

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Thursday, December 3, 2020
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 at 3:00 p.m. by Chair Rick Anglickis. This CAC meeting had both in-person and virtual attendance options. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

The roll was recorded by MPO staff. There was a quorum. Members in attendance included Carie Call (in-person), Karen Miller (virtual), Bev Larson (in-person), Tony Cardinale (virtual), Marion Briggs (in-person), Rick Anglickis (in-person), Justin Thibaut (virtual), Ed Blot (virtual), Steve Henry (in-person), Bruce Bohlander (in-person), Vanessa Chaviano (in-person), Randy Krise (in-person), Jim Wurster (virtual), Ted Tryka (in-person), Ty Symroski (virtual), and Kevin Berry (virtual). Others in attendance included Michael Tisch (in-person) and Victoria Peters (in-person) with FDOT; and Lee County MPO staff Don Scott (in-person), Ron Gogoi (in-person), and Calandra Barraco (in-person).

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

Mr. Don Scott gave the LeeTran report that was provided by Ms. Dawn Huff at the earlier Technical Advisory Committee meeting. Mr. Scott noted that the Beach Trolley service would begin on January 3, 2021 and also mentioned several awards that LeeTran had recently received.

Agenda Item #3 – FDOT Report

Ms. Victoria Peters with FDOT provided the FDOT Report. Ms. Peters announced that the e-public hearing for the upcoming Work Program would be held from January 11 through January 15, 2021. She added that an in-person event for the Work Program would be held at the FDOT Southwest Area Office/Sunguide Center on January 12 from 10:00 a.m. until noon. She referred to information requested at a previous meeting on the prior fair-share report and said that report was not being run anymore as it has been replaced with a needs based program approach. Ms. Peters added there are still statutory requirements to fulfill but the Department has transitioned to a needs based approach. Ms. Carie Call thanked Ms. Peters for providing the update. There was a brief discussion that followed on differences between yes/no answers, statutory requirements, explanation from other FDOT staff, and working through holidays to complete the delayed release of the Work Program. Chair Anglickis asked if there were any questions. There were none.

New Business

Agenda Item #4 - *Review and Approval of the November 5, 2020 CAC Meeting Summary

Ms. Bev Larson made the motion to approve the November 5, 2020 Meeting Summary. Mr. Steve Henry and Ms. Marion Briggs simultaneously seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - *Review and Approve an Amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item to amend the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add FTA Section 5310 grant funding for LeeTran in the current fiscal year. The draft TIP page was attached to the agenda packet and posted to the MPO website. Mr. Scott said the FY 2021 through FY 2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is being amended to add FTA Section 5310 grant funding for LeeTran, this includes operating funds in the amount of \$200,000 and the FPN is 448461-1. Chair Anglickis asked if that was the only change being made. Mr. Scott replied yes.

Ms. Carie Call made the motion to approve the Amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program. Ms. Bev Larson seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 - *Endorsement of the 2045 LRTP Adoption Summary Report

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review, comment, and endorsement of the 2045 LRTP Adoption Summary Report that will be adopted at the December MPO Board meeting. Mr. Scott provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on explanation of the LRTP, vision, schedule, 2015 data, 2045 projected data, FDOT Regional Transportation Model, Cost Feasible Map, and Federal and State projected project timelines. The committee briefly discussed the Burnt Store project timeline, bridges, SR 82 example, Matlacha capacity and modeling explanation, consideration of Sanibel seasonal population increase, factoring in vacation rentals, Uber/Lyft trip counts, and factoring in development. Mr. Scott continued his presentation with information on constrained roadways map, public involvement, overview of public comments, current needs plan, funding tables, cost feasible plan, existing priority projects tables, cost feasible project tables by jurisdiction, SIS cost feasible plan, transit needs plan and 2045 mix of modes. The committee briefly discussed autonomous vehicles (AV) versus bus rapid transit and replacing Lehigh circulation routes with similar system as proposed for downtown Fort Myers. Mr. Scott noted that AV shuttles are more suited for the slower speeds of downtown areas. Mr. Scott then continued his presentation with information on transit funding and transit costs. The committee briefly discussed Indianapolis examples, ridership and operational costs of transit, and hours of operation of transit. Mr. Jim Wurster asked about the Terry/Pine roundabout project. Mr. Ron Gogoi commented that there was not sufficient funding to address that project. A brief discussion followed on the Terry/Pine roundabout project. Mr. Scott continued his presentation with slides on the transit cost feasible plan and the bicycle/pedestrian facilities with corresponding map. Mr. Gogoi then presented information on freight data including truck volume percentages. A short discussion followed on the use of rail to alleviate traffic on roadways. Mr. Gogoi continued his presentation with information on RSW freight volumes, COVID impacts, and commodity freight analysis. Mr. Gogoi's Freight Element presentation can be viewed here: <https://leemppo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-Item-6-Freight-Slides.pdf> Mr. Scott then presented a slide on the comments made at the earlier TAC meeting. Those comments included: Add connection for Sunrise Blvd. Schools in Lehigh to Needs Plan, Add reconstruction of Joel down to Leeland Heights (4 lanes, median, bike/ped etc.) to Needs Plan, Add back in the Sunshine up to SR 80 in the Needs Plan, and Remove Kismet from the Needs Plan map (not in project list). Mr. Scott's presentation can be viewed here: <https://leemppo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-Item-6-2045-LRTP-2.pdf> The committee briefly discussed the possible use of SRTS funding for the Sunshine connection bridge project, pooling different funding sources together for the Sunshine bridge project, total amount of SRTS funding for District One, cost differences between pedestrian and vehicle bridge, and involving the School District/Board members. Mr. Randy Krise said he would contact the School Board members as well as the Superintendent to discuss cooperation on the Sunshine bridge project. The committee continued to discuss this project and the additional income being received by the School District due to the voter approved sales tax increase. Mr. Scott asked if there were any questions, comments, or approval. Ms. Marion Briggs

asked about the comments regarding the Del Prado Extension. Mr. Scott explained and also mentioned the Cape Coral Evacuation study. Ms. Briggs also asked about the widening of SR 78. Mr. Scott discussed the modeling of other roads and the attractions on SR 78 that draw increased traffic to the corridor. Chair Anglickis asked if the TAC comments would be added to the LRTP. Mr. Scott replied yes.

Mr. Randy Krise made the motion to endorse the 2045 LRTP Adoption Summary Report with the additions from the Technical Advisory Committee. Ms. Marion Briggs seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #7 - *Endorsement of Applications for FY 2021 SRTS Funds

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this agenda item to recommend MPO Board Endorsement of Applications for FY 2021 Safe Route to School Funds. He gave a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on the two proposals that are being submitted. He reviewed the proposals as follows:

Proposal 1: The proposal calls for sidewalks that will benefit multiple schools within Cape Coral including Skyline Elementary, Challenger Middle, and Patriot Elementary. Sidewalks are proposed on (1) the east side of Skyline Boulevard from SR 78 to Trafalgar Parkway and (2) the north side of SW 10th Street from Skyline Boulevard to Chiquita Boulevard.

Cost Estimate: \$621,978 Maintaining Agency: City of Cape Coral

Proposal 2: The proposal calls for sidewalks that will benefit multiple schools including Fort Myers Middle Academy, Allen Park and Fort Myers High. Sidewalks are proposed on (1) the south side of Hanson Street from Royal Palm Avenue to Cleveland Avenue (2) south side of Braman Avenue from Central to Fowler Street (3) south side of Braman Avenue from Broadway Avenue to Grande Avenue (4) north side of Moreno Avenue from Fowler Street to Broadway Avenue and (5) south side of Unity Avenue/Kennesaw Street from Fowler Street to Broadway Avenue.

Cost Estimate: \$813,000 Maintaining Agency: City of Fort Myers and Lee County BOCC

He also reviewed slides of the project location maps, two (2) mile student zone maps, student demographics data, detailed cost estimates, and schedule. He noted the BPCCC recommended MPO endorsement at their November 24th meeting, and the CAC recommended endorsement at their earlier meeting. Mr. Gogoi's presentation can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-Item-7-SRTS-Endorsement.pdf> Chair Anglickis clarified that the motion would be for the approval of both of the proposals. Mr. Gogoi replied yes.

Ms. Carie Call made the motion to recommend MPO Board endorsement of Applications for FY 2021 Safe Route to School Funds. Ms. Bev Larson seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Peters briefly explained the SRTS application process and potential for resubmission. Chair Anglickis referred back to the Sunshine bridge project area and compared it to the area circled in the map for proposal one noting it would include numerous schools in Lehigh Acres.

Agenda Item #8 - Information on the TBARTA Transit Technologies Study

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item on the TBARTA Transit Technology Study. Mr. Scott gave a Power Point presentation with slides that included information on the HyperloopTT technology, stations, benefits, development projects, hyperloop projects status, innovative transit technologies study conducted by TBARTA, cable propelled transit, benefits and concerns, generalized characteristics, air taxis, urban air mobility technology, and implementation status. Mr. Scott's entire presentation can be accessed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-Item-8-TBARTA-Transit-Technologies.pdf> TBARTA's transit technology webpage that includes more information on what they are working on can be viewed here: <https://www.tbarta.com/en/planning-programs/innovative-transit-technology/>

Agenda Item #9 - Follow up Information on Transit Ridership and State Electric Vehicle Fees

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item as a follow-up on Transit Ridership and State Electric Vehicle (EV) fees. Mr. Scott provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on LeeTran ridership data and state electric vehicle fees. The LeeTran data can be viewed here: <https://performance-management-leegis.hub.arcgis.com/pages/transit>. Mr. Scott's presentation can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-Item-9-Follow-up-Items.pdf> The committee then discussed the current percentage of EVs in Florida, encouraging local legislators to support EV fees, loss of gas tax revenues due to increased EV use, what other states are doing, actual number of EVs in Florida, amount of revenue that could be gained by charging EV fees with current number of EVs in Florida, and charging by odometer reading. Mr. Scott said he would check into any fees that have been imposed that are odometer based.

Agenda Item #10 - 2021 MPO Meeting Calendar

Mr. Scott noted the 2021 MPO meeting schedule was included for committee member information and use.

Other Business

Agenda Item #11 - Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

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

Agenda Item #12 – Announcements

There were no announcements.

Agenda Item #13 - Topics for next meeting

Topics suggested for next meeting included LeeTran targets. Mr. Gogoi noted that LeeTran staff would send a presentation to MPO staff which will then be forwarded to the committee to provide feedback before the January meeting.

Agenda Item #14 - Information and Distribution Items

There were no information and distribution items.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:49 p.m.

An audio recording of the entire meeting can be accessed here: <https://soundcloud.com/user-390911534/12-03-2020-cacwma>

*Action Items †May Require Action

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