

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD

9:00 a.m., Friday, November 22, 2019
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 Vice-Mayor Mick Denham at 9:00 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The roll was called by MPO staff. A quorum was present. Lee County MPO Board Members in attendance included Lee County Commissioners John Manning, Frank Mann, and Raymond Sandelli; City of Cape Coral Councilmembers John Carioscia and Jessica Cosden; City of Cape Coral Mayor Joe Coviello; Town of Fort Myers Beach Councilmember Bruce Butcher; City of Fort Myers Councilmember Gaile Anthony; City of Sanibel Vice-Mayor Mick Denham; City of Bonita Springs Councilmember Fred Forbes; and Village of Estero Mayor William Ribble and Vice-Mayor Katy Errington.

Others in attendance included L. K. Nandam, Zachary Burch, Michael Tisch, and Wayne Gaither with FDOT; Derek Rooney with GrayRobinson; Lee County MPO staff Don Scott and Calandra Barraco; Robert Codie and Carlos Rivera with LeeTran; Lee County IT Services; Saeed Kazemi with the City of Fort Myers; Persides Zambrano with the City of Cape Coral; Dave Loveland and Randy Cerchie with Lee County; Diane Dillon with T. Y. Lin; Alan Mandel with Good Wheels; Steve Ludwinski with the Corradino Group; Richard Dreyer with Tindale Oliver; Katie Habgood with Jacobs; and a member of the public John Majka.

Agenda Item #1 - Public Comments on Consent Agenda Items

Mr. John Majka, a member of the public, made a comment regarding the minutes for the September 20, 2019 meeting. There was a brief discussion on the minutes with MPO staff and legal counsel supporting the minutes as presented.

Agenda Item #2 - *Consent Agenda

A. Approval of the September 20, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Mayor William Ribble made the motion to approve the September 20, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. Councilmember Gaile Anthony seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Approval of \$500 in Local Funds for MPOAC Legislative Advocacy Activities

C. Approval of the Local Coordinating Board Member Certification

Councilmember Gaile Anthony made the motion to approve the remainder of the Consent Agenda Items. Councilmember Jessica Cosden seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

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

Public comments will be taken at each item. Vice-Mayor Denham noted the public speaking time limit of three minutes.

New Business

Agenda Item #4 - +Review and Comment on the FDOT FY 2021-2025 Tentative Work Program

Mr. Scott introduced this agenda item for the review of FDOT's FY 2021-2025 Tentative Work Program. Mr. Michael Tisch with FDOT then showed a video on the work program. The video can be accessed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MXOHadFjU0E> Vice-Mayor Denham asked if there were any questions on the work program. Commissioner Manning questioned the Pine Island Road and Veterans Parkway projects. Mr. Scott said the Pine Island project is still shown in the work program. Mr. Scott also mentioned that MPO staff sent several projects over to FDOT that were missing. Mr. Scott then gave a brief overview of the work program including STP & State funded priorities, Bike Ped & Traffic Management priorities, Joint TRIP priorities, and SUN Trail priorities. Councilmember Anthony asked if the Colonial interchange project was moved out several years. Mr. Scott said the project starts this year. Councilmember Anthony asked when the project was expected to be completed. Mr. L. K. Nandam replied in approximately two and half to three years. Councilmember Anthony asked if the work program video was available. Mr. Scott said it can be posted on the MPO website and sent out. Vice-Mayor Denham asked if there was anything missing from the work program. Mr. Scott said the missing projects were sent to FDOT. Vice-Mayor Denham asked if any action was needed from the Board. Mr. Scott replied no. Mr. Scott then said there was a public comment related to this agenda item. Mr. John Majka, a member of the public, gave a slide show presentation and commented on changes he would make to the current sidewalk/pathway projects on the north and south side of SR 80. Mr. Scott added that the MPO's approved TIP will be addressed in the future to reflect consistency with the updated projects. He also gave a brief history of the project noting FDOT has completed the design phase.

Agenda Item #5 - *Review and Approval of the Selection Committee Recommendations for the Update of the City of Fort Myers Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the Fort Myers Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan consultant selection committee recommended ranking and to direct staff to negotiate a contract with the number one firm. Mr. Scott explained a selection committee met on November 6th to rank the responses to ten questions, provided by the City of Fort Myers, to help identify which of the MPO's General Planning Consultant firms would be best to conduct the study. He added the study was budgeted at \$125,000. The scope of work was attached to the agenda packet. He mentioned the selection committee chose McMahan Associates and the recommended ranking as listed below:

1. McMahan Associates
2. Kittelson & Associates
3. Jacobs
4. Tindale Oliver
5. Alta Planning & Design
6. The Corradino Group

He asked the MPO Board to approve the selection committee ranking and to direct staff to negotiate a contract with the number one ranked firm, McMahan Associates.

Commissioner John Manning made the motion to approve the selection committee ranking and direct staff to negotiate a contract with McMahan Associates. Councilmember Bruce Butcher seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 - *Election of the Officers for 2020

Vice-Mayor Denham presented this agenda item to call for nominations for Chair, Vice-Chair, and Treasurer and to hold elections for those offices. He mentioned 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, 2020

and run through January 31, 2021. Mr. Scott added in the past the MPO Board has followed a rotation of the Chair and Vice-Chair from the municipalities/county and the current order is listed below:

- City of Sanibel (Current Chair Denham/Treasurer Ruane)
- City of Bonita Springs (Vice Chair Vacant – due to the resignation of Deputy Mayor O’Flinn)
- Village of Estero
- City of Fort Myers
- Lee County
- City of Cape Coral
- Fort Myers Beach

Mr. Scott asked the Board if they would like to keep the rotation the same. Mr. Derek Rooney noted the position rotates with the municipality and the bylaws call for the election of a member. He added the current choice for the City of Bonita is either Councilmember Fred Forbes or Councilmember Laura Carr. The Board briefly discussed voting and motions to be made.

Commissioner Frank Mann made the motion to approve the current rotation with Councilmember Fred Forbes from Bonita Springs as Chair, Mayor William Ribble from the Village of Estero as Vice-Chair, and to retain Mayor Kevin Ruane as Treasurer. Councilmember Jessica Cosden seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #7 - *Election of the 2020 MPOAC Representatives

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item 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. Mr. Scott mentioned that Councilman Fred Forbes is serving as the voting member and Councilman Fred Burson is serving as the alternate and recommended keeping the members the same if they agree. He continued these appointments were only done back in May due to changes in Board members earlier this year. He said participation in the MPOAC for the upcoming year involves attending the four scheduled meetings in Orlando on January 30, 2020, April 30, 2020, July 30, 2020 and October 29, 2020.

Councilmember Gaile Anthony made the motion to retain Councilmember Fred Forbes as the main MPOAC representative and Councilmember Fred Burson as the alternate. Mayor William Ribble seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #8 - *Approve the Annual FDOT Statewide Safety Targets

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review of FDOT’s safety performance measures and adopt/support FDOT’s safety target for the next year. He said back in January the MPO Board voted to support FDOT’s safety target of zero for the number and rate of fatalities and serious injuries. He added the MPOs are required to re-adopt Safety Performance Measure Targets by February 27th each year in order to meet Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirements. He added FDOT has again adopted zero as their target for each of the performance measures listed above. He noted the TAC and CAC recommended adopting FDOT’s safety performance measure targets of zero at their respective meetings and staff recommends the same to keep consistent with what FDOT is trying to achieve with this effort. He then mentioned the five national Safety Measures which all state Departments of Transportation and MPOs must address as listed below:

1. Number of Fatalities
2. Rate of Fatalities per 100 million Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)
3. Number of Serious Injuries

4. Rate of Serious Injuries per 100 million VMT
5. Number of Non-Motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries

He reviewed the statewide fatality and injury statistics for Lee County that were attached to the agenda packet that indicate our five year rolling averages increased for 2013 to 2017 over the previous five year analysis for fatalities, serious injuries, and fatality rates. He noted the serious injury rates are the only category that indicated a slight reduction. He said staff using the Signal Four Analytics crash database, has also looked at the number of fatalities and injuries for 2018 and the first part of 2019 in Lee County and the fatality numbers for 2018 indicated reductions over the previous year. That information was also attached to the agenda packet. He said MPO staff is asking the Board to adopt the target of zero. There was a brief discussion on the history of the targets, other MPOs targets, the concept of the zero target, and penalties for not adopting zero. Mr. L. K. Nandam noted that FDOT chose the target of zero but is still monitoring the progress every year. The committee briefly discussed the mindset related to the zero target, achieving the goal, supporting data, crash reduction factors, funding, and reaching the goal of zero.

Councilmember Gaile Anthony made the motion to approve the safety target of zero. Commissioner John Manning seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. John Majka, a member of the public, made a comment that he supported FDOT's target of zero.

Other Business

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

Mr. John Majka, a member of the public, commented on public input for the SR 80 project and how to represent the community. There was a brief discussion on petitions, processes, and guidelines for public input. Vice-Mayor Denham asked if there was additional public comment. There was none. Mr. Scott said the Transportation Disadvantaged report was next on the agenda.

Agenda Item #9a – Good Wheels Report

Mr. Alan Mandel with Good Wheels gave the Good Wheels report. He said the recently approved grant from the state was received. There was a brief discussion on funding shortages, number of dialysis patients transported each month, and matching funds from local municipalities for services provided to residents. Vice-Mayor Denham asked for Mr. Mandel to provide a breakdown of those served by area for the January meeting. Mr. Mandel said he would work with MPO staff to provide that information. Vice-Mayor Denham said it would be helpful for local match if each municipality knew exactly how many patients resided in their area. Mayor Joe Coviello also asked for the waiting list and where those people are located to be provided. Mayor Ribble said this could also be brought up as a topic at the League of Cities meetings. Mr. Mandel noted the MPO did send a letter to the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged asking them to return to the CUTR formula that was previously used. Councilmember Forbes asked about the Purple Heart Highway designation for I-75. Mr. Scott said he would bring progress on that item back at the January meeting. Vice-Mayor Denham asked if there was anything further for Mr. Mandel. There were no additional requests or comments.

Agenda Item #10 - LeeTran Report

Mr. Robert Codie with LeeTran gave the LeeTran report. He said LeeTran also transports dialysis patients. He said LeeTran works with Cape Mini-bus and Good Wheels to transport. He noted that LeeTran was limited to certain corridors and Good Wheels, as the CTC for Lee County, can contribute to the trips outside the corridors. Mr. Codie then announced the seasonal trolley in downtown Fort Myers would be running until May 2. He added the Fort Myers Beach tram begins service January 5. Councilmember Butcher commented on benchmarks related to customer service. Mr. Codie noted LeeTran is starting that now with a reporting system, development of the TDP, and an overall goal of increasing ridership. Councilmember Butcher also asked about bus shelters and the LeeTran app.

Mr. Codie noted LeeTran has a passenger amenities program and are improving routes. He added the LeeTran real time app updates every five seconds.

Agenda Item #11 - FDOT Report

Mr. Michael Tisch with FDOT gave the FDOT report. He further explained the Pine Island project Commissioner Manning questioned earlier noting it was now two projects, PD& E and Design. He said he would send a link to the work program video to MPO staff to forward to the Board. He asked if there were any questions. Commissioner Manning asked about Veteran's Parkway being deleted. Mr. Scott noted there was a request by Lee County to remove it. Ms. Persides Zambrano further clarified that Lee County was taking over the project. Mr. Nandam gave a brief update on the M-Cores project noting the third meeting would be held December 9 in Labelle.

Agenda Item #12 – Announcements

Vice-Mayor Denham said there was no December Board meeting. Mr. Scott added there was no December meeting in 2019 but there would be a December Board meeting in 2020 for approval of the LRTP. Mr. Scott also said he had information on the upcoming MPOAC Weekend Institutes if any member of the Board was interested.

Agenda Item #13 - Information and Distribution Items

The information and distribution items included 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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