

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD

2:00 p.m., Friday, December 14, 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 at 2:00 p.m. by Chair Tracey Gore.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The roll was called. A quorum was present. Lee County MPO Board Members in attendance included Lee County Commissioners Larry Kiker, Brian Hamman, and Cecil Pendergrass; City of Cape Coral Councilmembers Dave Stokes, John Gunter, Jessica Cosden, and John Carioscia; City of Cape Coral Mayor Joe Coviello; City of Fort Myers Councilmembers Fred Burson, Teresa Watkins-Brown, and Gaile Anthony; Town of Fort Myers Beach Mayor/MPO Board Chair Tracey Gore; City of Sanibel Vice-Mayor Mick Denham; City of Bonita Springs Councilmember Fred Forbes; and Village of Estero Mayor Jim Boesch and Councilmember William Ribble.

Others in attendance included D’Juan Harris, Michael Tisch, Wayne Gaither, Zachary Burch, L. K. Nandam, and Sean Pugh with FDOT; Dave Loveland, Doug Meurer, and Randy Cerchie with Lee County; Lee County MPO staff Don Scott and Calandra Barraco; MPO legal counsel Derek Rooney; Robert Codie and Levi McCollum with LeeTran; Lee County IT Services; Alan Mandel with Good Wheels; Johnny Limbaugh with Wright Construction; Saeed Kazemi with the City of Fort Myers; Brown Collins with Synecological Analysts; Matt Caldwell; and John Majka with Superior Sheds.

Agenda Item #1 - Public Comments on Consent Agenda Items

There were no public comments on consent agenda items.

Agenda Item #2 - Consent Agenda

A. Approval of the October 19, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Brian Hamman made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda item. Commissioner Larry Kiker seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #3 - Public Comments will be Taken at Each Item

Chair Gore stated that public comments will be taken at each item.

Public Hearing Items

Agenda Item #4 - Review and Approval of the I-75/Corkscrew Road Interchange Improvements TIP Amendment

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item to review and approve the amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to revise the I-75/Corkscrew Road Interchange project length. The revised TIP sheet was attached to the agenda packet. Mr. Scott said the FY 2018/2019 through FY 2022/2023 is being amended to revise the I-75/Corkscrew Road Interchange project length and cost to match what is currently being designed and constructed. He added the project length is being revised from .983 to 1.392 miles, and the project cost is being revised from \$5,559,433 to \$7,057,740. He said the TAC and CAC both voted unanimously to approve the revision. Chair Gore asked if there were any member or public questions or comments. There were none.

Commissioner Larry Kiker made the motion to approve the I-75/Corkscrew Road TIP Amendment. Commissioner Cecil Pendergrass seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Agenda Item #5 - Presentation, Review and Comment on the FDOT Draft Tentative Work Program

FDOT's Wayne Gaither presented this agenda item to review and comment on the Draft Tentative Work Program for FY 2019/2020 through FY 2023/2024. The draft tentative Work Program covering fiscal years 2020 through 2024 was attached to the agenda packet. Mr. Scott handed out an updated additions, deletions, and reschedulings sheet. Mr. Gaither showed a YouTube video on the work program that can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AAx9R1hQ8NY> Chair Gore asked if there was anything further to present. Mr. L. K. Nandam replied that FDOT had nothing more to present with respect to the work program. Vice-Mayor Mick Denham asked the process by which a project gets placed on the work program. Mr. Scott explained that it starts with a letter of notification that priorities are due by February 1st. Mr. Scott said the MPO then requests projects from each jurisdiction that they would like to move forward. He said a draft list is then compiled and a preliminary priority is done for FDOT to review and do construction feasibility analysis of the projects. Mr. Scott said the projects priorities are then brought through the committees in May/June for approval and then sent to FDOT for inclusion in the work program that is usually released in October. Mr. Scott said comments are then made on the draft work program, and it is finalized and adjusted by FDOT for release in June. Mr. Scott added cost estimates can change resulting in amendments. Chair Gore commented that the Town of Fort Myers Beach was to be manager of a traffic signal project and was then taken off and replaced by Lee County. She said she did not want to take any action on this item until the Town of Fort Myers Beach is permitted to manage it again. Mr. Gaither suggested a meeting with Fort Myers Beach staff, Lee County, and FDOT. Chair Gore asked if there was any action to be taken on this item. Mr. Scott replied no. Chair Gore asked if Mr. Nandam could have a meeting with Mr. Jason Green and the Fort Myers Beach Town Manager. Mr. Nandam said he would. Chair Gore also commented that the Town of Fort Myers Beach wanted the Times Square project higher on the priority list. Mr. Nandam said the priorities are not changed by FDOT. Mr. D'Juan Harris said he has been coordinating with Mr. Jason Green to get the pavers done but since the Town just started the LAP certification process, they must wait until that process is complete before moving forward. Chair Gore asked if there were any more comments. Commissioner Hamman asked if there was any way to expedite the US 41/Six Mile Cypress study. Mr. Nandam mentioned the funding allocation and said he could look at moving it into the next funding cycle. Commissioner Hamman referenced the interim improvements. Mr. Nandam said that should help but that the MPO requested a larger look at this and it was made into a PD&E. Commissioner Hamman asked if there was anything that needed to be done to move it up. Mr. Nandam said it is already on the list, but now opportunities to fund must be explored. Commissioner Hamman noted there had been numerous complaints, and he would like to see it moved forward. Mayor Joe Coviello then commented on the Cape Coral bridge traffic problem, noting the exit at McGregor always backs up. He asked if there was anything that could be done to alleviate that. Mr. Scott talked about some of the planned studies, including the evacuation study. He said Lee County is also looking at the Mid-Point/Colonial/McGregor area and asked Mr. Randy Cerchie if there was anything new on that. Mr. Cerchie replied no. Mayor Coviello asked how to get a traffic study done for the Cape Coral Bridge. Mr. Scott said that was part of the priority process starting now. Councilmember John Carioscia mentioned a possible flyover at Summerlin that had been a topic of discussion for at least the past seven years. He then said something needs to be done. Mr. Scott said it was part of the previous plan that included other large improvements that the MPO Board decided not to move forward with. Councilmember Carioscia said the traffic is bad, and it will only get worse since the population is increasing. Commissioner Hamman said an official study is underway and asked Mr. Cerchie when it will be completed. Mr. Cerchie replied there should be alternatives to review within the next six months. Commissioner Hamman said he would regroup with his staff to address, noting the traffic issue is only about a ninety minute problem during rush hour. Mayor Coviello mentioned the south side of the Cape is mostly built out but the mid-point area will grow and there needs to be something in the plan to address this. Commissioner Hamman said there should also be a way to figure out how to move people along to the Business US 41 bridge. Councilmember Cosden questioned when the Cape bridge would be reconstructed. Lee County staff replied 2028. Councilmember Dave Stokes noted being proactive and completing the interchanges ahead of bridge reconstruction made sense. Chair Gore asked if there was a flyover planned years ago that was nixed. Mr. Scott replied yes. Chair Gore asked how to move this forward. Mr. Scott noted some of the issue is with reduced funding as well as the fact that projects take a long time. Chair Gore asked how to get the Cape bridge concerns on the list. Mr. Scott said a traffic study could be examined for the upcoming priorities. Chair Gore asked Mayor Coviello if that would help. Mayor Coviello replied yes. Commissioner Hamman mentioned that Mr. Cerchie had just informed him that traffic operation cameras are being used to examine the signal timing which could possibly be adjusted to help alleviate traffic congestion. Councilmember Burson suggested another bridge that would tie in with Kelly

or Pine Ridge would also be helpful. Mayor Coviello suggested that when the debt on the bridge was satisfied, millions per year in funding would be freed up. Mr. David Loveland said the bridge financing is not singular to one bridge as all three are together in one package. He continued that the MPO Board sets priorities for federal and state funds, not county funds or county toll funds thus improvements would be a Lee County issue. He also mentioned the Colonial Study and an alternate analysis to an overpass. Mayor Coviello responded that funding for tolls is mostly Cape residents. Mr. Loveland said the tolls are paid by many Lee County residents. Mr. Nandam reminded the MPO Board that if one dollar of federal or state funds go to the study then federal requirements apply. He said the MPO Board needs to make the decision as to the best way to proceed with respect to funding. Vice-Mayor Denham asked if the bridge tolls were only spent on bridges. Mr. Loveland said some of the funding goes to bridges and some is applied to other improvements.

Agenda Item #6 - +Discuss the SR 80 Shoreland Drive to Buckingham Road Sidewalk Project

Chair Gore started the discussion by noting that the Executive Committee had discussed this item at their meeting. Mr. Scott discussed the project limits of the sidewalk project on the north side of SR 80 from the red dot on the map from Shoreland Drive to Buckingham Road on the right side of the map. Mr. Scott brought up another map from the Power Point that was closer in and identified Mr. Majka's property on the map, and the three parcels that make up the property. Chair Gore brought up that the reason this was before the MPO was that Mr. Majka had come to a previous meeting and the Board approved bringing it back as an agenda item. Mr. Scott then provided the background on the sidewalk project, that the project first came up as a priority to build an 8' sidewalk in 2005 and that it was programmed in 2011 as there were a couple of years where it did not get funded. He then talked about, per FDOT that if it was going to be 8' and asphalt as a bike path that their minimum standard was 10' for this type of facility, so it was changed to 10' to match their design standards in 2014. The project costs were increased in 2015 to match the additional funding needed, but he noted that it was not just the width that increased the cost there were also drainage issues and also years later the project costs go up. The pathway width was changed in 2018 when we had issues with FDOT requirements for maintenance, essentially if a sidewalk facility is wider than 8' and asphalt FDOT wants the local jurisdiction to maintain that facility. He noted that FDOT's maintenance agreement does not just deal with the surface but also the slopes, railings, guard rails and signs and that his was not the only issue as there were concerns with taking on liability for a local jurisdiction to maintain a facility within FDOT's right-of-way. He then stated that the project is projected to be constructed in 2021 at \$4.7 million but does not show up in the current tentative work program and it really doesn't show up anywhere at the moment because it was going to be built last year. The \$4.7 million cost was the last cost estimate that was in there but we don't know what will happen with the cost when it gets updated and added back in but that the schedule takes it out to FY 2021. He then went into the zoning for the area, commercial along the roadway and residential in back of it with planned unit developments across the street. The future land use in the area is suburban. He also stated that he looked back at the planning community study that was done and the results of the study that there were a lot of comments made about trying to have more better bike paths and sidewalks and things like that in the area. He then pointed out one of the goals of the study that stated that the SR 80 business area land development standard seek to foster a more walkable, interconnected development pattern that provides for the needs of the community's residents, businesses and visitors. He then went into when the project was prioritized in 2005 and looked back where it started from. He noted that it was in the LRTP in 2030 plan from 2000 as a priority and some of this may have come from that and the comments that were made at that time. He then went into additional information that includes an 8' sidewalk on the south side of the road that will be constructed to fill in gaps out to Buckingham Road that he showed on the aerial. He noted that it will be constructed in 2021 at a cost of \$2.2 million. The projects include, as part of FDOT sidewalk projects now includes as part of these projects changes to driveways, driveway widths as part of safety as part of the projects. They are reducing widths and he then showed a plan sheet from the design near Mr. Majka's property showing the reduction of driveway widths, showing the other locations as well where they are reducing driveway widths.

Mr. Scott then said that Mr. Majka has comments and the Chair asked if the Board was okay with having public comments first or Board member discussion. Vice-Mayor Denham asked where this project fits within the five year work program. Mr. Scott said it was going to be constructed last year and due to maintenance agreement issues that it did not move forward and that is part of the roll over projects and that if you look at the schedule as part of changing it to concrete that it the schedule projects out to be in 2021. Vice-Mayor Mick Denham then asked should this project be in the five year plan. Mr. Scott said that it shows in the current one as part of the roll forward projects. Chair Gore then talked about the Executive Committee meeting discussion about the process that the MPO attorney talked about for someone to appeal a decision. She asked Derek Rooney what that was

called. Mr. Rooney said it was the access management review committee, but he stated that in this situation he had already filed for a Chapter 120 NOA hearing on this and that he sort of bypassed that and gone right to the end, towards litigation. Chair Gore asked if this was in litigation now. Mr. Rooney said that technically it would be considered litigation. Chair Gore asked if we were supposed to hear this then. Mr. Rooney said that this is not a decision for the MPO, he said that it is an FDOT matter. Mr. Scott said that FDOT cannot talk about it. Mr. Rooney said this an FDOT issue. She asked if this was proper. Mr. Rooney said that there is nothing that the MPO can do, so this not a question of whether this is proper or improper that this was a public comment issue.

Chair Gore opened it up to public comment for Mr. John Majka and noted that you are limited for public comment. Commissioner Hamman asked about the public comment time limit. Chair Gore noted it is three minutes.

Mr. Majka stated that the department of Administrative Hearings had ruled to cancel the hearing so he didn't know how much you can or not talk about it. He then thanked the Board for their time and went into that he had changed the slide presentation but since Mr. Scott had gone into the study done back in 2002, he started with a slide from the study and said that this is the actual result of the study. Where Mr. Scott said that they wanted to make it more walkable, but it is actually on SR 80, remove the duplexes and turn it around to where it would promote more economic growth and then would not be to 120' properties and the sidewalks would be back further from the road to avoid pedestrian motorist conflicts, so this was the actual result of the study. He then talked about the crashes and safety for this segment of road and he said that every traffic study/report he could find, where the driveway connection is, that it shows this was one of the safest locations along the roadway. This is what was proposed, and with two businesses on the property, there is no way they would continue to be economically productive at the property. They never factored in that there was a second business at the location and after a year of this they still have not factored it in. He said, that drawing would actually look more like this in real life, this is thirty feet from the building and there are two set businesses there and one would be choked out. He noted that the parking spaces were not drawn to scale, so he drew in the parking spaces, they were only five feet wide and showed another slide where the only access be there and would have to come around. He said that they do a tremendous job statewide and that he learned a lot over the past year going to the planning meetings, managing the tens of thousands of miles of roads but I think this one needs a closer look at it. He said that it was a 95 year old road and that you can't apply a standardized cookie cutter answers to a hundred year old road. He said other business owners were offered lease options, and he would also like to explore lease options, to lease, like Rib City with the light poles, another business is getting parking and he would like to be able work with FDOT better, where they lease to other businesses. He said that he can't understand why we can't, he said that we need this to stay in business, and we have worked so hard over the 21 years, through a bad economy, it was tough and now that we are doing well and the businesses is economically productive this is really hurtful. He said, had we done a PD&E study on the project we wouldn't be at this point but because they didn't have to take land, only access they were not required to do a PD&E study. He said that there are simple solutions and they just need to be able to work with it, he pointed to this business over here that needs access and if you restrict it all through there it would not be possible. He said that there are numerous solutions, and gave an example of implementing flexible delineators to make it work and also could look at using this in other parts of the County. He said he doesn't want to see this happen here on SR 80 where it closes off the parking spaces. Chair Gore asked Mr. Majka to wrap up his presentation. Mr. Majka said that he needs help and he is looking for suggestions and he said that a semi driving through a concrete building is not the answer.

The Chair opened it up for Board comments, Councilmember Cosden asked if she was correct in understanding that there is nothing that the Board could do. She asked if she was correct about taking action and Mr. Rooney said correct. She then asked are we here to just take the public comment and Mr. Rooney went into the Board direction to bring the item back for Mr. Scott to provide the history that he has and to get additional public comment and that there is no role for the MPO.

Mr. Matt Caldwell then spoke and thanked the Board for taking public comment, and that he is familiar with the issue and as a previous state representative for the area he was here today as a private citizen. He said that he has not explored the issue enough to know whether you can speak to the issue or not but that if you are the simplest thing was for the MPO to remove the project from the five year work plan. He then gave some examples why that is the case, he said you saw the planning that now goes back 16 years and it is very interesting plan and one that is likely to be successful but it is not what exists today, you have a roadway that is almost a 100 years old and he said that the extent of it is zoned C-1 and that zoning is for suburban vehicular driven businesses, not for complete streets type of interaction and regardless of what you decide you decide to

do, can do or able to do or work out in this exact situation, he thinks that it is illuminating to him, someone that has been a constant proponent of complete streets that it has been a very valuable tool throughout the state and in our construction plans, you need to be thoughtful on how that interacts with the existing land use and when you have a community like this that has been around for almost a 100 years, where the existing pattern of development is totally inconsistent with a complete streets plan and when you see that it is going to create conflicts and when you see an example where someone community is just trying to run their business and have been for decades and as a result of a new plan that comes in, without any real support of the rest of that vision they may end up being disenfranchised, that is just going to be the reality. He then said that, when you cut through all of the noise, you are elected and he has been elected, but when you cut through all of the noise it does not pass the smell test of it you are going to have businesses directly impacted by the project. He then went on to say that he does not see the need for the project and that there are so many other places in the County where we could be focusing the complete streets projects, like Crystal Drive. He said he could take five minutes and come up with five corridors around the County that would be better suited immediately for investing those dollars rather than a situation where we have businesses that are under a zoning code legally set by this County that is totally incompatible with the complete streets narrative. He went on to say he just wanted to give the Board those thoughts and considerations whether or not you take action on this item but that you take that into consideration when you consider all of the projects that are brought to you in the work plan.

Chair Gore asked if there was any other public comments. Mr. Majka followed up with a comment that he was not against sidewalks, and he is proponent for complete streets as well.

Chair Gore said Mr. Nandam cannot address that we can talk about it but not do anything about it and that she was a little confused and asked Mr. Scott what they can do with it. Mr. Scott said at some point this will be a project added back into the TIP and at that point the Board can decide whether to approve the TIP with the project in it.

Chair Gore said the project has been going on for fifteen years and asked if the issue has been going on for fifteen years. Mr. Scott replied no. Commissioner Hamman asked, to the suggestion that we take it off the work plan, he asked if that was possible at this point because the project isn't even slated until 2021. Mr. Scott replied you can advise FDOT that you do not want to do the project. Commissioner Hamman then asked what happens to the funding. Mr. Scott said that it comes back to us, you don't always know when and how but at least, as it was originally programmed and he said that he is not sure how it is programmed now, but originally it was federal funding for our area. Chair Gore asked about the lease option and who does it, she asked if the MPO, the State, the County does it. Mr. Scott said it was FDOT, she then asked what Mr. Rooney said and he stated he was not familiar with the lease option but that it is an occupation of the right-of-way, but that is a State issue.

Councilmember Cosden asked how much has already been spent on this project for engineering and planning. Mr. Scott replied between \$800,000-\$900,000. Commissioner Hamman asked about the sidewalk gaps on the south side of the road and that it seems like a valuable project and that it is \$2 million and that the north side of the road is twice as much, and he went on that if the Board decided to take the funding from the north side and still build the south side and apply that funding somewhere else in the County where we have a need and that we have then killed two birds with one stone where we have a sidewalk on the south side here and addressed a need somewhere else in the County. Mr. Scott said the south side is programmed in FY 2021. Chair Gore noted the residential nature of the neighborhood on the north side and asked if a sidewalk on the north side could be accessed but still give what Mr. Majka needs and still have sidewalks and that there is always a solution. Mr. Scott replied yes that is what he is trying to do. Chair Gore said she didn't want to take anymore Board time if nothing could be done. Mr. D'Juan Harris then stated that the funding would not go back to the MPO/Lee County due to the type of funding source, which is advanced construction SU funding captured from other MPO's, statewide funding. Councilmember Stokes asked how many dollars would it take to do the north side and how many dollars are left for the south side project. Mr. Scott said the north side project was listed as at \$4.7 million but it might be cheaper now due it being a different project now essentially. He said the cost of the south side is \$2.2 million, filling in gaps about half of the money. Commissioner Pendergrass asked if the District Commissioner has been involved since this was his district, whether staff knows that he has been involved. Mr. Scott said yes and his office sent a letter to Mr. Majka copying in others that essentially said that there were a lot of alternatives put forward and that he was advising Mr. Majka that he should try and work with FDOT on an alternative. Chair Gore then asked Mr. Scott what he wanted at this point. Mr. Scott said that he was just reporting at this point and then we will hear what we will hear from the legal aspect of this to make the

driveway work. Vice-Mayor Denham said he wished that the project was shown in the tentative work program. Commissioner Hamman asked the Board if they would be interested in Mr. Scott preparing an item for future consideration by the Board that if they decided to only build the sidewalk on the south side of the road, what project would he recommend to build in the rest of the County. FDOT has the project funded on the south side of the road and that if we say we are happy with that and we could request to have that money, it is not guaranteed and spend it on another project in Lee County, would anybody be interested in seeing what the recommendation would be. Chair Gore clarified that the intent was to remove the project from the north side. Commissioner Hamman asked do you want a sidewalk constructed that would force people out of business. Chair Gore responded no. Commissioner Hamman said that folks that lived in a rural, suburban community and all of sudden we created a complete streets rule that everybody has to have sidewalks which sounds good at a high level but when it is applied to the ground you start to see where it impacts people that never asked for the sidewalk and puts them out of business. I would like to see where it is appropriate on the south side of the road to be built and ask if it would be feasible for Mr. Scott to bring back a project in Lee County that was a more pressing use of the funding. Mayor Jim Boesch suggested Commissioner Mann should be involved.

Commissioner Brian Hamman made the motion to have Mr. Scott bring back an alternative project list if a request is to be made to have FDOT use the north side project funds for another Lee County sidewalk project. Councilmember Dave Stokes seconded the motion.

Councilmember Cosden supported the motion but added that crosswalks should also be looked in to due to residential on both sides of the road. Mr. Scott mentioned that we have been trying to develop facilities on both sides of the roads as we have fatality and injury issues with conflicts from crossing the roads, not as much along the roadways. He mentioned the Dangerous by Design report from last year. He said the Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee wanted to keep the project but their project list would be where to start from. He said he could bring back the list of priorities starting with our priority list. Mr. Scott said he could also provide additional information about the usage. Chair Gore said there has to be a way to construct the sidewalks and provide acceptable access. Councilmember Cosden said she wasn't sure the north project needed to be scrapped as funds were already invested and maybe a compromise could be made. Chair Gore asked Commissioner Hamman to restate his motion. Commissioner Hamman restated his motion. He also asked Mr. Scott to bring back the consequences of making such a request as stated in the motion.

There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #7 - *Election of Officers for 2019

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the election of MPO Board Officers for 2019. Mr. Scott explained that each year the MPO Board holds the election of a Chair and Vice-Chair and the new term for these officers will begin on February 1, 2019 and run through January 31, 2020. He said in the past we have done a rotation of the Chair and Vice-Chair from the municipalities/County and the current order is listed below:

- Town of Fort Myers Beach (Current Chair Gore)
- City of Sanibel (Current Vice-Chair Denham/Treasurer Ruane)
- City of Bonita Springs
- Village of Estero
- City of Fort Myers
- Lee County
- City of Cape Coral

He mentioned, in addition to the nominations and elections for Chair and Vice-Chair, the Board also needs to nominate and hold election for the Treasurer position. Mayor Kevin Ruane indicated that he would serve again as Treasurer. Mr. Scott said the City of Sanibel would be next up for Chair and the City of Bonita Springs would be next up for Vice-Chair.

Mayor Jim Boesch made the motion for the City of Sanibel to be elected to the Chair position, the City of Bonita Springs be elected to the Vice-Chair position, and Mayor Kevin Ruane to continue as Treasurer. Councilmember Fred Forbes seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #8 - *Election of 2019 MPOAC Representatives

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the election of 2019 MPOAC Representatives. He said the bylaws of Florida's MPO Advisory Council (MPOAC) call for each of the state's MPOs to designate its primary and alternate representatives to the MPOAC Governing Board each year and to notify the MPOAC staff of its appointments by the end of December. He added MPOAC Governing Board representatives and alternates must be voting members of the MPOs they represent. He said participation in the MPOAC for the upcoming year involves attending the four scheduled meetings in Orlando on January 30th, April 30th, July 30th and October 29th. He noted Councilwoman Jessica Cosden served as the voting member and Mayor Tracey Gore served as the alternate for 2018. He said Councilmember Cosden has opted out of serving as the MPOAC representative for 2019. He said the MPO Board needs to appoint an MPO voting member to be the Lee County MPO representative on the MPO Advisory Council (MPOAC) Governing Board and appoint at least one additional voting member to be an alternate MPOAC representative. Chair Gore said she would serve as MPOAC representative for 2019. Councilmember Forbes said he would serve as MPOAC alternate.

Councilmember Dave Stokes made the motion to elect Chair Tracey Gore to serve as MPOAC representative and Councilmember Fred Forbes to serve as MPOAC alternate. Councilmember Gaile Anthony seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Other Business

Agenda Item #9 - Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

Mr. Brown Collins, with Synecological Analysts, spoke on behalf of Dr. Jonathan Frantz regarding drainage of a piece of property owned by Dr. Frantz at the SW intersection of Daniels and I-75. Mr. Collins claims that runoff from I-75 inundates his client's property, and he is asking for assistance with this issue. He added he was confident he would get the help he needed. Chair Gore asked for the address of the property. Mr. Collins said he would provide the strap number.

Agenda Item #10 - LeeTran Report

Mr. Robert Codie introduced himself as the new LeeTran Director. He said LeeTran will increase services on the beach, improve customer relations, and have customer service representatives at the new Beach Park and Ride facility. He noted a third tram was added for support, and the seasonal schedule runs January 3 through May 1, 2019. He said they will begin to do dry runs for the tram services on December 28, 2018. He said the holiday schedule includes reduced service on Christmas Eve with no service on Christmas Day. He said there will be extended services on New Year's Eve both on Fort Myers Beach and Downtown Fort Myers. He promoted the mobile app for interaction, feedback, and customer engagement. He said there were approximately three million riders this year which equates to roughly 10,000 passengers per day. He said the goal is to increase revenue, safety, and efficiency. Chair Gore asked about possibly providing a tram on Bonita as well. Mr. Codie noted the speed of the trams was below what the normal road traffic was and they didn't want to slow down the traffic any further. He said he would have further discussions on this new service and the regulations. Councilmember Forbes asked about the possibility of shuttle buses as frequent service was needed. Mr. Codie said LeeTran was exploring microtransit and noted there are financial constraints. He said progress was a process. Chair Gore asked if there were any more questions or comments. There were none.

Agenda Item #11 - TD Report

Mr. Alan Mandel with Good Wheels gave the TD report. He said Good Wheels now has over 108 employees. He asked the MPO Board members to advocate for more funding for Good Wheels as they are meeting with legislators and planning. He asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Agenda Item #12 - FDOT Report

Mr. L. K. Nandam with FDOT introduced the new District One, Southwest Area Office Liaison, Mr. Michael Tisch. He also introduced Mr. Sean Pugh as the new Project Manager Supervisor. Mr. D'Juan Harris announced the Mr. Mike Dew had resigned as of December 4th and Mr. Erik Fenniman is now serving as the Interim Secretary. Mr. Harris said it has been an honor and pleasure to serve as Liaison as he was recently promoted to LAP/JPA Project Manager. Chair Gore thanked Mr. Harris. FDOT had no further items to report.

Agenda Item #13 – Announcements

Mr. Scott said the next MPO Board meeting will be held on January 18, 2019.

Agenda Item #14 - Information and Distribution Items

Mr. Scott mentioned the MPOAC Weekend Institute information that was included in the packet. He said if anyone was interested to contact him. Councilmember Anthony said the training was valuable.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m. ^Roll Call Vote *Action Items +May Require Action

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Calandra Barraco with the Lee County MPO at 239-330-2243 or by email at cbarraco@leempo.com at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired call (800) 955-8770 Voice / (800) 955-8771 TDD. The MPO's planning process is conducted in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes. Any person or beneficiary who believes they have been discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, or familial status may file a complaint with the Lee County MPO Title VI Coordinator, Calandra Barraco, at 239-330-2243, or in writing at P.O. Box 150045, Cape Coral, Florida 33915-0045.