

**MINUTES
PLACIDA AREA STREET & DRAINAGE
MUNICIPAL SERVICE BENEFIT UNIT (MSBU)**

**ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2025**

1:30 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.

**Mac V. Horton, West County Annex, Room 120
6868 San Casa Drive, Englewood, Florida**

Members Present: Jim Zwetzig, Chair
Craig Brearley
Bob Howell

Members Absent: Brenda Wright

County Staff: Lorraine Money Penny, Community Liaison

Guests: Sign-in Sheet Attached

Call to Order / Roll Call:

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. A roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

Agenda / Motion to Approve Changes:

None.

Citizen Input on Agenda Items (3 Minute Limit):

Ms. Schreiber pointed out that, after paving, there are drop-offs from the road to the shoulder, creating a safety hazard. In addition, she noted that, inexplicably, paving machines stopped yards before the end of Cape Haze Dr., after Spaniards Rd. and before Placida Rd.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the September 4, 2025 meeting were approved unanimously.

Unfinished Business:

- a. FY25 Paving: Resurfacing of roads is almost complete after a pause. The community liaison explained that the next step is restoration – tie-ins from the raised surface to shoulders and driveways. Before the contractor's work is approved, it must complete items on a punch list. Mr. Zwetzig conveyed anecdotal evidence that homeowners who did not exercise the option to temporarily remove their paving bricks are more satisfied than those who did. Perhaps the County could revise its advice ahead of the next paving project.

New Business:

- a. **Financial Reports:** Advisory board members examined Fiscal Year 2025 fourth quarter financial report and maintenance activity report. Mr. Howell opined that MSBUs are underfunded, and assessments should be higher.

Citizen Input on MSBU Items (3 Minute Limit): Ms. Schreibman said the County did not adequately communicate the option to support or oppose the construction of a sidewalk along Gasparilla Pines Blvd. Mr. Zwetzig noted that taxpayers had the opportunity to appear at the July hearing – including the two hundred who signed a petition in favor. The Lemon Bay Conservancy, which contributes fifteen Equivalent Residential Units (ERUs), spoke in opposition. The item was removed from the draft Fiscal Year 2026/2027 budget.

Advisory Board Open Discussion:

The community liaison reported that the County is in the midst of canceling its 1998 agreement with Sandalhaven Property Owners Association (HOA) to cede mowing and trimming to the HOA. HOA residents pay into the Placida Area MSBU. When responsibility for safety mowing and trimming of the right-of-way returns to the County, it will have little impact on the MSBU, as most Sandalhaven lots are developed and therefore maintained by owners. Mr. Howell asked about the maximum grass height in vacant lots.

The community liaison reported that there remains an open work order to grade the portion of Gaspar Rd. where the MSBU had paid to remove Australian pines and then, later, their stumps. Placida Harbor Club may retain an unrealistic expectation that the County will make the area easier for it to mow. Board members agreed that no further MSBU funds will be spent along that stretch of right-of-way.

Acknowledging that Cape Haze Dr. is not an MSBU road, advisory board members nevertheless expressed that speeding is an ongoing issue in that corridor and elsewhere in the unit. County engineers have studied speed on Cape Haze Dr. and investigated many options to manage speeders – including a speed limit reduction. The County does not install traffic calming devices and it is mindful of sign pollution. Mr. Zwetzig approved a suggestion to add speed limit reminder signs to existing stop signs. Mr. Howell said that developments may be able to hire sheriff deputies to enforce speed limits. He suggested speed radar signs.

The community liaison relayed that County transportation engineers will collect speed data along Cape Haze Dr. in December. Mr. Howell asked the purpose of traffic study equipment he noticed at the intersection of Cape Haze Dr. and Placida Rd.

Mr. Zwetzig asked if the County could investigate whether a “Dead End” sign is warranted at the entrance to Seaward Circle.

Mr. Brearley expressed a conflict with the proposed August 2026 meeting date. All members agreed to change it to September 3.

Schedule Meetings / Items for Next Agenda:

Future meetings are scheduled at 1:30 p.m. in the West County Annex Conference Room 120 as follows:

- Thursday, Feb. 26, 2026

- Thursday, June 4, 2026
- Thursday, Aug. 27, 2026 – changed to Sept. 3
- Thursday, Nov. 19, 2026

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Submitted by Lorraine Moneypenny
Public Works Department

Chair Signature

Date