MANATEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS JOINT WORK SESSION

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, FIFTH FLOOR, MANATEE ROOM

1112 Manatee Avenue West Bradenton, Florida December 13, 2022

Meeting video link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUlgjuGhS-qV966RU2Z7AtA

Present were:

Kevin Van Ostenbridge, Chairman James A. Satcher, III, First Vice-Chairman George Kruse, Second Vice-Chairman Amanda Ballard Vanessa Baugh Jason Bearden Mike Rahn

Also present were Tourist Development Council (TDC) Members:

James A. Satcher, III, TDC Chairman Elect

David Wick

Norma Kennedy

liten Patel

Rahul Patel

City of Bradenton Mayor Gene Brown

City of Palmetto Mayor Shirley-Groover-Bryant

Eric Cairns

Ed Chiles

Also present were:

Dr. Scott L. Hopes, County Administrator William Clague, County Attorney Robin Toth, Deputy Clerk, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Chairman Van Ostenbridge called the Joint Work Session to order at 9:00 a.m.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was delivered by Vincent Carloni, The Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'is of Manatee County.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Bearden.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There being no public comment, Chairman Van Ostenbridge closed public comment.

AGENDA BC20221213DOC001

1. PRESENTATION ON TOURIST DEVELOPMENT

Elliott Falcione, Executive Director, Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB), utilized a slide presentation to provide an overview of the mission, purpose and vision of the Bradenton Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, area of responsibility, competitive advantage, how the CVB is funded thoroughly by the Tourist Development Tax (TDT) and no Ad Valorem tax is needed.

Tourist Development Tax Update

Ken Burton, Manatee County Tax Collector, continued with slides on the TDT and stated Manatee County is one of three counties in the State of Florida to assume the collection of the Tax. Even with the recent hurricane that impacted south of Manatee County, he does not see the TDT slowing down.

Michele Schulz, Field Services and Collections Director, continued with slides noting Gross TDT collection over five-year fiscal period 2017-2022 is \$96,551,219.60 (48 percent). A five-year Municipality Report shows Manatee County has collected 35.6 percent of the \$96 million. Manatee County has 7,849 registered rental accounts as of November 7, 2022, consisting of condos, single-family homes, duplex, property Manager, multi-family, mobile home parks, apartments, motels, hotels, bed and breakfast, and travel trailers.

Rahul Patel, TDC Member, stated the majority of revenues are from hotels and motels.

City of Bradenton Mayor Gene Brown stated the City currently has 90, registered single-family homes and questioned how party homes could be monitored.

Discussion ensued regarding the Rental Type by Municipality Chart is misconceiving, Manatee County's rapid growth is the driving force of hotel/motel revenue, Sarasota-Bradenton area has gained up to 6,200 additional hotel rooms in the past five to six years, City of Anna Maria is experiencing a significate decline, the City has a vacation rental registration program, 3-1-1 should be contacted if it is discovered someone is renting their property without registering, determine the number of units controlled by Airbnbs, Tax Collector's office does field work to make sure rental types are collecting the tax, whistle blowers and Code Enforcement are important, collaboration between Tax Collector and Property Appraiser's office, Ordinance 14-57 allows for local collection and administration of TDT, TDT is confidential under F.S., partnerships with municipalities, short-term rentals must show a Certificate of Registration with the Tax Collector, cost of TDT software (\$50,000/year), regulations hamper economic growth, party houses in City of Bradenton, citations are issued, discovering these activities in advance, and schedule a work session to discuss County policy and TDT collection.

State of Tourism

Mr. Falcione continued with slides on the power of the Convention Center brand launched in 2011, Manatee County destination branding must be kept out there, brand evaluation process involved stakeholders, the SWOT Process (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats), primary market place focus groups consist of women to brainstorm adjectives to describe experiences that are incorporated into brand logo, first-time visitor data, occupancy rate of short-term rentals, how the Bradenton area faired during COVID, top feeder markets for 2021 with estimated economic impact, strong increase is anticipated from Britain next year, target market and visitor demographics, group and corporate focus, marketing tactics, and the most effective tools are public relations and digital and social media.

SRQ Update

Mark Stuckey, Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport (SRQ), continued with slides on the status of the airport as of 2022 with 11 airlines, 54 nonstop destinations, construction of a new ground level board terminal to 13 existing boarding gates, five new ground boarding gates, more concessionaires on the concourse, custom flights and a new car rental facility with quick turnaround, 2022 economic impact is estimated at over \$2,500,000,000, SRQ is the fastest growing airport in the United States, terminal/landing fees are waived to attract new airlines, destination marketing is proven to be very successful, SRQ is able to draw TDT

revenues from Manatee and Sarasota County CVBs, 24,000 airline seats are anticipated during spring break in March 2023, SRQ is being aggressive to acquire more flights, destinations and services at a very competitive price of half the cost of Tampa International Airport, Sarasota County matches every Manatee County marketing dollar. SRQ is the top U.S. growth market.

Mr. Falcione stated business is currently in the northeast and northwest; a lot of destinations are not doing well, the CVB goes to these headquarters to capture these flights, and staff is currently meeting with international carriers to offer nonstop flights from Europe to SRQ.

<u>RECESS/RECONVENE</u>: 10:26 a.m. - 10:36 a.m. All Commissioners were present, except Commissioner Kruse.

Discussion on SRQ concluded on strategy to ensure the new Convention Center is continuously being filled, various airline challenges, SRQ does everything to make sure both Manatee and Sarasota Counties are identified and represented, SRQ is an international identifier, airport staff are instructed to identify the airport as Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport, it is time Manatee County gets recognized, percentage of commercial versus private airline traffic at the airport, and compliments to SRQ staff on airport growth and success.

(Enter Commissioner Kruse)

<u>Tourist Development - Next Five Years</u> <u>Bradenton Convention Center Expansion</u>

Mr. Falcione continued with slides on the design of the Convention Center project by Fawley-Bryant, expansion footprint and overview, conceptual expansion overview and working with Dr. Hopes on potential parking garage, conceptual elevations, internal features, the business model would change, a construction budget would be given to the County Administrator in January, and the estimated Marriott Hotel completion date is January 2024.

Premier Sports Campus

Premier Sports Campus brings an estimated \$50 million into the economy. Slides were shown of plans for a permanent framed tent and multi-purpose room on campus, along with 400 additional parking spaces, including ADA compliant spaces.

Powel Crosley Estate

Mr. Falcione continued with slides of Powel Crosley Estate. University of South Florida (USF) is moving forward with student housing. Vertical structures would be shifted from County property to USF property. Dr. Hopes is working with USF to lease eight acres to USF for a community park and multi-modal trail through Crosley.

Water Taxi Update

The Gulf Islands Ferry logo is not finalized, two, 48-passenger ferry boats are ordered, and planned routes will initially run Friday through Sunday. An agreement would be brought to the Board to partner with Clearwater Ferry, as well as interlocal agreements with the Cities of Bradenton, Anna Maria and Bradenton Beach. Staff is working on brand elements and a marketing plan is ready to launch.

How Do We Grow Tourism in the Next Five Years

Revenues are coming in, Coastal Florida is breaking records, Terra Nova equestrian center in Myakka, Parrish, Urban Core redevelopment, improvements needed at U.S. 41 corridor to University Parkway, hotel opportunities, and multi-modal trails in Lake Flores.

Discussion ensued on great tourism opportunities, major growth changes since the 2010 marketing study, Manatee County adaptation, retain old Florida, the County is rapidly growing and branding may change to penetrate the market, first-time visitors, urban core and east County brands may also change to resonate, why Palmetto and Lakewood Ranch are not in the branding, consumer perspective, sports segment includes reference to Lakewood Ranch, more in-depth dialogue is needed on the USF property, Convention Center project engineer is making sure the footprint is finalized, parking space is being assessed and could be funded 100 percent by grants, retail uses surrounding the new hotel plaza are being studied, Library and expanded parking near Premier, an economic development project for 500-550 parking spaces is proposed, and emphasis to keep the Board informed.

Rahul Patel, CVB member, stated the business model has to change, because the Convention Center and hotel are anticipated to have \$74 million/year economic impact. Two convention rooms are planned that will make the Convention Center a key location on the west coast of Florida. The rooms could host conferences and other large assemblies. He suggested the Convention Center have a large kitchen for potential restaurant services.

Staff surveyed planners in the northwest on businesses they could bring to this area. Aimbridge Hospitality, the largest independent hotel management firm, will manage the Marriott Hotel. Aimbridge relationships will help in how the Convention Center is marketed to avoid duplicate sales efforts. No one will have exclusive rights to services, certain uses will be outsourced, and staff is trying to find the best model to optimize the process for the meeting planner. The hotel is anticipated to be complete and open by January 2024.

Mayor Brown requested the City of Bradenton be included in the marketing of the new Convention Center.

There was discussion regarding the gateway into Manatee County along U.S. 41 is discouraging, Commissioner Rahn to strategize with staff on how to enhance the area from University Parkway to Cortez Road, welcome marquis currently exists, placemaking to capitalize on local community assets, Manatee County has built a good relationship with FDOT, work with FDOT to collectively enhance the image coming from SRQ, roads and streetscaping around SRQ, IMG Academy, Manatee Avenue and the Island have improved, suggest Commissioner Rahn speak with FDOT District Secretary L.K. Nandam and Property Management, include veteran parking signs and spaces in new Convention Center project, are businesses popping up along Palma Sola Causeway properly licensed, strategy to attract urban core from Manatee River to McKecknie Field, urban core seeks assets to survive, partner with Pittsburgh Pirates representatives, urban core south of LECOM Park and north of Palmetto being examined, and a Profit and Loss Statement would be provided to Commissioners.

Mr. Falcione stated there are currently 26,000 hospitality jobs in Manatee County, a domestic visitor brings \$972/day per capita, an international visitor brings \$1,200/day per capita, and State and Sales taxes generate \$80.2 million. He distributed a Bradenton Area CVB Resort Tax Funded Partnerships Report 2010 to present.

Commissioner Satcher commented on the dynamics presented by Mr. Falcione and requested more input in advance before more time and money is invested into CVB incentives.

Janene Amick, Chief Executive Officer, Florida Cultural Group, Inc., noted there has been no mention of the Manatee Performing Arts Center in this presentation. The Performing Arts Center will celebrate its 10th Anniversary, and 13 events are planned in the upcoming week.

The Art Center is hosting an event every weekend of the year to attract visitors. She thanked the County Commission and TDC for coming together and strategically thinking out to the future.

There being no further public comment, Chairman Van Ostenbridge closed public comment.

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RECESS/RECONVENE: 12:31 p.m. to 1:36 p.m. All Commissioners were present except Commissioner Baugh.

2. **2023 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

Robert Reinshuttle, Deputy County Administrator, used a slide presentation to review the Draft 2023 State Legislative Priorities List with associated funding requests. New Legislative Lobbyists Jeff Johnson and Amanda Stewart were present by Zoom. Commissioners have expressed interest to expand the list of priorities.

(Enter Commissioner Baugh)

Mr. Johnson and Ms. Stewart spoke about the Disaster Relief Bill (Senate Bill 4A) and Toll Relief Bill (Senate Bill 6A). Mr. e Johnson addressed the 2022-2023 Interim Committee Meeting Schedule and 2023 Legislative Session Dates.

Discussion occurred regarding Legislative issues and priorities of affordable housing, property insurance, hurricane issues, transportation infrastructure, balance of nonrecurring dollars that can be spent, roof litigation issue, and Sadowski Funds.

Upon question by Commissioner Satcher as to the likelihood of a Constitutional Carry Bill this session, Mr. Johnson stated this is an issue that would be pursued by the Governor. He also commented on an abortion bill, but nothing is definitive at this time.

Commissioner Satcher also stated the Governor is helping homeowners hit by Hurricane Ian. He asked how to proceed in getting relief for the southeast portion of the County (Myakka) because FEMA relief has not come through for these residents.

Mr. Johnson stated Commissioners would be sent a summary of the Disaster Relief Bill. There are several bills this session regarding hurricane damage and he would make sure Manatee County is included. Chairman Van Ostenbridge suggested reaching out to Representative Jim Boyd.

As to the County Commission trip to Tallahassee and how many legislative priorities should be assembled on the County's list, Mr. Johnson suggested Manatee County's priorities stick with appropriations followed by policy and infrastructure. They have petitioned for all of Manatee County's priorities. The best time to come to Tallahassee is the last week of January and the second or third week in March; the earlier the better, and include all of the County's priorities.

Chairman Van Ostenbridge suggested placing priority, Transportation-only issues in a master packet, followed by other packets of key issues.

Commissioner Baugh stated that in the past, the County Commission was instructed to present three, priority funding requests upfront as the focus.

Commissioner Satcher noted some of the County's priorities have been included on previous priority lists. He asked the Board to look at project costs to make sure funding aligns with actual projects costs.

Mr. Reinshuttle stated some issues take several funding cycles to get to the Legislative

Ms. Stewart recommended overall project costs be included for the County's priority funding requests and cautioned to be thoughtful of actual costs to petition Legislation.

Commissioner Kruse suggested Commissioners be in Tallahassee the week of January 23 to present Manatee County's priorities. There were no objections.

Ms. Stewart suggested the County Commission focus on priority projects. Mr. Johnson stated the County's priority list is a living/breathing document in which priorities are shifted.

Dr. Hopes stated staff would bring previous policy concerns to the Board. The County's priority list should be finalized and presented to the Board before the end of the calendar year so the Lobbyists know how to proceed.

The Board thanked Mr. Johnson and Ms. Stewart for attending this work session via Zoom.

Chad Butzow, Public Works Director, referred to the list of 2023 State Legislative projects and stated the three, key road projects that are regional in nature are Moccasin Wallow Road, Fort Hamer Road, and 44th Avenue East.

Transportation and Infrastructure



Moccasin Wallow Road

- Received \$7.5 million FDOT appropriations in each of 2021 and 2022 for Segments 1 and 2, respectively
- Request for \$8 million appropriation in State Fiscal Year (FY) 2024, for construction funding of Segment 3

Discussion ensued that Pat Neal travels to Tallahassee every year to petition for Moccasin Wallow Road, keep Moccasin Wallow Road on County's priority list, proceed with caution on this priority road, the number one infrastructure road should be Fort Hamer Road, Desoto Bridge replacement, Desoto Bridge was on previous legislative funding priority list, do not have Desoto Bridge and Fort Hamer Bridge compete as priority projects for funding, Manatee County needs both projects and a strategy must be determined to achieve funding for both. how much funding will be appropriated to Manatee County for north-south connector roads, the need must remain at the forefront, four major bridges are on FDOT's ten-year plan, three bridges to the Island are also on the priority list, both bridges are in District 1 and FDOT District Secretary L.K. Nandam is petitioning for District 1 funding to achieve a ten-year plan, U.S. 41 is Mr. Nandam's top priority, Fort Hamer is Manatee County's priority project and a source of funding must be found, north-south connectors roads are relievers for U.S. 41 and I-75, north-south connector roads could be presented as relievers and there is valid opportunity to petition for joint State and Federal funding.

(Commissioner Rahn absent for a portion of discussion)

🕍 Staff worked this fall with the Clerk's office on the cost of a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for Fort Hamer. Study results will allow the County to submit a competitive construction application in the 2023 funding cycle.

William Clague, County Attorney, recommended Mr. Butzow be cognizant that Manatee County may be asked to do an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Study.

44th Avenue East 🚨

Request for \$10 million appropriation in State FY 25, for construction funding

Mr. Butzow stated 44th Avenue is constructed from First Street to 45th Street East; the portion of the extension over Braden River is essentially complete and the watermain is constructed. The contractor is bringing a proposal on how to get the first two lanes northbound and one lane in both directions in early spring from Morgan Johnson Road across the Braden River. The last phases of acquisition are underway from Creekwood Boulevard over the interstate across the effluent treatment pond at the southeast wastewater treatment and connects to a stub on Lakewood Ranch. This may not be the cheapest approach, but allows the project in phases and a partial guaranteed maximum price (GMP) could be done for the structural steel for the bridge. This project will not be complete for an estimated two years. State funding would be in line with the timing of the GMP. The 44th Avenue project is a great project, but the last phase will cost the most. Staff anticipates a funding shortage.

Fort Hamer Road

- Request for \$15 million appropriation in State FY 25 of construction funding for Fort Hamer Road, from Manatee River to U.S. 301
- Request for \$15 million appropriation in State FY 26 of construction funding for Fort Hamer Road, from U.S. 301 to Moccasin Wallow Road

Fort Hamer Bridge

Manatee County requests funding support for design and permitting of the second Fort Hamer Bridge. The second bridge would be parallel to the existing bridge and double the capacity of this essential north-south thoroughfare.

DeSoto Bridge Replacement

The DeSoto Bridge replacement is top priority for multiple organizations since the project will facilitate improved North/South capacity on the U.S. 41 corridor. Manatee County supports the State's Bradenton-Palmetto Connector Project Development and Environment (PD&E) and requests consideration be given to all capacity alternatives identified in the Central Manatee Network Alternatives Analysis that will facilitate improved mobility over the Manatee River.

A separate study would be done to determine the best location to cross.

RECESS/RECONVENE: 3:00 p.m. - 3:10 p.m. All Commissioners were present.

Key Bridges 🚨

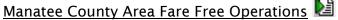
Mr. Butzow stated Manatee County supports the expeditious replacement of the bridges leading to Anna Maria Island, via Cortez Road, Manatee Avenue and Longboat Pass. These bridges must be kept as a priority and the PD&E studies are done.

Manatee County Area Transit Route 99 Operations

 Request for \$1.1 million, one-time capital appropriation in State FY 24 and \$1.7 million recurring appropriation in FY 24 and each following year for Route 99 transit operations on U.S. 41 in Manatee and Sarasota Counties.

Mr. Butzow stated this would benefit both Manatee and Sarasota Counties.

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Request for \$1.2 million recurring appropriation in FY 25 and each following year to support Manatee County free transit fare operations.

There was discussion of an interlocal agreement with Sarasota County requiring Manatee County buses to charge the bus fare published by Sarasota County, Manatee County went fare free, Sarasota County raised their fare due to revenue loss from Manatee County going fare free, and use the fare free as a State pilot program.

Mr. Butzow stated there would be an add-on of a transportation grant for Route 99.

Broadband 🚨

Manatee County supports measures that increase broadband accessibility including encouraging private investment in the deployment of infrastructure in rural and underserved areas.

Mr. Reinshuttle suggested Broadband be addressed under the Human Needs Category later in the meeting.

(Note: Further discussion later in the meeting)

Environmental and Natural Resources



Request for \$950,000 of State funding in 2023 for the design and permitting for future demolition of the Green Bridge Fishing Pier.

Charlie Hunsicker, Natural Resources Director, stated structural deficiencies may require bridge closure to emergency vehicle access, discontinue use as a fishing pier, and replace with a new fishing pier. A replacement fishing pier would be constructed over the footprint of the demolished pier, and \$3.1 million has been secured from County grant allocation from the Federal RESTORE Act. This project was eligible for BP Oil spill funding. Construction costs will exceed \$6 million by the time the new pier is constructed.

Last year this appropriation was approved by the House and Senate, but was vetoed by the Governor. It is worthwhile to continue to make this request as it has always received support from the local delegation.

Dr. Hopes stated this project should be not be separated into two projects of completion of demolition of the old Green Bridge, followed by the replacement of the fishing pier. An evaluation of project cost in 2015 was approximately \$1.8 million. BP oil spill funding could be used toward demolition if a commitment is made that a fishing pier would follow.

Chairman Van Ostenbridge stated the construction of a new fishing pier should be pulled and then proceed to petition for funds to demolish the existing pier. He recommended this priority be brought back for discussion in a regular Board meeting.

Dr. Hopes stated the timeline for dismantling the existing bridge is between 1-2 years.

Mr. Clague stated this is a TDT tax eligible project.

There were no objections to remove the Green Bridge Fishing Pier construction from the priority legislative list.

Beach Renourishment



This is an expression of support to continue the robust State of Florida beach renourishment and inlet management program, including a \$1.7 million request from Manatee County.

Gulf Coast Recreation Trail Partnership



Request for additional funding of \$950,000 to support Gateway and Greenway Trail segment construction through Manatee County-owned property and rights-of-way north of Lakewood Ranch between State Road 64 and State Road 75 centered around Lake Manatee in Manatee County. Sarasota Bay Water Quality Improvement for Regional Economic.

Sarasota Bay Water Quality Improvement for Regional Economic Sustainability Mr. Hunsicker distributed an information sheet on this add-on request for \$1.75 million to support King Middle School tidal creek restoration identified in the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program's Five-Year Habitat Restoration Plan (SBEP 2016).

Staff spoke with the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program (SBEP) regarding target projects to protect water quality and address red tide. The requested funds would be used to fully implement a proposed tidal creek restoration project at King Middle School in the Palma Sola Bay/Sarasota Bay watershed.

This effort would provide construction funding because the SBEP, with their own resources and contractors, have agreed to do the design and permitting. Manatee County would follow with construction funding through a Legislative appropriation or other grant sources.

There was discussion as to whether there are private or federal grants to fund this project. Wares Creek is an obvious project candidate, and this topic warrants further discussion.

Human Needs 🕍



Affordable Housing

Manatee County is experiencing a major shortage of affordable housing. It is imperative the State use statutorily dedicated funds for actual housing needs and increase the number of affordable housing units. Manatee County supports allocating the full amount of dedicated doc stamp revenues to fund the State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) Trust Fund as well as the Sadowski Housing Trust Fund and its distribution to local governments for affordable housing activities.

Community Based Foster Care

Manatee County supports the invaluable role of Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) in overseeing the care and placement of the estimated 23,000 children in Florida's foster care system due to child abuse and/or neglect. Manatee County ranked in the top four counties in Florida for child removals in 2018 and 2019. Manatee County also supports immediate equitable funding for the child welfare system, which has been insufficiently and inequitably funded by the State for many years. Specifically, Manatee County supports a State funding formula that does not rely on risk pool funds, but adequately and equitably distributes funding to support community-based care lead agencies that provide child welfare services in our community as intended by Senate Bill 1326, passed during the 2020 legislative Session. Insufficient and inequitable funding leads to increased caseload sizes for Case Managers, less ability to focus on prevention and diversion services, keeping children out of foster care, and a general lack of ability to be flexible when responding to child welfare needs in the community.

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Broadband (continued from earlier in the meeting) Manatee County supports measures that increase broadband accessibility including encouraging private investment in the deployment of infrastructure in rural and underserved areas.

lacktriance Inc. I have to lacktrians and the Broadband issue.

🛂 Discussion ensued for the Board to take a stance against rating Sadowski Housing Trust Funds, for DCF to receive immediate needed funding, DCF funding was addressed last year, DCF funding should be addressed at a legislative level and a meeting should be held in Tallahassee on the issue of DCF funding formulas, each issue should get assigned to a Commissioner to discuss with a Legislative Delegation representative on that issue.

Mr. Reinshuttle stated the Board should collectively decide priorities to present at the State Delegation meeting on January 12. Individual Commissioner briefings would be held.

OPEN DISCUSSION ON 2023 PRIORITIES FOR THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 3. Lack Chairman Van Ostenbridge encouraged open discussion on 2023 Priorities for the Board of County Commissioners.

Commissioner Baugh stated the three priority items need to be high dollar items. The Board should also have discussion on what might be pursued Federally versus State. She asked if the Transportation items could be lumped together.

Commissioners listed their top three Legislative priorities:

District 5 - Commissioner Baugh



- 1 Fort Hamer Road
- 2 44th Avenue East and Senator Neal would petition for Moccasin Wallow Road

The Desoto Bridge PD&E Study is funded and is not a top priority at this time. Broadband is important. Request 3 could be to link the three bridges together.

Li Chairman Van Ostenbridge stated FDOT Secretary L.K. Nandam indicated multiple times there is a sense of urgency on the Desoto Bridge and a decision would be made in 2023 on what the replacement is going to be. He suggested continuing discussions with FDOT Secretary Nandam and look at January 2023 for Federal funds.

Discussion was held regarding making Fort Hamer Road Number 1 priority in the master plan, a separate packet for FDOT on other, FDOT Secretary Nandam has discretion in putting District 1 funding into Desoto Bridge, City of Bradenton Mayor Brown is a strong proponent of Desoto Bridge, and Districts 3 and 5 Commissioners support the Desoto Bridge.

Mr. Claque stated that whatever dialogue the Board has in a work session on its Legislative priorities should come back to the Board for formal vote on January 10, 2023.

District 7 At-Large - Commissioner Kruse



- 1 Fort Hamer Road
- 2 44th Avenue East
- 3 concurred with Commissioner Baugh

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<u>District 6 At-Large - Commissioner Bea</u>rden

- 1 Fort Hamer Road
- 2 Needed Infrastructure
- 3 44th Avenue East

<u>District 4 - Commissioner Ra</u>hn



- 1 Fort Hamer Road
- 2 Transit
- 3 44th Avenue East

District 3 - Chairman Van Ostenbridge



- 1 Fort Hamer Road
- 2 Transit
- 3 44th Avenue East

Treat Desoto Bridge replacement as a policy decision.

District 2 - Commissioner Ballard



- 1 Fort Hamer Road
- 2 DeSoto Bridge as a policy discussion
- 2 44th Avenue East

Commissioner Ballard agreed with Commissioner Kruse on Route 99 transit operations on U.S. 41 in Manatee and Sarasota Counties, and this is not big requests and could be a model to other counties.

There was discussion that Desoto Bridge has been a high target for several years, FDOT has the funding with three years out for actual construction to start. Desoto Bridge lifespan has expired and needs to be replaced as soon as possible, push Desoto Bridge as a policy and not a funding request, and keep the Bridge at the center of transportation discussions.

District 1 - Commissioner Satcher



- 1 Fort Hamer Road, with the understanding Moccasin Wallow Road has been appropriated
- 2 44th Avenue East

Commissioner Satcher asked if a relief plan could be set up to address stormwater overflow at Bowlees Creek during upcoming storms.

Chairman Van Ostenbridge questioned if Board members agreed to make Foster Care and Desoto Bridge priority policy issues, with Foster Care as the top policy issue. There were no objections.

Commissioner Ballard stated that by adequately funding our system, Manatee County is providing additional care/funding for foster children. BC20221213DOC005

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Chairman Van Ostenbridge

- City of Bradenton Mayor Gene Brown is interested in meeting with the County Commission after they select a bidder for City Hall
- A joint Economic Development meeting should be held with the newly seated Sarasota Commission to discuss transit and homelessness

Dates were discussed to hold a work session on strategic planning and The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Dr. Hopes stated he would distribute a work session calendar to the Board.

CITIZEN COMMENTS (Agenda Items Only)

There being no citizen comments, Chairman Van Ostenbridge closed Citizen Comments.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chairman Van Ostenbridge adjourned the work session at 4:27 p.m.

Minutes Approved: October 10, 2023