

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD

9:00 a.m., Friday, January 17, 2020
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 Mick Denham at 9:00 a.m.

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 John Manning, Brian Hamman, Cecil Pendergrass, and Raymond Sandelli; City of Cape Coral Councilmember John Carioscia; City of Cape Coral Mayor Joe Coviello; Town of Fort Myers Beach Councilmember Bruce Butcher; City of Fort Myers Councilmembers Gaile Anthony (9:22 a.m.), Johnny Streets, Jr., and Teresa Watkins Brown; City of Sanibel Vice-Mayor Mick Denham; City of Bonita Springs Councilmembers Fred Forbes and Laura Carr; and Village of Estero Mayor William Ribble.

Others in attendance included Michael Tisch with FDOT; Derek Rooney with GrayRobinson; Lee County MPO staff Don Scott, Ron Gogoi, and Calandra Barraco; LeeTran Director Robert Codie and LeeTran Fleet Manager Paul Clark; Lee County IT Services; Persides Zambrano with the City of Cape Coral; Dave Loveland with Lee County; Alan Mandel with Good Wheels.

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 November 22, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Mayor William Ribble made the motion to approve the November 22, 2019 meeting minutes. Commissioner Brian Hamman 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 agenda item.

Public Hearing items

Agenda Item #4 - ^*Review and Approval of the TIP Amendments to Add Transit Operating Funds and Federally Funded Multi-modal Projects

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item to review and approve the amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add transit operating funds for LeeTran; FTA Section 5310 operating assistance for Good Wheels, Lighthouse of Southwest Florida, Hope Hospice and the Dr. Piper Center; and federal funding for various multi-modal enhancement projects. The amended TIP pages and the resolution were attached to the agenda packet. Mr. Scott reviewed the following projects that are being added to the current fiscal year in the FY 2019/2020 through FY 2023/2024 TIP amendments:

- FPN 446242-1 – State Service Development operating funds for LeeTran in the amount of \$998,573 for the Fort Myers Beach Tram Service funded in FY 2020. These funds are matched with \$998,573 in local funds.

- FPN 446243-1 – State Service Development operating funds for LeeTran in the amount of \$1,212,725 for the Fort Myers Trolley Circulator funded in FY 2020. These funds are matched with \$1,212,725 in local funds.
- FPN 438961-1 – FTA Section 5310 operating assistance for Good Wheels, Inc in the Cape Coral urbanized area in the amount of \$164,782 funded in FY 2020. These funds are matched with \$167,782 in local funds.
- FPN 446984-1 – FTA Section 5310 operating assistance for Good Wheels, Inc. in the Bonita Springs Urbanized area in the amount of \$55,356 funded in FY 2020. These funds are matched with \$55,356 in local funds.
- FPN 438962-1 – FTA Section 5310 operating assistance for Lighthouse of Southwest Florida in the amount of \$40,000 funded in FY 2020. These funds are matched with \$40,000 in local funds.
- FPN 436947-1 – FTA Section 5310 operating assistance for Hope Hospice in the amount of \$32,500 funded in FY 2020. These funds are matched with \$32,500 in local funds.
- FPN 438963-1 – FTA Section 5310 operating assistance for Dr. Piper Center in the amount of \$50,000 funded in FY 2020. These funds are matched with \$50,000 in local funds.

Mr. Scott noted the following projects were added due to the \$3 million in additional funding for the current fiscal year:

- FPN 436503-1 - Hybrid Energy Storage and Diverter Power Inverter Module replacement parts for LeeTran for ten hybrid buses in the amount of \$1,139,258 (federal SU funds that will be converted over to FTAT funds for capital purchase) for a total project cost of \$2,639,258.
- FPN TBD – Traffic Crash Investigation Scanner for the Cape Coral Police Department in the amount of \$184,000 (federal SU funds for capital purchase) in FY 2020.
- FPN TBD – Construction of a Pedestrian Bridge on Richmond Avenue North over the Able Canal for Lee County in the amount of \$629,265 (federal SU funds at \$543,000 and local funds in the amount of \$86,265) in FY 2020.
- FPN TBD – Design of the West Terry Street and Pine Avenue Round-a-bout for the City of Bonita Springs in the amount of \$200,000 (federal SU funds) in FY 2020.
- FPN TBD – Construction of the Winkler Avenue and Challenger Boulevard Round-a-bout for the City of Fort Myers in the amount of \$1,000,000 (federal SU funds at \$543,000 and local funds in the amount of \$457,000) in FY 2020.
- FPN TBD – Design of the Skyplex Greenway for the Southwest international Airport in the amount of \$90,000 (federal SU funds) in FY 2020.

He said the maximum amount for funding was \$543,000 and any amount over that could be matched with local funds. He also showed slides of the TIP pages with maps. He asked if there were any public comments. There were none. Vice-Mayor Denham asked if there were any Board members comments. There were none.

Commissioner Brian Hamman made the motion to approve the amendments to the TIP. Commissioner John Manning seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Agenda Item #5 - Information on the Transportation Disadvantaged Trips by Area and Update on the TD Commission Funding

Mr. Scott introduced this agenda item as a follow up to the discussions of the last MPO Board meeting about funding and local match. He noted that Mr. Alan Mandel with Good Wheels had provided the waiting list by area based on the discussions at that time and that information is listed below:

Bonita	1
Cape Coral	11
Fort Myers	23
Lehigh	8
North Fort Myers	12
Total	55

Mr. Scott added that although additional funding was awarded, he was not certain if it was received yet. He then introduced Mr. Mandel to present additional information. Mr. Mandel noted the waiting list does not matter now as Good Wheels is receiving additional State TD funds from the action that the Florida Transportation Commission took on November 25, 2019. He said the Transportation Commission held an emergency business meeting where they approved moving \$4.3 million of the M-Cores funding to the Counties that lost Trip and Equipment funding in FY 19-20. With that action, the Transportation Disadvantaged funding for trips in Lee County is increased by \$344,300, for the current fiscal year, making up for the loss in funding that had been discussed at previous meetings. Mr. Mandel mentioned a disaster loan that was also approved due to losses from Irma. He also mentioned a new type of service that was door to door for ambulatory patients. Vice-Mayor Denham asked if Mr. Mandel now had adequate funds for the year. Mr. Mandel said yes when the loan funding is received in February.

Agenda Item #6 - Status and Presentation on the 2045 Long Range Plan Activities

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item on the status of the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) activities. He noted the development of the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan is underway and presented information on the process and schedule for the newer members that were not on the Board last time as well as current activities. He gave a slide show presentation including information on what the LRTP is, why we need one, 2045 plan goals, LRTP elements, interactive growth model explanation, regional population projections, job & home growth forecast, FDOT District 1 regional transportation model, funding sources, federal and state revenues, and total highway fuel lost to increased electric vehicle miles traveled. There was a brief discussion on the electric vehicle projections. Mr. Scott continued his presentation with slides on needs versus revenues, 2040 cost feasible plan, prior transit plan, 2045 existing plus committed project phases, project development, upcoming activities, and District One cost feasible LRTP model development. Mr. Scott asked if there were any questions or comments. Vice-Mayor Denham asked about the purpose of the agenda item. Mr. Scott replied it was to familiarize new MPO Board members with the LRTP process. Vice-Mayor Denham asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

Agenda Item #7 - Review of the Updated Safety Performance Measures from FDOT

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item as a review of the updated Safety Performance Measures from FDOT. He said FDOT has now provided the updated safety performance measures adding in the 2018 fatality and injury data for each of the MPOs across the State. He noted the five year rolling averages now include 2014 to 2018 data. The five national Safety Measures which all state Departments of Transportation and MPOs must address are 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

Mr. Scott reviewed the data spreadsheet that can be accessed at the following link:

http://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/M07a.Copy-of-2018FHWAStatisticsMPO_light_extract2019-11-25_DRAFTpub2019-12-09.xlsx

He said for Lee County, the five year average annual fatalities increased by 0.8% and the average annual serious injuries increased by 2.4% but the other three categories show reductions. He continued the fatality rates (per 100 million VMT) decreased by 2.6%, the serious injury rates decreased by 1.4%, and the average annual pedestrian/bicycle fatalities and injuries decreased by 0.6%. Mr. Scott then showed slides of Lee County motor vehicle fatalities/injuries, pedestrian fatalities/injuries, and bicycle fatalities/injuries. The Board then discussed ebikes/escooters, program/grants to add street lights/sidewalks, local ordinances related to ebikes, partnerships with school district, crime prevention grants for street lights, local funding of street lights/sidewalks, micromobility ordinances, driver responsibility, and education/information for bicyclists in local communities.

Agenda Item #8 - +Provide Input on the Proposed Joint Lee Charlotte-Punta Gorda MPO Meeting Agenda Items

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item to seek input on the proposed draft agenda items for the upcoming joint meeting with the Charlotte-Punta Gorda MPO. He said the Joint MPO Board meeting with the Charlotte-Punta Gorda MPO is scheduled for February 21st at the Burnt Store Presbyterian Church at 11330 Burnt Store Road in Punta Gorda. He reference the list below of the draft agenda items that have been discussed:

- Status of the SR 31 and Burnt Store Road corridor improvements
- Update on the M-Cores Task Force Meetings
- Draft TRIP Priorities
- Overview of the LRTP updates and our joint coordination
- Information on the I-75 PD&E study and the modeling of interchange alternatives between SR 78 and Tuckers Grade

He asked the Board members if there were additional items they would like to discuss. Vice-Mayor Denham asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

Agenda Item #9 - Review of Transportation Related Legislation for this Legislative Session

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item as a review of the transportation related legislation for this legislative session. He referred to the last legislative update from the MPOAC with the recent developments shown in red text that was attached to the agenda packet. He discussed several of the bills including electric bicycles and SB 1148. Vice-Mayor Denham asked about the labeling of bicycles with their class and who will be responsible for this, Mr. Scott replied possibly the manufacturer. Vice-Mayor Denham asked for this information. Mr. Scott said yes. Mr. Scott continued with his review of the transportation related legislation including electric vehicle charging stations, increased revenue from electric vehicles, motor vehicle rentals, traffic offenses, school bus safety, child restraint requirements, and express lanes. The session is scheduled to begin on January 14th. Mr. Scott said he would bring back updates. Vice-Mayor Denham asked if there were any Board comments. The Board discussed correcting issues with the school bus system, ebike legislation, city ordinances relating to ebikes, responsibility for placing class stickers on ebikes, and speed limits on pathways.

Other Business

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

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

Agenda Item #11 - LeeTran Report

Mr. Robert Codie with LeeTran gave the LeeTran report. He thanked the MPO Board for approving funding for the bus parts. He then gave ridership updates for the Fort Myers Beach tram and the Downtown Fort Myers trolley. He also reviewed several other improvements LeeTran has recently implemented. The Board briefly discussed a possible Sanibel tram service, starting the Fort Myers Beach trams earlier in the season, tram storage, number of passengers per tram and trolley, possibility of Bonita trolley service, trolley express lanes, and beach parking at LeeTran lot.

Agenda Item #12 - FDOT Report

Mr. Michael Tisch with FDOT gave the FDOT report. He said FDOT is working with MPO staff to submit the priorities for FY 2021 to FY 2026 for the next Work Program for adoption in July 2020.

Agenda Item #13 – Announcements

Mr. Scott mentioned a recent conversation with FDOT regarding M-Cores representation for Lee County and the need to pick an additional representative as Commissioner Pendergrass could not represent both Lee County and the MPO.

Councilmember Gaile Anthony made the motion for Mr. Scott to serve as the MPO Board's representative to the M-Cores task force. Commissioner Brian Hamman seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Vice-Mayor Denham noted this was his last meeting as Chair as Councilmember Forbes will take over the role of Chair at the next meeting.

Agenda Item #14 - Information and Distribution Items

The information and distribution items included the latest MPOAC Legislative Update.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:16 a.m.

^Roll Call Vote *Action Items +May Require Action

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