

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization

Thursday, June 7, 2018

City of Cape Coral Public Works Building

815 Nicholas Parkway East, Cape Coral, FL 33990

3:00 p.m.



MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chair Rick Anglickis at 3:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The roll was called. There are 26 authorized members and 20 current members. There are 11 members needed for a quorum. A quorum was present. Members in attendance included Carie Call, Tony Cardinale, Albert O'Donnell, Marion Briggs, Phillip Boller, Rick Anglickis, Ed Blot, Ron Talone, Randy Krise, Jim Wurster, Larry Wood, Robert King, and Scott Gilbertson. Others in attendance included D'Juan Harris, Jennifer Marshall, Steven Andrews, and Katharine Sampson with FDOT; Aniruddha Gotmare with Scalar Consulting; and Lee County MPO staff Don Scott, Ron Gogoi, and Calandra Barraco.

Agenda Item #1 - Public Comments on Items on the Agenda

There were no public comments on items on the agenda.

Agenda Item #2 - LeeTran Report

As there were no representatives present from LeeTran, Mr. Don Scott gave the LeeTran report that was provided by Ms. Lee Combs with LeeTran at the 9:30 a.m. Technical Advisory Committee meeting. Mr. Scott said that LeeTran's ridership was down 1.85% through April 30, 2018 over the same period last year. He said the Fort Myers Beach tram that ran February 11 through May 30 was a success with over 118,000 passenger trips, which equates to roughly 41 passenger trips per hour. He also said the downtown Fort Myers trolley service, that ran from November 9 through April 18 had approximately 11 passenger trips per hour. He mentioned the Rosa Parks SIS grant that will be used to construct an additional four bus bays and for facility improvements.

Agenda Item #3 - FDOT Report

Mr. D'Juan Harris with FDOT gave the FDOT report. He announced there will be a public meeting on the SR 78 pathway project on June 19 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Lee Civic Center.

New Business

Chair Anglickis decided to move to Agenda Item #9 to hear FDOT's presentation on the Able Canal Pathway PD&E study in order to accommodate the project team's travel time back to Bartow, FL.

Agenda Item #9 - Presentation on the Able Canal Pathway PD&E Study

Mr. Steven Andrews with FDOT introduced himself as the project manager of the Able Canal PD&E study. He also introduced the rest of the project team including Ms. Jennifer Marshall and Ms. Katharine Sampson, also with FDOT, and Mr. Aniruddha Gotmare with Scalar Consulting. Mr. Andrews continued his presentation with Power Point slides on the project limits, purpose and need, pathway details, corridor alternatives, evaluation matrix with cost estimates, public involvement, and contact information. The full presentation can be found here: http://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/435351-1-Able-Canal-BPCC-presentation_r2.pdf Mr. Andrews asked if there were any questions. Mr. Albert O'Donnell commented on FDOT's bike path policies and asked for separated facilities for pedestrians and cyclists as well as increased overall path width to accommodate this. He also suggested parking at each end, landscaping, and restaurants. Ms. Marshall noted this is a Lee County facility, not an FDOT facility, and the final design decisions will be up to Lee County. She added that she will bring the comment up to Lee County. There was a brief discussion on multi-use versus separated pathways. Ms. Marion Briggs asked who is handling the pathway. Ms. Marshall said Lee County will be handling the facility, but FDOT is conducting the study. Ms. Briggs asked where the funding is coming from. Ms. Marshall replied that a portion is federal and a portion is local. There was a brief discussion on

environmental concerns related to Harns Marsh, a Conservation 20/20 parcel. An additional discussion followed on increasing the width of the path, current right of way concerns, and required buffers for maintenance. Ms. Marshall said to keep in mind the final design will be up to Lee County. The committee continued their discussion on the path options and maintenance. Mr. Ed Blot brought up funding and the cost of right of way purchase for the one path alternative that required it. Ms. Marshall affirmed that the northern alignment as well as the two hybrid alignments do not require right of way, only the southern alignment does. Mr. Gotmare explained the alignments again. Mr. Ron Talone asked if there was existing parking at either end of the trail. Ms. Carie Call commented that 20/20 Conservation Lands always have parking areas. Ms. Marshall added that Lee County staff is also considering how to enhance parking.

Mr. Albert O'Donnell made a motion for the CAC to support the project with a change from a mixed use pathway to two separated paths, one for bicycles only and one for pedestrians only, with either an eight foot two-directional bicycle only path, a two foot grass buffer, and a four foot concrete pedestrian path; or a six foot two-directional bicycle path, a two foot grass buffer, and a four foot concrete pedestrian path. Mr. Jim Wurster seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Marshall thanked the CAC for the opportunity to present.

Agenda Item #4 - *Review and Approval of the May 3, 2018 CAC Meeting Summary

Mr. Randy Krise made the motion to approve the May 3, 2018 Meeting Summary. Mr. Phillip Boller seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - *Endorsement of the FY 18/19 through FY 22/23 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item for the review and endorsement of the FY 2018/2019 through FY 2022/2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), that was attached to the agenda packet. He said the changes included in the TIP encompassed an addition of the adopted date to the cover page, changes to limits on a project on Chiquita, a SR 78 project taken off, freight and asset management language added, change of "Pam Beach" to "Palm Beach," and LeeTran funding amounts adjusted to match actual amounts received. He asked for comments and approval. There was no discussion.

Mr. Ron Talone made a motion to approve the endorsement of the FY 18/19 through FY 22/23 Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Scott Gilbertson seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 - *Review and Approval of the Bicycle Pedestrian and the Operations and Management Priorities

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the federal TA and SU Multi-modal Box Funded Priorities, that were attached to the agenda packet and shown as a slide at the meeting. He said at the May 1, 2018 meeting, staff presented the results of the bicycle pedestrian evaluations and the preliminary priorities for TA and Multi-modal Box funds for committee input. He said staff is now bringing the priorities back for approval. He added the only change to the list that was presented at the May meeting is the addition of the Fort Myers Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan Update. He said staff has recommended a priority of 7 for this project, which costs only \$125,000, but is critical for identifying future bicycle pedestrian projects within the City. He also discussed the changes made to the cost estimate for the Able Canal Pathway were based on the Hybrid two option. He added the cost estimate for SR 78 will be updated after the June 19 public workshop. Mr. Scott mentioned Ms. Persides Zambrano's comment at the TAC meeting to remove project number sixteen on the list. Mr. Gogoi said he removed number sixteen due to an alternate funding source.

Mr. Randy Krise made the motion to approve the Bicycle/Pedestrian and Operations and Management Priorities. Mr. Robert King seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #7 - *Review and Approval of the Safety Project Priorities

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this agenda item for the approval of the roundabout priorities for highway safety program funds, that were attached to the agenda packet and also shown as a slide at the meeting. He explained the MPO Roundabout Feasibility Study identified and ranked five locations in Lee County for potential roundabouts. He said of those, only the proposed roundabouts at the intersection of Gunnery and Buckingham and the Winkler Avenue and Challenger Boulevard met the minimum thresholds to qualify for Highway Safety Program funds. He added consistent with the MPO request from last year, FDOT has programmed the design and right of way phases for the Gunnery and Buckingham roundabout. He noted the MPO is now requesting highway safety funds for the construction phase and project development phases, design and right of way for the Winkler Avenue and Challenger Boulevard roundabout. He asked for approval from the committee. Chair Anglickis asked if there was any discussion. Mr. Ed Blot asked about the other roundabout projects that were identified. Mr. Gogoi said these are the only two that are eligible for highway safety funds. Mr. O'Donnell asked about the costs of the first project. Mr. Gogoi said FDOT is handling that in conjunction with the county. Chair Anglickis asked if the county is doing both projects. Mr. Gogoi said the county is in charge of the Gunnery /Buckingham project and the City of Fort Myers is handling the Winkler/Challenger project.

Mr. Scott Gilbertson made the motion to approve the Safety Project Priorities. Mr. Ed Blot seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #8 - *Review and Approval of the Transportation Regional Incentive Program Priorities

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) priorities. He said the TRIP program provides funding for roadway and transit projects on the regional roadway network map. He mentioned the new projects added to the list include the construction of the new Veterans Memorial Parkway in Collier County, the extension of Three Oaks Parkway, the widening of Corkscrew Road in Lee County, and the construction of Hanson Boulevard in the City of Fort Myers. He noted the Collier TAC and CAC approved the priority list at their meetings held on May 21, 2018, and the Collier MPO Board will vote on the priorities tomorrow. He added the Lee County MPO Board will vote on June 22, 2018.

Mr. Scott Gilbertson made the motion to approve the Transportation Regional Incentive Program Priorities. Mr. Phillip Boller seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Carie Call asked about Hanson and the housing development that was scheduled to be built. Mr. Gogoi said the housing at Hanson and Ortiz was approved. Mr. Gogoi then handed out the staff report for Agenda Item #8.5.

Agenda Item #8.5 – Review and Approval of the Recommendation on Pursuing Funding Option for Big Carlos Bridge

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of a recommendation regarding a funding option outlined by FDOT for the Big Carlos Bridge. Mr. Scott said this has been the top MPO priority for the past three years. He said the project is for a new or rehabilitated bridge on the south end of Fort Myers Beach and showed a map of the area. He added the county is requesting \$25 million in federal funding, about half of the construction cost. He noted to move this forward, FDOT is proposing \$10 million in any area funds to be matched with \$15 million in our federal allocation of funding in 2025, 2026 and 2027. He said this will require other programs, off the top box funding, for those three years to be reduced by at least \$1 million a year. He said the MPO is now seeking approval from the committee. He added the TAC and staff recommended this funding option. Mr. Krise asked if a citizen could donate money and have the bridge named for them. Mr. Scott replied yes, but private entities usually want to toll. Mr. O'Donnell asked about tolling. Mr. Scott mentioned a tolling study was done about fifteen years ago but never moved beyond that.

Mr. Albert O'Donnell made the motion to approve the funding option for the Big Carlos Bridge. Ms. Carie Call seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Blot asked if this goes forward, which projects will be pushed down. Mr. Scott mentioned a discussion he had with Mr. L. K. Nandam regarding using leftover box money to fund smaller dollar amount studies. He also

reviewed the STP and State funded priority list, the projects that are funded, and those that still need to be funded. Mr. Gilbertson asked if there were any comments from the TAC. Mr. Scott said there was a comment from the county asking about funding the bridge before the agenda item was even brought up. Mr. Gogoi said there are many municipalities that are pursuing TIGER BUILD grants, including Bonita Springs. Mr. Wurster said he hopes they receive funding.

Agenda Item #10 - *Review and Approval of the General Planning Consultant Scope of Services and select a TAC Member for the Selection Committee

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the scope of services for the General Planning Consultant activities that will be undertaken over the next three years and select a CAC volunteer to participate on the selection committee. He noted the scope was attached to the agenda packet. He said the Lee MPO currently has nine general planning consultants under contract that were selected back in 2015 to cover a variety of projects/tasks that are included in the MPO's Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). He added these contracts expire at the end of November, and we are now going out for selection of general planning consultants. He referenced the draft scope of work, that was attached to the agenda packet, for the committee's review and approval. He said in addition, we are seeking a committee member to participate on the selection committee. Mr. Phillip Boller volunteered. Mr. Scott asked for approval of the scope.

Mr. Ron Talone made the motion to approve the General Planning Consultant Scope of Services and Mr. Phillip Boller as the CAC representative on the selection committee. Mr. Jim Wurster seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #11 - *Review and Approval of the General Public Involvement Scope of Services and select a TAC Member for the Selection Committee

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the General Public Involvement Scope of Services and to recommend a member to serve on the selection committee. He said the scope of services was attached to the agenda packet. He mentioned the Lee MPO is seeking to select a small group of public involvement firms, target is three, to be available for UPWP tasks consistent with the selection that was done back in 2015, as the contracts have a three year time limit. He said the MPO staff has updated the draft general public involvement scope for the committee's review and input. He added the MPO is also seeking a volunteer from the CAC to sit on the selection committee. Chair Anglickis asked if there was a CAC volunteer for the selection committee. Mr. Randy Krise volunteered. Chair Anglickis asked if there was motion.

Mr. Robert King made the motion to approve the General Public Involvement Scope of Services and Mr. Randy Krise as the CAC representative on the selection committee. Mr. Scott Gilbertson seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Other Business

Agenda Item #12 - Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

There were no public comments on items not on the agenda.

Agenda Item #13 – Announcements

Mr. Moses Jackson announced he would be submitting his application to become a member of the CAC.

Mr. Scott noted the MPO Board had cancelled their July and August meetings, and the TAC had cancelled their July meeting. He asked the CAC if they would also like to cancel their July meeting and that the TAC would be meeting in August.

Mr. Ron Talone made the motion to cancel the July CAC meeting. Mr. Phillip Boller seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #14 - Topics for next meeting

Mr. Scott said the topics for the August agenda could include presentations on the socioeconomic data for the 2045 LRTP, the City of Fort Myers midtown redevelopment, and an SIS update. Chair Anglickis asked if there would be another presentation on Able Canal ready by August. Mr. Harris said there would be another presentation on the preferred alternatives, but it would not be ready by August. He said the project team for the SR 78 pathway project might be able to present at the August meeting.

Mr. O'Donnell asked Chair Anglickis to write a letter to forward the motion regarding the Able Canal project to the appropriate organizations. Mr. Gogoi suggested sending the letter to LA-MSID as well. Chair Anglickis said he would send the letter to Lee County Parks and Recreation and LA-MSID. Ms. Call asked Mr. Scott to get back with her regarding the housing development at Hanson.

Agenda Item #15 - Information and Distribution Items

The only information and distribution item that was handed out during the meeting was the staff report for Agenda Item #8.5 on the recommendation for funding for the Big Carlos Pass Bridge.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

*Action Items +May Require Action

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