

# CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Thursday, May 6, 2021  
City of Cape Coral Public Works Building  
815 Nicholas Parkway East, Cape Coral, FL 33990  
**3:00 p.m.**



## Meeting Minutes

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The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chair Rick Anglickis. 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, Karen Miller, Bev Larson, Albert O'Donnell, Rick Anglickis, Ed Blot, Bruce Bohlander, Randy Krise, Jim Wurster, Lewis Gould, Jr., and Kevin Berry. Others in attendance included Victoria Peters and Patrick Bateman with FDOT; David Dangel with Inwood Consulting Engineers; Allison Evanitz with Commute Connector; Breeze Newspaper staff; and Lee County MPO staff Don Scott, Ron Gogoi, and Calandra Barraco.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### 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. Scott provided the LeeTran report that was given by Ms. Dawn Huff with LeeTran at the earlier Technical Advisory Committee meeting. Mr. Scott reported on service changes and the timelines for completion of Rosa Parks, South transfer, and Lehigh projects.

Chair Anglickis introduced Mr. Lewis Gould, Jr. and asked him to provide additional information on himself. Mr. Gould said he was recently appointed to the CAC by the City of Sanibel and gave a brief introduction of himself.

### Agenda Item #3 – FDOT Report

Ms. Victoria Peters with FDOT provided the FDOT report. She said she would be leaving FDOT in the middle of June to work for the Collier MPO. She asked if anyone knew planners to refer them to FDOT to fill her place. She then introduced Mr. Patrick Bateman with FDOT to present the US 41 at Bonita Beach Road project. Mr. Bateman provided a brief Power Point presentation on the project overview and study schedule. His presentation can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/FDOT-Report-US-41-at-BBR-Project-Update.pptx> The committee then discussed NEPA, alternatives, project history, curb/flyover/offset, gravity walls, and landscaping.

## New Business

### Agenda Item #4 - \*Review and Approval of the March 4, 2021 CAC Meeting Summary

Ms. Bev Larson made the motion to approve the March 4, 2021 Meeting Summary. Mr. Ed Blot seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

## **Agenda Item #5 - \*Review and Approval of Transportation Improvement Program Amendment**

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item to amend the FY 2021 through FY 2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the San Carlos Boulevard project to match the funding, project length and project limits description included in the FDOT Tentative Work Program. He reviewed the draft TIP page and the FDOT request letter were attached to the agenda packet, posted to the MPO website, and can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/T05-6.pdf> Chair Zambrano asked if there were any questions. There were none.

**Mr. Randy Krise made the motion to approve the TIP Amendment for the San Carlos Boulevard project. Ms. Bev Larson seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

## **Agenda Item #6 - Update on the MPO Board Caloosahatchee Bridge Pedestrian Facility Discussions**

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item as an update on the MPO Board Caloosahatchee Bridge Pedestrian Facility discussions. He said at the MPO Board meeting in January, the Board voted to bring back an agenda item for FDOT to present potential options for adding a pedestrian facility to the US 41 Caloosahatchee Bridge. He noted currently there are no bicycle and pedestrian facilities on the bridge and there are signs prohibiting pedestrians and bicyclists. He continued that at the March MPO Board meeting, FDOT presented three sidewalk options for the west side of the bridge and referred to the presentation that was attached to the agenda packet, posted to the MPO website, and can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/T06-8.pdf> He said these options range in width from 6' to 8' with an estimated cost ranging from \$9.9 to \$15.05 million. He said following the discussion, the MPO Board approved, with one objection, bringing the item back as a priority with additional information. Mr. Scott also mentioned additional funding from the CARES Act and other sources and the age of the bridge. The committee then discussed TAC preference, preference of MPO Board, bridge replacement list, figures in presentation representing steel and concrete structures, three alternatives presented, construction material of existing bridge, and possibility of building another structure.

## **Agenda Item #7 - \*Review and Approval of the Federal and State Transportation Priorities**

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the updated Federal and State Funded Priorities that were attached to the agenda packet, posted to the MPO website, and can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/T07-6.pdf> He commented that the project priorities are updated each year for submittal to FDOT for consideration of funding. He noted the federal and state priority list has been updated to include the US 41 Caloosahatchee Bridge Pedestrian Infrastructure project seeking funds to build this project as a design build project. He said most of the projects on the list are existing projects that have PD&E studies currently underway where we are seeking funding for the design phase. The committee discussed the US 41 at Bonita Beach Road project and its inclusion in the list.

**Ms. Carie Call made the motion to approve the Federal and State Transportation Priorities. Ms. Karen Miller seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Bateman clarified for the committee the Caloosahatchee Bridge is constructed of both steel and concrete based on the earlier discussion of the two drawings provided, one for concrete and one for steel.

## **Agenda Item #8 - \*Review and Approval of the Joint Regional TRIP Priorities with Collier and Charlotte**

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the updated Lee and Collier and Lee and Charlotte-Punta Gorda MPO TRIP priorities. He explained the Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) provides funding for roadway and transit projects on the previously adopted regional roadway network map. He said the TRIP priorities have been updated to be consistent with the current eligible projects included in the local Capital Improvement Elements. He noted the TRIP priority projects require a minimum fifty percent local funding match. He then reviewed the priority lists for Collier and Charlotte Counties that can also be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/T08-4.pdf> The committee briefly discussed the Fiddlesticks projects, Amazon facility in Collier, airport development, Amazon expansion in Lee County, congestion on I-75, reprioritization of projects, splitting projects into phases, cost of Alico extension project, developer contributions, example of Burnt Store process, percent of contribution from county, and project applications and detail involved. Chair Anglickis asked for a motion.

**Mr. Bruce Bohlander made the motion to approve the Joint Regional TRIP Priorities with Collier and Charlotte Counties. Mr. Randy Krise seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

## **Agenda Item #9 - Presentation on the SR 31 Project Development and Environment Study**

Mr. Patrick Bateman with FDOT presented this agenda item on the SR 31 Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study from SR 78 in Lee County to Cook Brown Road in Charlotte County. Mr. Bateman introduced Mr. David Dangel with Inwood Consulting Engineers as FDOT's consultant on the project. The presentation was attached to the agenda packet, posted to the MPO website, and can also be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/T09-6.pdf> Mr. Bateman's presentation included slides with information on study area/limits, need for project, proposed improvement, existing conditions, selected alternative – segments 1 through 4, evaluation matrix, project costs, public hearing, remaining study schedule and contact information. The committee discussed plans for continuing the project south to SR 80, public utility easements and plantings, using existing roadway as frontage road in Lee County, shifting back to original alignment in Charlotte County, ensuring landscaping in final design, street calming impacts of plantings, sufficient room in this project to ensure landscaping, property in area of Cook Brown Road, public comments on the project, and development in Charlotte County. Chair Anglickis thanked Mr. Bateman for his presentation.

## **Agenda Item #10 - Commute Connector Program Update**

Mr. Ron Gogoi introduced Ms. Allison Evanitz with FDOT's Commute Connector to provide an update on the program. Ms. Evanitz gave a brief Power Point presentation that included slides with information on an introduction to the program, history of the program, stakeholders/planning agencies, top takeaways, stakeholders/transit agencies, mission statement/goals, ride matching and incentives software solution, new Commute Connector program, regional van pool program, employer services, LeeTran advertising, recorded trips data, and contact information. The entire presentation can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-Item-10-Lee-County-MPO-updates-532021-updated.pptx> The committee discussed the amount of people using the app, Bartow area, charts used in presentation, process for van pooling and set-up, residents using van pooling, providing driver for van pooling, example of van pooling in Massachusetts, guaranteed ride home program, impact of COVID, legal aspects related to COVID, services for disabled, and LeeTran Passport. Chair Anglickis asked if there were additional comments. There were none. He thanked Ms. Evanitz for her presentation.

## **Agenda Item #11 - Review of the Draft FY 21/22 through FY 25/26 Transportation Improvement Program**

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review of the draft FY 2021/2022 - FY 2025/2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The draft TIP can be viewed at the following link: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/T11a.TIP-Tool-5th-Draft-Run.pdf> He provided a brief overview of the projects and said the final version of over four hundred pages will be brought back for approval at the June meeting. The committee discussed changes made, CARES Act funding, shovel ready projects, examples of previously funded projects, and moving projects forward. Chair Anglickis asked if this would come back next month for approval. Mr. Scott said yes and said a link will be sent out with the full document.

## **Agenda Item #12 - Proposed Amendments to the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan**

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review of and input on the proposed amendments to the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). He said MPO staff is proposing LRTP amendments/modifications to be voted on at the June meeting to be consistent with recent project discussions. He reviewed the following amendments that are being considered: Amend the Federal and State list to include the potential construction of a pedestrian facility on the US 41 Caloosahatchee Bridge as the design phase was included within the Bicycle Pedestrian project list but the construction was too much money to come from that pot of money; Add language in the transit element to include the implementation of technology for the buses, like on board units for the buses, to take advantage of the US 41 Florida Regional Advanced Mobility Elements (FRAME) project that is currently being implemented. Chair Anglickis asked if there was any input. There was none.

### **Other Business**

## **Agenda Item #13 - Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

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

## **Agenda Item #14 – Announcements**

Mr. Krise announced there would be a Corkscrew widening groundbreaking on May 13. Ms. Call asked for CAC input on her paper on a sidewalk project on SR 78 from Burnt Store to Little Pine Island. Mr. O'Donnell suggested to add it as an agenda item for the next meeting. The committee discussed who will pay for the project, peer ideas for the project, project funding, history of the project, staffing the committee with area residents, and the Pine Island area. Ms. Call said she could email the paper to MPO staff to distribute to the committee. Chair Anglickis noted that MPO staff would take care of the distribution. The committee briefly discussed road markings in Boston, the bicycle box markings in Lee County, and following up on the bicycle box project through cameras.

## **Agenda Item #15 - Topics for next meeting**

Topics suggested for next meeting included approval of the TIP.

## **Agenda Item #16 - Information and Distribution Items**

The Information and Distribution Items included the latest MPOAC Legislative Update and an article on vehicle miles travelled.

**The meeting was adjourned at 4:56 p.m.**

**An audio recording of the entire meeting can be accessed here: <https://soundcloud.com/user-390911534/05-06-2021-cacwma>**

**\*Action Items    \*May Require Action**

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