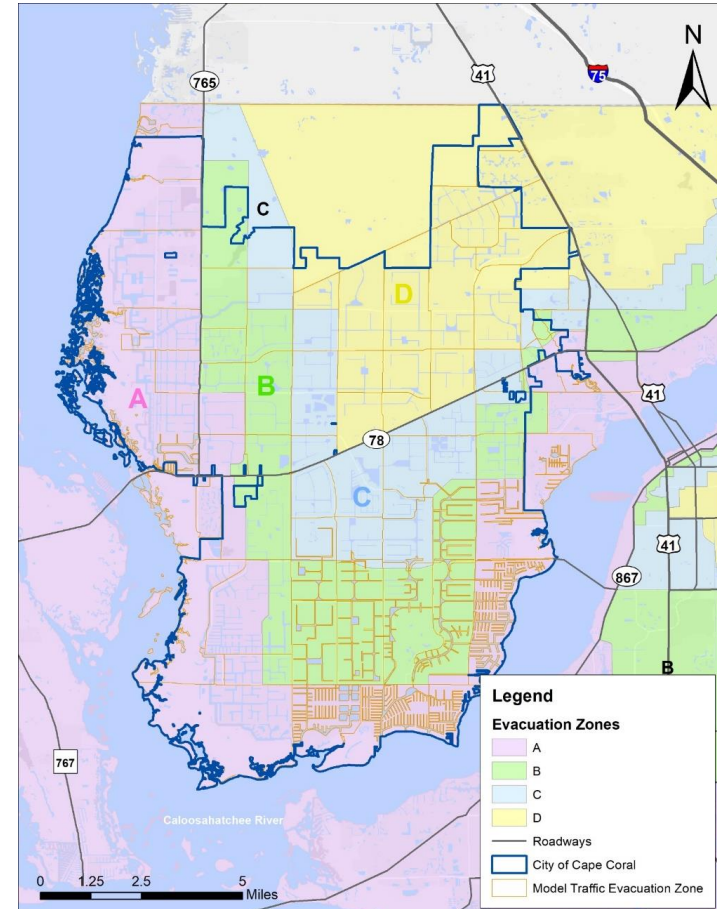
Study Progress to Date

- **Task A: Demographic/Socioeconomic Profile and Land Use Analysis**
 - Reviewed 2020 Socioeconomic Assumptions and Addressed Comments from Prior CTAC Meeting
 - Developed 2045 Socioeconomic Assumptions based on Regional Travel Demand Model Forecasts
 - Reviewed Current and Future Land Use Assumptions
- **Task B: Hazard Analysis for Hurricane Storm Surge**
 - Obtained the latest flood plain and surge zone information
 - Assessed if any changes to the model evacuation zones are needed
- **Task C: Behavioral Analysis**
 - Reviewed behavioral data assumptions (percent evacuation, evacuation destination, etc...)
 - Used Florida Statewide Regional Evacuation Study Program Regional Behavioral Analysis, June 2021 (latest dataset)
- **Task D: Shelter Analysis**
 - Developed an inventory of city and county evacuation shelters, including shelter capacities
 - Quantified evacuation shelter demand
- **Task E: Regional Transportation Networks**
 - Reviewed assumed network capacities and configurations for the 2020 network
 - Developed a 2045 network based on the latest Long-Range Transportation Plan cost-feasible assumptions
- **Task F: Evacuation Population and Vulnerability Analysis**
 - Evaluated of the levels of vulnerability by zone, population-at-risk, and effects on critical facilities in the City
 - Performed Population analysis by evacuation zone

Study Tasks – Modeling

- **Task G: Transportation Analysis**

- Updated the TIME Model based on Tasks A - F
- 2020 and 2045 Model Years
- Model Outputs reported at City and County Level:
 - Evacuation clearance times (Total Time by Scenario)
 - Number of evacuees
 - Evacuation routes
- Develop Base Case Scenarios for 2020 and 2045
- Develop up to 20 Scenarios to Test using the Model
- Provide the Lee County MPO and the City of Cape Coral with recommendations that will help to reduce clearance times
- Recommendations may include strategies such as phasing, alternative evacuation routes, and capacity improvements



Initial Results – Base Case Clearance Times

Lee County

Storm Strength	Lee County in 2020			Lee County in 2045		
	Population Evacuating	% of Total Population	Clearance Times (Hours)	Population Evacuating	% of Total Population	Clearance Times (Hours)
Category 1	218,600	28.9%	15.5	388,200	34.9%	17.5
Category 2	270,000	35.7%	21.0	478,100	43.0%	24.0
Category 3	363,900	48.1%	26.5	659,000	59.3%	38.5
Category 4	453,200	59.9%	43.0	841,900	75.8%	56.5
Category 5	512,100	67.7%	47.0	952,700	85.7%	72.0

Assumptions:

- Response Curve = 12 Hours
- Region is Evacuated: Lee County and Surrounding Counties (Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Sarasota)
- “No-Go” Counties (not available for evacuation), based on the actual evacuation order from Hurricane Ian
- Tourist Population is included in the evacuation effort for All Evacuated Counties
- University Population is assumed to be in Fall/Spring Session (100 Percent)

Initial Results – Base Case Clearance Times

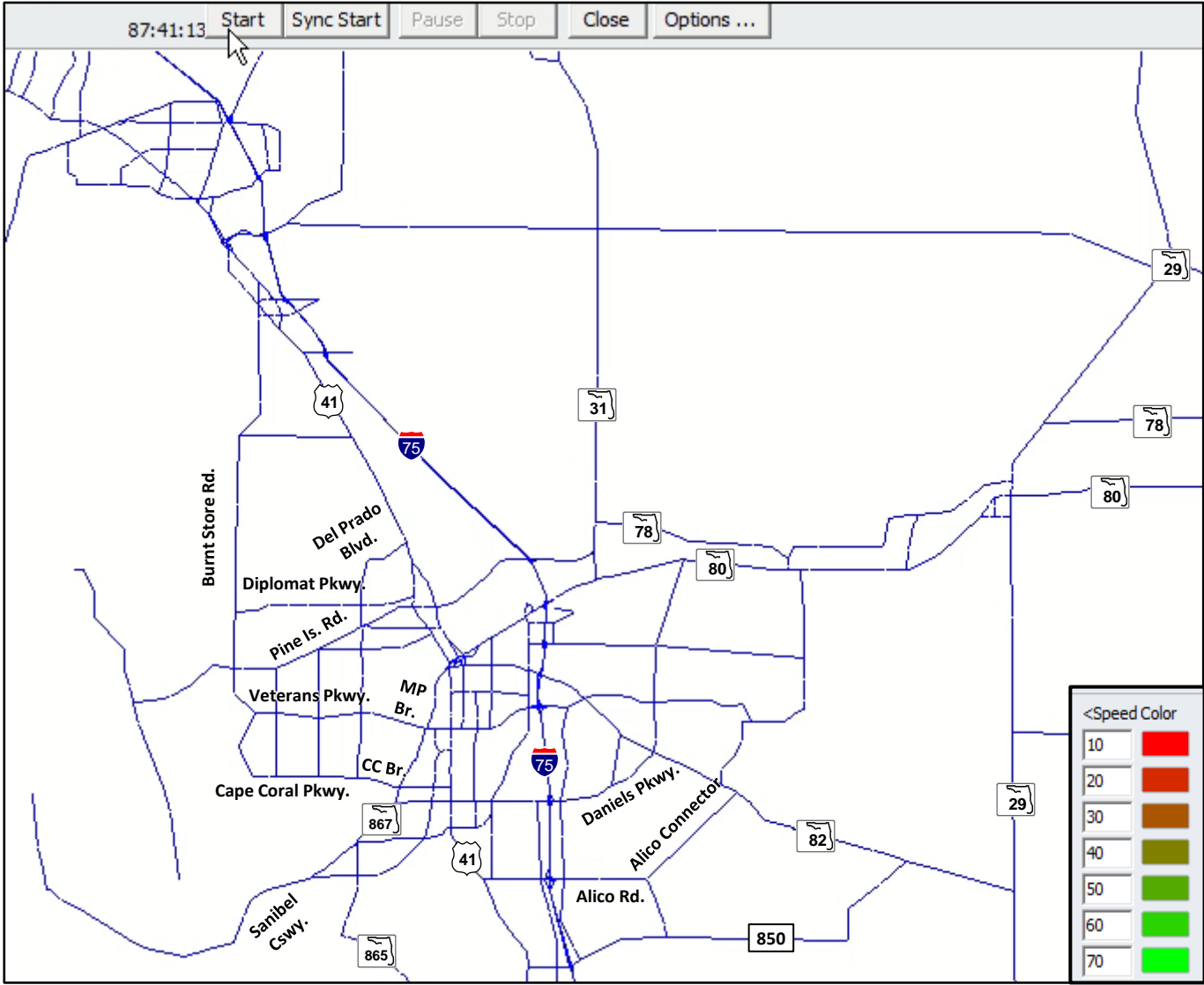
City of Cape Coral

Storm Strength	City of Cape Coral in 2020			City of Cape Coral in 2045		
	Population Evacuating	% of Total Population	Clearance Times (Hours)	Population Evacuating	% of Total Population	Clearance Times (Hours)
Category 1	62,100	27.6%	14.0	83,200	26.5%	14.5
Category 2	80,100	35.5%	15.0	106,200	33.9%	15.5
Category 3	108,500	48.1%	21.0	146,200	46.6%	30.0
Category 4	134,600	59.7%	30.0	185,000	59.0%	55.0
Category 5	153,000	67.9%	37.0	209,800	66.9%	58.0

Assumptions:

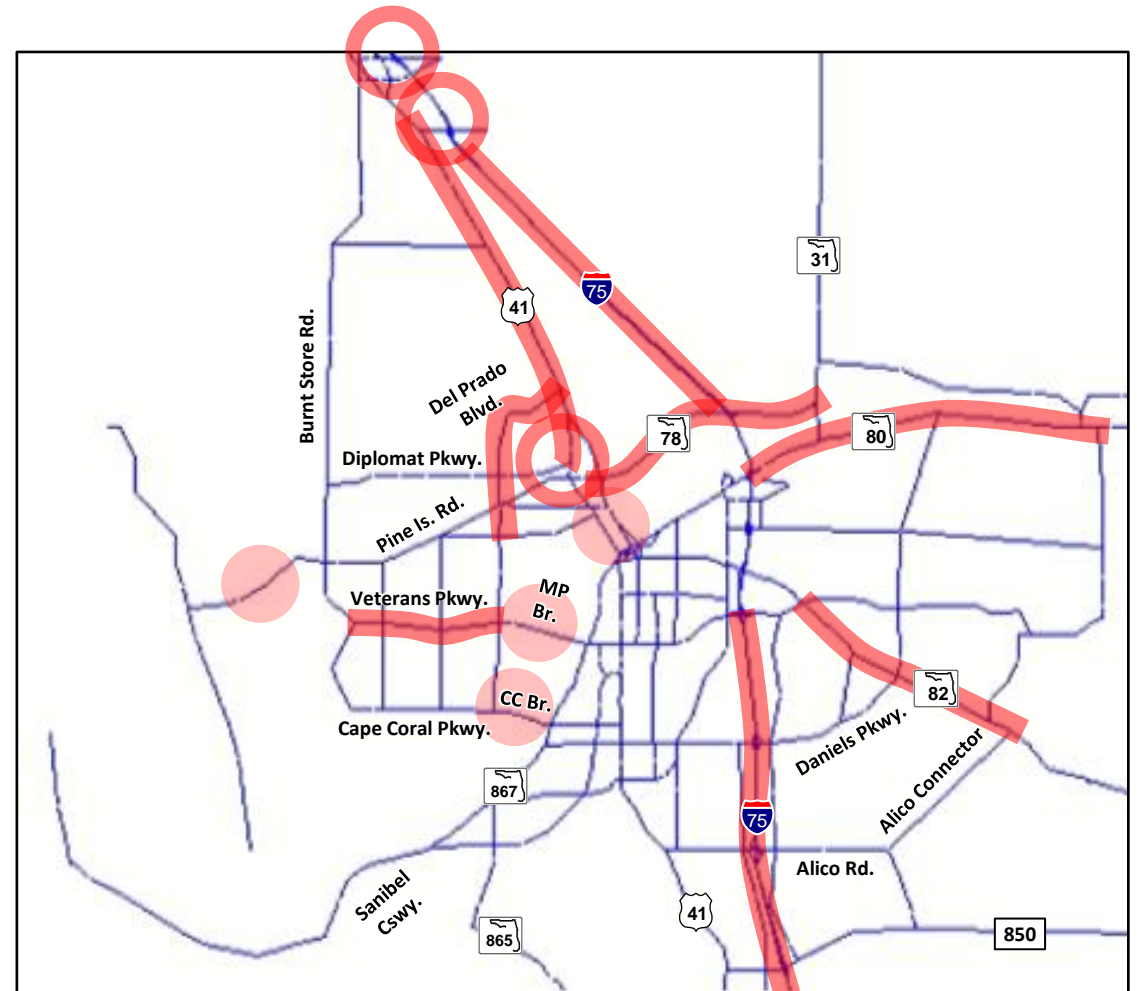
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Base Case - 2045 - Category 5 - Animation



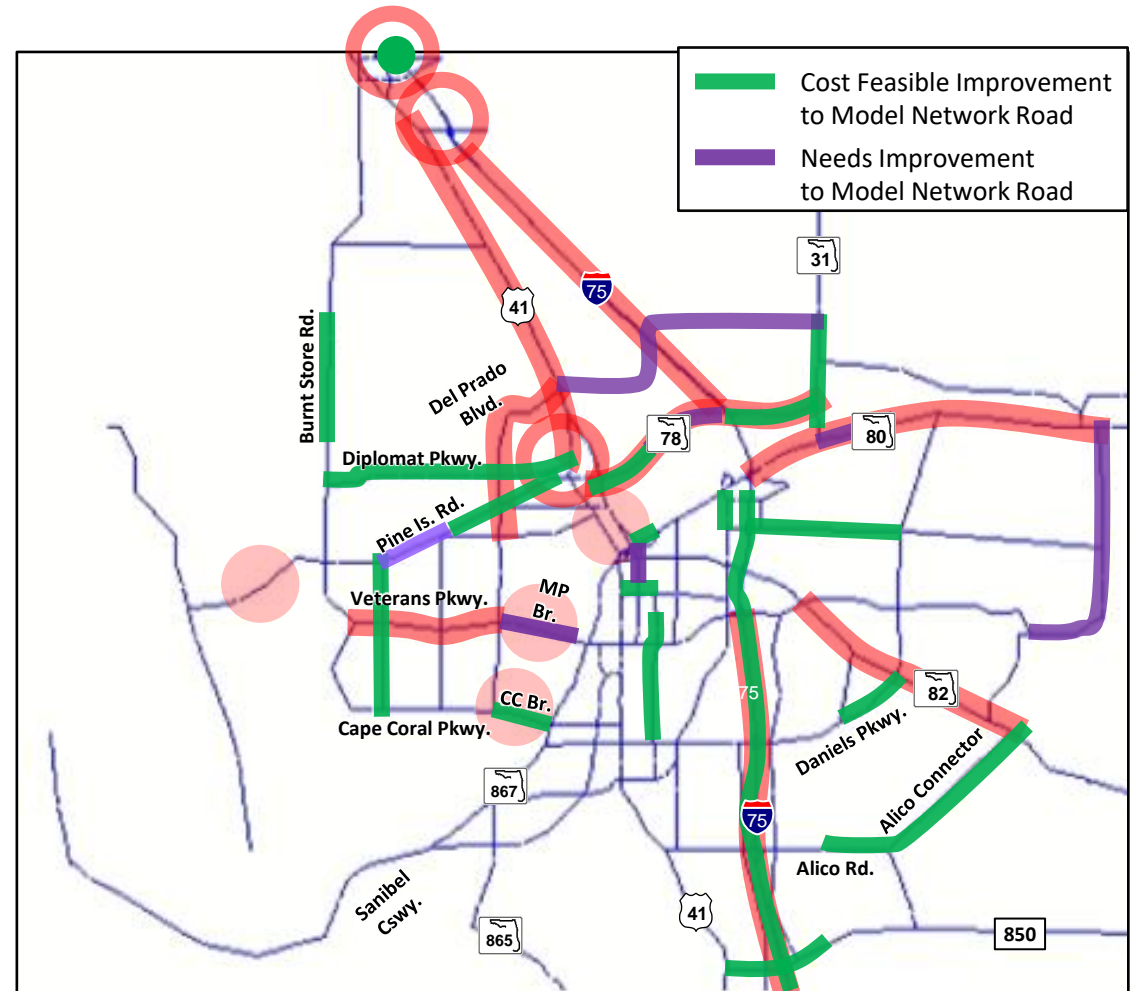
Bottlenecks and Areas of Concern

- Caloosahatchee River Bridges
- Pine Island Bridge
- I-75 serves as the main north-south route out of Lee County
 - I-75 backs up in both directions through Fort Myers S of Colonial Blvd.
 - I-75 backs up NB south of Punta Gorda
 - Bottleneck at Tucker's Grade Interchange, from US 41 traffic
 - Bottleneck at Jones Loop Interchange, from Burnt Store Rd. traffic
- Veterans Parkway
- Del Prado Blvd. between Diplomat Pkwy. and Hancock Bridge Pkwy.
- US 41 N of Pine Island Rd.
- EB to NB turn at Pine Island Rd. / US 41 Intersection
- SR 78 between US 41 and SR 31
- SR 80 between I-75 and Broadway St. (Alva)
- SR 82 between Colonial Blvd. and the Alico Connector



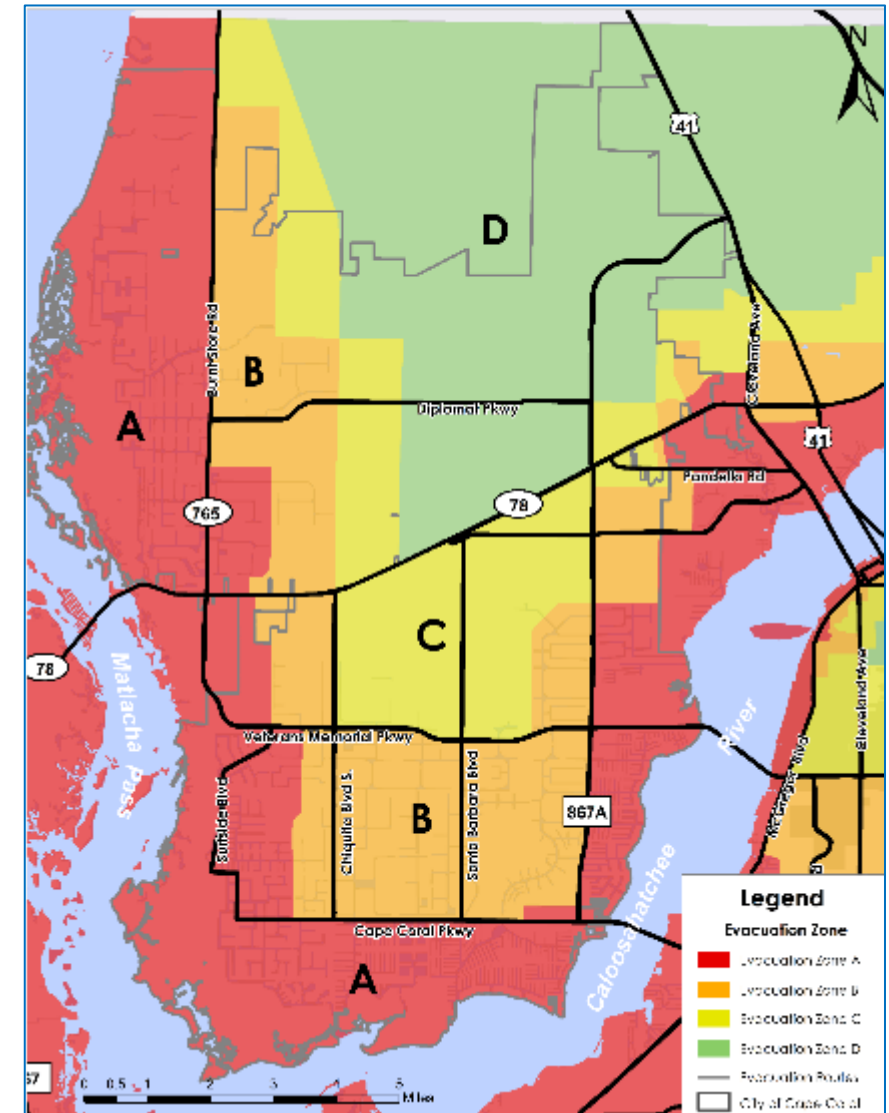
Planned Improvements and Model Network

- Major Cost Feasible Projects (Included in Future Year Networks)
 - Cape Coral Bridge Replacement
 - I-75 Managed Lanes
 - Diplomat Pkwy. (4L to 4L Limited Access)
 - Various Widening
- Cost Feasible Projects outside Lee County (Not Included in Future Year Networks)
 - I-75 / Jones Loop Interchange Modifications (Charlotte Co.-Punta Gorda MPO)
- Needs Projects (Not Included in Future Year Networks)
 - Mid-Point Bridge Widening
 - Del Prado Extension and Interchange
 - Various Widening
- Other widenings or improvements are listed in the LRTP for local roadways not included in the model network



Next Steps

- Develop model scenarios with study team and stakeholders (through May 2023)
 - Highway Improvements (New Facilities, Interchange Improvements, Widening, etc..)
 - Scenario Testing (Facility Closures, Staging, etc..)
- Run the model and perform the analysis (May 2023)
- Produce the Analysis Results (May / June 2023)
- Develop Summary Report (June 2023)



Questions / Discussion

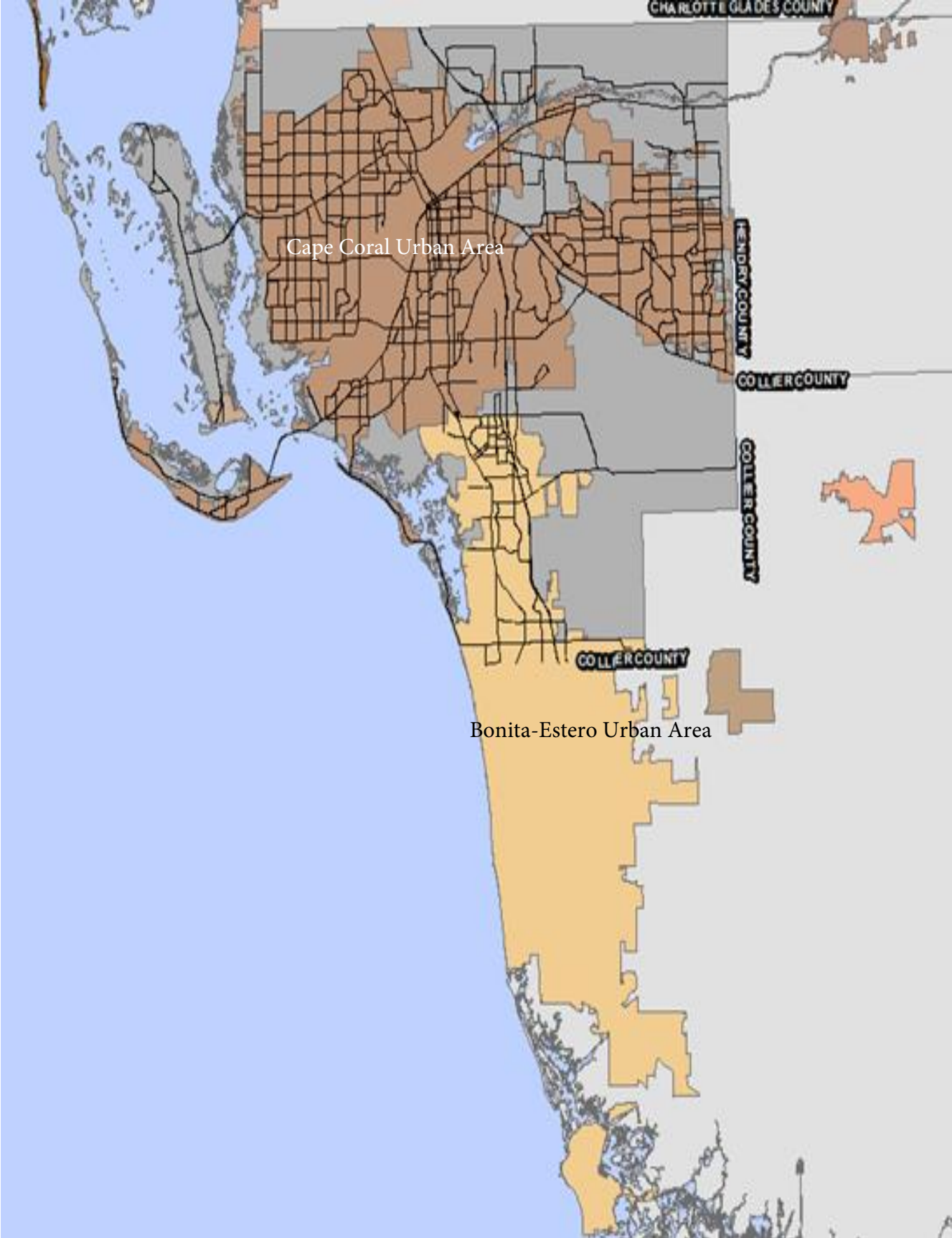
UPDATE ON THE 2020 URBAN AREA ALLOCATION DISCUSSIONS AND PROPOSED JOINT LEE AND COLLIER WORKSHOP

DISCUSSION ITEM:

The MPO has now received notice that the apportionment plan based on the new census data is due to the FDOT Central Office by November 14, 2023. Over the last several months, we have been coordinating with FDOT and the Collier MPO staff regarding the new boundaries for the Cape Coral and Bonita Estero urban areas (**attached**) and the funding allocations. We have been discussing the split of funding based on the population of each County to match with the MPO areas beginning with the new fifth year of the work program.

Consistent with how this was addressed after the 2000 and 2010 census designations, the Lee and Collier MPO's are seeking to meet jointly in August to review the urban boundary issues and provide coordinated direction to address those items. In addition to urban boundary issues, several other agenda items have been discussed to be included and listed below are the proposed agenda items for committee input:

- Bonita Springs/Estero Urban Area – Comparison of 2010 & 2020 US Census Population and Maps
- Report on PL Funding Distribution Formula
- History of the Joint Agreement, 2000 and 2010 Census, Lee and Collier Apportionment Plans
- 2020 Census Updated Apportionment Plans, maintain separate MPOs, propose SU, CARU, TALU funding distribution based on percent share of Bonita Springs-Estero Urban Area population
- Status of Moving Florida Forward Infrastructure Initiative, SIS-Cost Feasible Plan and FDOT's I- 75 Southwest Connect Master Plan Study (implication-need for another north/south corridor, *i.e.*, CR 951 Extension)
- Status Reports on Regional Roadway Network Improvements:
 - Old 41, US 41/Bonita Beach Road Intersection, SR29 and SR82 and Corkscrew Road
- Status Reports on Regional Transit Activities
 - FDOT's Vanpool Program
 - Regional Transit Service & Fare Study
- Status Reports on Regional Shared Use Non-Motorized (SUN) Trail Network



Cape Coral Urban Area

Bonita-Estero Urban Area

CHARLOTTE GLADES COUNTY

HENDRY COUNTY

COLLER COUNTY

COLLER COUNTY

COLLER COUNTY

INFORMATION ON COMMUNTING TRAVEL TRENDS IN FLORIDA

DISCUSSION ITEM:

Staff will present information from the recently released 2021 commuting travel trends report for Florida.

OVERVIEW OF THE JUNE 16th MPO BOARD MEETING AGENDA

DISCUSSION ITEM:

The MPO staff will provide an overview of the June 16th MPO Board meeting agenda.

INFORMATION AND DISTRIBUTION

- a. Notice of the SR 78 Burnt Store Road to US 41 Corridor Study Public Meeting

SR 78 (Pine Island Road) Proposed Corridor Vision Plan Public Meeting FPID 442083-1, Lee County

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) invites you to a public meeting for the SR 78 (Pine Island Road) Proposed Corridor Vision Plan FPID 442083-1, Lee County.

Based on input gathered during earlier phases of this project, FDOT has created a proposed Corridor Vision Plan for SR 78 (Pine Island Road). The proposed plan outlines goals and potential strategies to guide transportation and land use decisions by the City of Cape Coral, Lee County, and Lee County MPO over the next 50 years. The purpose of this public meeting is to solicit feedback regarding the Proposed Corridor Vision Plan. Your input will help us determine if the current plan reflects community desires.

You can participate in the SR 78 (Pine Island Road) Proposed Corridor Vision Plan Public Meeting live online or in-person. The same materials will be displayed at both the online and in-person events and will also be posted by June 15, 2023, on the project website.

IN-PERSON OPTION: Attend the SR 78 (Pine Island Road) Proposed Corridor Vision Plan Public Meeting on Thursday, June 22, 2023, at Cape Coral Technical College, 360 Santa Barbara Boulevard N, Cape Coral, FL 33993. Attend the in-person event anytime between 5 and 7 p.m. to view the project video and displays, speak with project team members, and submit comments or questions.

LIVE ONLINE OPTION: Attend virtually on **Thursday, June 29, 2023**, starting at 6 p.m. This event will include viewing the project video and a live question-and-answer component with the project team. *Please review the materials (available on the project webpage by June 15, 2023) before attending the virtual event.* **Register in advance** by visiting <https://bit.ly/41giOhj> or on the project website. Once registered, attendees will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting online.

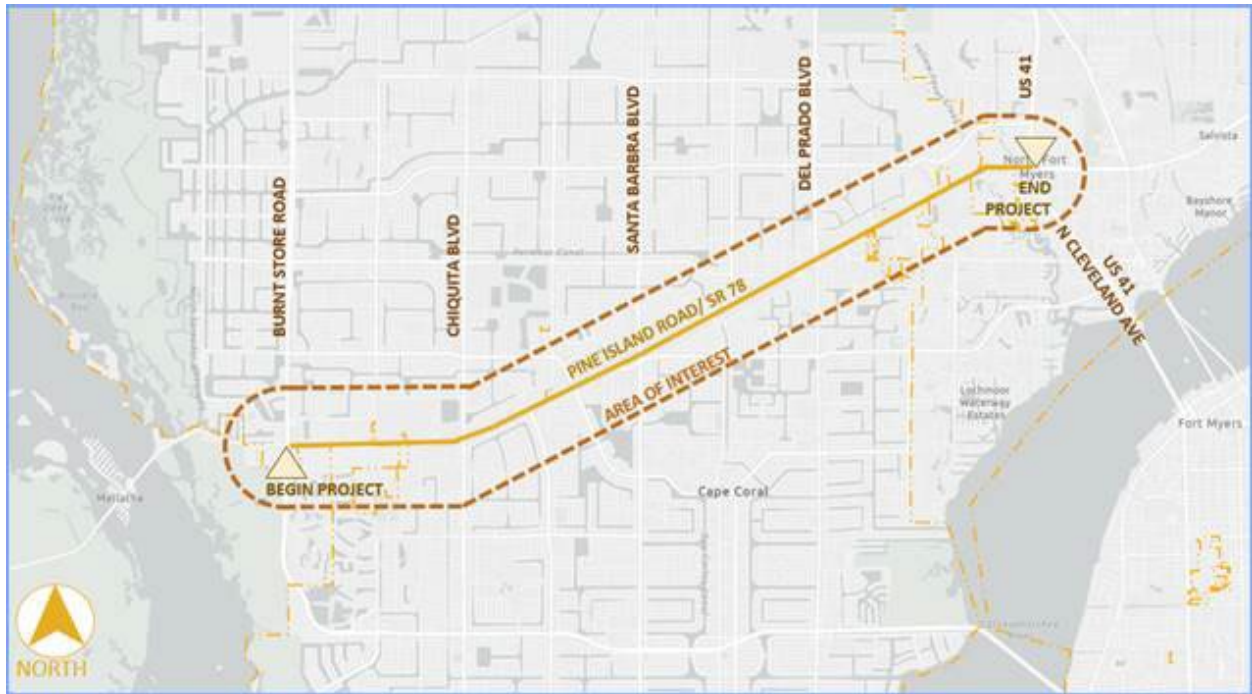
WEBSITE: View all materials online at <https://www.swflroads.com/project/442083-1>. Comments can be provided through the project website, and questions can be answered by calling the FDOT Project Manager, Tanya Merkle, at (941) 708-4459.

After reviewing the SR 78 (Pine Island Road) Proposed Corridor Vision Plan Public Meeting materials and/or participating, you may submit comments in three ways: 1) through the project website; 2) email the FDOT Project Manager (Tanya Merkle) at tanya.merkle@dot.state.fl.us; or 3) mail comments to Tanya Merkle at Manatee Operations Center, 14000 SR 64, Bradenton, FL 34212. While comments about the project are accepted at any time, please note that comments must be received or postmarked by July 10, 2023, to be included in the formal meeting record.

A summary of the meeting comments and responses will be available on the webpage approximately 30 days following the close of the comment period.

FDOT is sending notices to property owners, business owners, interested persons, and organizations within 300 feet of the project to provide the opportunity to give comments to FDOT regarding this project (*see the attached newsletter*). FDOT solicits public participation without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. People who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Cynthia Sykes, District One Title VI Coordinator, at (863) 519-2287 or email at Cynthia.Sykes@dot.state.fl.us at least seven days prior to the meeting.

The Florida Department of Transportation may adopt this planning product into the environmental review process, pursuant to Title 23 USC § 168(d)(4), or to the state project development process.



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