

CHARLOTTE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED
LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD (LCB)
PUBLIC MEETING
January 8, 2026

Minutes of the public meeting held in a hybrid format on January 8, 2026, utilizing TEAMS remotely and in-person at the Charlotte County Family Services building on 21500 Gibraltar Dr. Building A, Port Charlotte, FL 33952.

MEMBERS' PRESENT IN-PERSON

Commissioner Ken Doherty, *Charlotte County Commissioner (LCB Chair)*
Suzanne Roberts, *Virginia B. Andes Volunteer Community Clinic - Medical Community Representative (LCB Vice-Chair)*
Donna Fain, *Agency for Persons with Disabilities*
Lynn Dorler, *Children-at-Risk Representative*
Victoria Uptegrove, *FDOT, District One Modal Development Office*
Ezequiel Tirado, *Veteran Services (Alternate)*
Angela Hemstreet, *Economically Disadvantaged Representative/Goodwill*

MEMBERS PRESENT REMOTELY

Dottie Fulton, *Citizen Advocate-User*
Leigh Ann Bellamy, *Division of Blind Services*

ABSENT MEMBERS

Maricela Morado, *Area Agency on Aging-Florida Department of Elder Affairs*
Tony Conte, *Public Education-School Transportation*
Tabitha Larrauri, *Department of Children & Families*
Cheryl Sytsma, *Disabled Interests Representative*
Pamela Jordan, *Representative for Elderly Interests*
Vacant, *Local Private-for-Profit Transportation Industry Representative*
Michael Stahler, *Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA)*
Joseph Sabatino, *Citizen Advocate*
Carmen Henry, *Regional Workforce Development*

STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT

Lakshmi N. Gurram, *MPO Director*
Mark Yaxis, *MPO Multimodal Planner*
Bekie Leslie, *MPO Administrative Services Coordinator*
Heidi Maddox, *Charlotte County Transit*
Emily Black, *FDOT*
Aimee Shafran, *Charlotte County Fiscal Services*
Lindsey McGinnis, *Veteran Services*

OTHERS PRESENT REMOTELY

Sheri Powers, *Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD)*

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

LCB Chair Commissioner Ken Doherty called the public LCB Meeting to order at 10:00 am. An in-person quorum was present.

2. Welcome to The Public

LCB Chair Ken Doherty welcomed members from the public who may be in attendance. It was noted that there were no members of the public present at the time of the meeting. Chair Doherty conducted the annual Public Meeting in compliance with the requirements of the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD). Chair Doherty asked staff whether any public comments had been received as of the previous day, and Mr. Gurram confirmed that no public comments had been submitted to staff.

3. Purpose of the Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) Program Including the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP) – CTD Brochure

MPO Director Lakshmi N. Gurram gave a brief description of the statewide and local TD program. Mr. Gurram reviewed the five (5) key elements listed on the CTD Brochure which was provided to all in attendance. Mr. Gurram encouraged participation in the voluntary donation that the public can contribute to either during vehicle tag renewal, or online at the provided website.

4. Public Comment Period on TD Program or TDSP

There were no comments from the public. The meeting was advertised to the public and members of the public were encouraged to submit comments to staff prior to the meeting. Staff indicated that no such comments were made. Mr. Gurram confirmed that no public comments had been received by the staff.

5. Adjourn

Chair Ken Doherty adjourned the Public Meeting at 10:08 am. Those members present for the Public Meeting continued to participate in the Regular Meeting of the LCB, which was conducted immediately following this Public Meeting.