

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Thursday, March 2, 2023
City of Cape Coral Public Works Building
815 Nicholas Parkway East, Cape Coral, FL 33990
3:00 p.m.



Meeting Minutes

Chair Rick Anglickis called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

The roll was recorded by MPO staff. Members in attendance included Carie Call, Karen Miller, Bev Larson, Marion Briggs, Rick Anglickis, Justin Thibaut (3:10 p.m.), Ed Blot, Don Apking, Steve Henry, Randy Krise (3:27 p.m.), Ted Tryka, and Kevin Berry. Others in attendance included Ned Baier with Volkert; members of the public Marsha Ellis and Derek Felder; and Lee County MPO staff Don Scott, Ron Gogoi, and Calandra Barraco.

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

Ms. Marsha Ellis, a member of the public, provided public comments on Agenda Items #5 and #7.

Agenda Item #2 – LeeTran Report

Mr. Don Scott provided the LeeTran report that was given by Ms. Dawn Huff with LeeTran at the earlier Technical Advisory Committee meeting. He commented on LeeTran's off season changes beginning April 27, the South Fort Myers Transfer Station opening on April 27, out to bid status of the Lehigh transfer station, and mobility-on-demand projects in Lehigh and Bonita. The committee briefly discussed the mobility-on-demand service in Lehigh and Bonita, location of the South Transfer station, and reasons for move from Bell Tower.

Agenda Item #3 – FDOT Report

FDOT had nothing to report.

New Business

Agenda Item #4 - *Review and Approval of the January 5, 2023 Meeting Summary

Ms. Bev Larson made the motion to approve the January 5, 2023 Meeting Summary. Mr. Ed Blot seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - *Acceptance of the Bonita Estero Rail Trail Feasibility Study

Mr. Ned Baier with Volkert provided a Power Point presentation on the Bonita Estero Rail Trail Feasibility Study that included slides with information on purpose, team, rails-to-trails program information, example of the Legacy Trail, map of proposed Rail Trail area and SUN Trail network, rail corridor market value, funding, feasibility study content, study area, methodology, alternatives, map of alignments, safety and security on trails, example of Snoqualmie Valley Trail, public involvement, feasibility study status, study findings, and next steps. He asked if there were any questions. His presentation can be viewed here: [Rail Trail Study](#) Mr. Ron Gogoi mentioned the public involvement provided by the Friends of BERT (Bonita Estero Rail Trail). The committee discussed alternatives, railroad ownership, history of the rail trail corridor, Brightline alignment for commuter rail, possibility for light rail along corridor at a later date, design of trail to one side to accommodate future rail, example of

Pinellas Trail, example of Legacy Trail, rail banking, rail abandonment, Comprehensive Plan language, opinion of Technical Advisory Committee, ongoing negotiations with Seminole Gulf, purchase agreement, funding, time frame, current bill to double SUN Trail funding, ownership of right-of-way, options that allow for trail and future rail use, expense of new rail line, out-of-service status, and issues with bridge.

Ms. Carie Call made a motion to accept the Bonita Estero Rail Trail Feasibility Study. Ms. Bev Larson seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 - Discussion and Impacts Regarding the 2020 Census Data and Maps Release

Mr. Don Scott provided a Power Point presentation on the 2020 Census Data and Maps Release that included slides with information on MPO activities related to the 2020 Census, population changes, 2020 census map, 2000 census map, 2010 census map, urbanized area population estimates, growth, Transportation Management Area (TMA) table, Federal funding allocations, funding impacts, previous actions on urbanized census changes, and current urban area census actions. He asked if there were any comments or questions. The committee discussed the population difference attributed to the Bonita Estero Naples Census Area, pros and cons of combining, and large land area of Collier County. His presentation can be viewed here: [2020 Census Update](#)

Agenda Item #7 - Review of the Federal Certification Report

Mr. Scott provided a Power Point presentation as a review of the Federal Certification Report that included slides with information on the Federal Certification review team, purpose, overview of the process, summary of risk assessment, noteworthy practices, recommendations, and review findings. Mr. Scott noted the Public Involvement Plan update will be brought to the committees soon and asked if there were any comments or questions on the presentation. There were no comments or questions. His presentation can be found here: [Federal Certification Report](#)

Agenda Item #8 - Follow up Information on the Lee County Transportation Project Tier Presentation and Project Information

Mr. Scott provided a Power Point presentation on the Lee County Transportation Project Tiers that included slides with information on original priorities, road project phases, ranking criteria, tier one projects list, tier two project list, tier three project list, cost increases, Three Oaks Parkway extension, Big Carlos bridge replacement, pavement conditions, Ortiz Avenue, Estero Boulevard improvements, Littleton Road, Corkscrew Road, Alico Road Connector, Colonial Boulevard, Cape Coral bridge, Veterans Parkway, Hickory Bridge replacements, and top tier one projects. His presentation can be found here: [Lee County Tiers](#) Mr. Scott also mentioned the increased replacement cost of the SR 31 bridge and other area bridges. The committee discussed the point value and order of projects, Sunshine project, bottleneck issues, and reason for low rating of Sunshine project. Mr. Derek Felder, a member of the public, provided public comment on this agenda item.

Agenda Item #9 - Information on Electric Vehicle Fee Resolution Discussion

Mr. Scott provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on Florida Electricity Usage Charges, municipal public service tax database, and Iowa example. His presentation can be accessed here: [Electric Vehicle Charges](#) The committee discussed tourist traffic in Iowa, mileage based user fee group discussion on nationwide application of recommendations, increase in electric vehicle purchases, and ensuring electric vehicle owners pay their fair share as electricity fees currently do not fund roadway improvements. Ms. Marsha Ellis, a member of the public, provided a public comment on Agenda Item #9.

Other Business

Agenda Item #10 - Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

Ms. Marsha Ellis, a member of the public, provided a public comment on the Alico Connector project and Conservation 20/20 properties. Mr. Derek Felder, a member of the public, provided a public comment on the Sunshine Extension project and Lehigh paving needs.

Agenda Item #11 – Announcements

Mr. Scott announced there would be no meeting in April, and the next CAC meeting would be held on May 4.

Agenda Item #12 - Topics for next meeting

Topics suggested for the next meeting included the Public Involvement Plan (PIP) update.

Agenda Item #13 - Information and Distribution Items

There were no information and distribution items.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed here: [CAC March 2, 2023](#)

*Action Items †May Require Action

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