

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD

9:00 a.m., Friday, January 19, 2018
Lee County Administration East Building
2201 Second Street, Room 118
Fort Myers, FL 33901
239-244-2220



MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chair Rick Williams at 9:00 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Chair Williams noted there was an extra Cape member, Councilmember Cosden, but she would not be voting. He also mentioned he would be alternate and she would be a regular member after this meeting.

The roll was called. A quorum was present. Lee County MPO Board Members in attendance included Lee County Commissioners Frank Mann, Brian Hamman, Larry Kiker, John Manning, and Cecil Pendergrass; City of Cape Coral Councilmembers John Gunter, John Carioscia, Dave Stokes, Jessica Cosden, and Rick Williams; City of Cape Coral Mayor Joe Coviello; City of Fort Myers Councilmembers Johnny Streets Jr. and Mike Flanders; Town of Fort Myers Beach Vice-Mayor/MPO Board Vice-Chair Tracey Gore; City of Sanibel Vice-Mayor Mick Denham; City of Bonita Springs Deputy Mayor Peter O'Flinn and Councilmember Fred Forbes; and Village of Estero Mayor Jim Boesch.

Others in attendance included L. K. Nandam, D'Juan Harris, Lawrence Massey, and Zachary Burch with FDOT; Dave Loveland and Randy Cerchie with Lee County; Lee County MPO staff Don Scott, Ron Gogoi, and Calandra Barraco; MPO legal counsel Derek Rooney; Steve Myers with LeeTran; Sean Corey with IT Services of Lee County; Persides Zambrano with the City of Cape Coral; Alan Mandel with Good Wheels; Johnny Limbaugh with Wright Construction; Matt Feeney with the City of Bonita Springs; and Councilmember William Ribble with the Village of Estero.

Agenda Item #1 - Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee (BPCC) Report

Mr. Don Scott stated the BPCC did not meet in December. He said their next scheduled meeting is a Joint Meeting with the City of Fort Myers Bike/Ped Advisory Board on January 23, 2018.

Agenda Item #2 - Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Report

Mr. Scott gave the CAC report from the most recent meeting on January 4, 2018. He noted at their last meeting the CAC elected officers for 2018, approved the US 41 TIP Amendment, reviewed the LRTP Amendments, and heard presentations on the FDOT mobility measures and the Origin and Destination technology options.

Agenda Item #3 - Public Comments on Consent Agenda Items

There were no public comments on Consent Agenda Items.

Agenda Item #4 - *Consent Agenda

A. Approval of the December 15, 2017 Meeting Minutes

B Approval of an Appointment to the Citizens Advisory Committee

There were no comments from the Board members on the Consent Agenda items.

Commissioner Kiker moved to approve the consent agenda items. Deputy Mayor O'Flinn seconded the motion. There were no objections. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - Public Comments will be Taken at Each Item

Chair Williams announced that public comments would be taken at each item.

Public Hearing Items

Agenda Item #6 - ^*Approval of an Amendment to the FY 2017/2018 through FY 2021/2022 Transportation Improvement Program to Add Local Funds to the US 41 Project

Commissioner Manning made the motion to approve the Amendment to add local funds to the US 41 project. Commissioner Kiker seconded the motion.

Councilmember Flanders questioned the scheduling, asking when the project will be started. Mr. Scott deferred to FDOT. Mr. L. K. Nandam said the project is scheduled for this fiscal year, and he would provide the detailed schedule in an email. Councilmember Flanders confirmed that the project will be in 2018. Mr. Nandam responded yes.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Kiker requested a reduction in the number of MPO Board meetings per year and shorter agendas. He mentioned he spoke with Mr. Scott before the meeting about the matter. Mr. Scott added there are certain times of the year that meetings are necessary, but he would look at the schedule to see where a gap would be possible. Commissioner Kiker further suggested putting the BPCC and CAC reports in the packet. He voiced concern that the meetings were too long. Chair Williams suggested taking the matter before the Executive Committee (MEC) at their next meeting. Mr. Scott said yes, the MEC could evaluate this as they handle many administrative items already. Chair Williams asked if a set amount of meetings were mandated by the state. Mr. Scott replied no. Chair Williams said this item would be further discussed at the MEC meeting and welcomed Commissioner Kiker to join.

New Business

Agenda Item #7 - *Review and Approval of the Safety Performance Measure Targets

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item to review FDOT's safety targets, attached to the agenda packet, for all five national safety measures and adopt/support FDOT's safety targets or recommend an alternative. He said the MPOs are required to adopt Safety Performance Measure Targets by February 27, 2018 in order to meet new Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirements. He added the FHWA has established five national Safety Measures which all state Departments of Transportation and MPOs must address. He listed the safety performance measures: number of fatalities, rate of fatalities per 100 million Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT), number of serious injuries, rate of serious injuries per 100 million VMT, and number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries. The Committees and the MPO staff are recommending that the Board support FDOT's safety performance measure targets of zero. Chair Williams asked if there were any public comments. There were no public comments.

Commissioner Manning made the motion to approve the safety performance measure targets. Commissioner Pendergrass seconded the motion. There were no objections. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #8 - Review of the Proposed LRTP Amendments

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review of the proposed amendments to the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) that will be voted on at the February Board meeting. He mentioned the 2040 LRTP Cost Feasible Plan is being proposed to be amended to reflect the project phases for the US 41 and Bonita Beach Road improvements following last month's presentation. He added the City of Bonita is seeking State and/or Federal funding assistance to help implement the improvements identified in their recently completed US 41 Bonita Beach Road Quadrant study. He said during the major update of the LRTP back in 2015, the MPO had previously identified a project line item in the MPO Cost Feasible Plan that is listed as Major Intersections to address intersection improvement phases. He described the way the funding was broken out. He mentioned staff also updated the projects listed on the Existing plus Committed table, what is programmed over the next five years, to match recent FDOT Work Program and local Capital Improvement Program changes. Commissioner Manning commented that he had no issues with the Bonita project as long as Lee County staff was involved. Commissioner Pendergrass questioned if a PD&E study would include the whole intersection at Bonita Beach Road and US 41. Mr. Scott said that was part of the discussion with FDOT. Commissioner Hamman asked about the funding and the effect on other major intersections. Mr. Scott said it would depend on how fast the other projects come forward. Mr. Scott said Six Mile/US 41 and Summerlin/Colonial are the other major intersection projects that will be looked into as priorities for funding. Commissioner Hamman asked if this would cause these projects to be delayed. Mr. Scott replied that there would be additional funding opportunities based on timing and the new LRTP update in 2020. Mr. Scott also brought up the issue of funding currently not

being at the level it should be. Mr. Nandam said Mr. Scott was only referring to DDR and actual funding allocations are higher numbers. He said he would bring additional information back to the MPO Board. Commissioner Kiker expressed his resistance to the project since county staff wasn't aware of the progress in the beginning. Mr. Nandam said if the PD&E is funded through the MPO priorities, FDOT will package and convert into a full-blown PD&E study. He added that FDOT supports inclusion in the LRTP. Commissioner Pendergrass asked if it was the same study that was voted down a year and a half ago. Mr. Scott said basically yes. Vice-Chair Gore asked about the funding numbers for Big Carlos Bridge. Mr. Scott said the county is seeking half of the construction cost. Vice-Chair Gore then questioned the San Carlos study, asking if this was the study that was delayed again. Mr. Scott replied yes. Deputy Mayor O'Flinn said it was his hope to have the Bonita Beach item on the agenda at the next meeting. Commissioner Kiker commented on the processes and that this must be done in the correct order. Commissioner Pendergrass asked if the residents of Spanish Wells have been contacted. Deputy Mayor O'Flinn replied Spanish Wells is not on the list to be contacted at this time as the priority now is the North Quadrant. Commissioner Pendergrass said he would refer citizens to the City of Bonita Springs if they have questions. Chair Williams asked if there were any other comments or questions. The discussion continued on the importance of the project with respect to traffic, safety issues, and hurricane evacuation. Mr. Nandam commented that part of the PD&E will be looking at local preferences as Bonita already has a resolution from their City Council against an overpass. Deputy-Mayor O'Flinn asked if Mr. Scott was looking for a motion today. Mr. Scott replied no. Chair Williams questioned funding. Mr. Scott suggested asking FDOT. Mr. Nandam replied that FDOT, the MPO, and Bonita could discuss funding in addition to the \$5 million that the City of Bonita Springs has committed. Chair Williams asked the original study amount. Mr. Scott responded \$1.1 million. Vice-Mayor Denham asked how this project ranked with respect to the critical needs of the area. Vice-Mayor O'Flinn replied it is a quintessential, major traffic problem. Vice-Mayor Denham suggested it would be helpful for a more objective party to rank. Commissioner Pendergrass commented that it is already bad and will get worse. Mayor Coviello asked about the Del Prado Interchange with I-75. Mr. Scott said it would be an extension of Del Prado to I-75 with the first step being an interchange justification report. Commissioner Kiker left at 9:41 a.m.

Agenda Item #9 - Presentation on the Transportation Trends Impacting the Development of the 2045 Long Range Plan

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item to discuss transportation trends impacting the development of the 2045 Long Range Plan. He said as the MPO begins the update of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) to a 2045 horizon year, there are many rapidly changing mobility factors that are occurring that are influencing current traffic conditions and future traffic projections. He shared some additional information on the transportation trends and factors that are influencing transportation needs including population projections, population characteristics, daily vehicle miles traveled, Florida weekly gas prices, commuters, median home sales prices, and number of vehicles per household. He also discussed how with ride hailing services every trip counts as double, and Uber reported 5 billion trips in 2017. He reviewed the annual number of visitors to Florida, RSW passenger boardings, truck freight projections, behavior changes impacting trips, and impacts to travel modeling. There were no questions or public comments.

Agenda Item #10 - Provide Input on the Proposed Joint Lee and Charlotte-Punta Gorda MPO Agenda Items

Mr. Scott presented this item for the Board to provide input on potential agenda items for the February Joint Lee/Charlotte-Punta Gorda MPO Board meeting that was originally scheduled to take place in November. He said there will be a regular meeting of the Lee MPO Board at our usual time followed by the Joint meeting beginning at 10:00am. He suggested there might be a presentation on the Big Carlos Bridge project and an item on the LRTP. He listed the other items that have been identified to date for this meeting: Status of the Burnt Store Road Corridor Improvements, Status of the SR 31 Corridor Improvements, Presentation by Babcock Ranch on their Autonomous Vehicle Program, and Briefing on the SUN Trail Activities and Recent Public Meetings. He asked if there were any other suggestions for agenda items. Vice-Chair Gore commented it was important to discuss the Big Carlos Bridge project. Chair Williams asked if the agenda was lengthy. Mr. Scott reviewed the tentative agenda.

Other Business

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

There were no public comments on items not on the agenda. Councilmember Flanders commended the City of Bonita on their Old US 41 project. He said it was a beautiful example that sets the bar for the rest of Lee County, even the state. Deputy Mayor O'Flinn thanked Councilmember Flanders. Commissioner Pendergrass agreed that the project turned out beautifully. Commissioner Hamman mentioned HB575 and SB1516 currently in the House and Senate related to MPO membership and term limits, stating he sent letters to Caldwell and Benacquisto to oppose. He noted the Lee County Board of Commissioners also voted to oppose the Bill in its current form. Commissioner Manning asked if a motion from the MPO Board was also necessary.

Commissioner Hamman made the motion to oppose HB 575 and SB 1516. Commissioner Manning seconded the motion.

Chair Williams asked if Commissioner Hamman already sent letters or documentation. Commissioner Hamman responded yes.

There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hamman also expressed concern about SR 78 at I 75, specifically the entrance and exit to Love's gas station. Mr. Nandam replied there was already a systems analysis of the interchange being done. Commissioner Hamman asked how long before it was completed. Mr. Lawrence Massey said there would be a draft report out in March with interim improvements to be programmed within the next few years. Commissioner Hamman asked if the report could be presented when completed. Mr. Nandam responded yes, also noting he would look into enforcement of possible truck violations in that area.

Agenda Item #12 - LeeTran Report

Mr. Steve Myers with LeeTran gave the LeeTran report. He said LeeTran began seasonal service on January 4, 2018, primarily to Fort Myers Beach. He also mentioned the new Park and Ride at Summerlin Square and Pine Ridge was fully operational.

Agenda Item #13 - TD Report

Mr. Alan Mandel with GoodWheels gave the GoodWheels report. He noted CTC ridership was up. He also mentioned GoodWheels designation as CTC is up for review, commenting that LeeTran and Cape Mini-Bus both declined. He said GoodWheels is reapplying to be the CTC for Lee County.

Agenda Item #14 - FDOT Report

Mr. L. K. Nandam with FDOT gave the FDOT report. He discussed the SR 82 project noting that the segments will be completed at the same time due to a shortening of soil compaction times and advancement of SIB loan money. He commented that he would send an email out next week regarding this.

Agenda Item #15 - Announcements

Chair Williams announced this would be his last meeting as Chair of the MPO Board. He said he appreciated and enjoyed his opportunity to serve. He mentioned that Vice-Chair Gore would be taking over as Chair at the next meeting. Deputy Mayor O'Flinn thanked Mr. Scott and Mayor Boesch for attending the OGT Council meeting. He mentioned the Council approved the requested SUN Trail segment. Vice-Chair Gore mentioned Lee County staff did a great job at the Big Carlos meeting, noting the models were helpful.

Agenda Item #16 - Information and Distribution Items

The information and distribution item included in the packet was the MPOAC Legislative Update. Mr. Scott also handed out the latest MPOAC Legislative Update.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

^Roll Call Vote *Action Items +May Require Action

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