

# METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD

9:00 a.m., Friday, September 18, 2020

## Virtual Zoom Meeting

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## Meeting Minutes

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The virtual Zoom meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by MPO Board Chair/City of Bonita Councilmember Fred Forbes.

Prior to the start of the meeting, several MPO Board members indicated they would need to leave the meeting at 10:00 a.m. to attend another meeting.

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 Frank Mann, Brian Hamman, and Cecil Pendergrass; City of Cape Coral Councilmember John Carioscia; City of Cape Coral Mayor Joe Coviello; City of Fort Myers Councilmembers Fred Burson, Johnny Streets, Jr., and Teresa Watkins Brown; Town of Fort Myers Beach Mayor Ray Murphy; 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 Wayne Gaither, Zachary Burch, L. K. Nandam, Dan Preslar, Mark Mathes, Nikesh Patel, Kristi Smith, and Michael Tisch with FDOT; Derek Rooney with GrayRobinson; Lee County MPO staff Don Scott, Ron Gogoi, Brian Raimondo, and Calandra Barraco; LeeTran Director Robert Codie; Chad Rosenstein with Lee County Port Authority; Persides Zambrano with the City of Cape Coral; Saeed Kazemi with the City of Fort Myers; Charlotte Codie with Lee County; Joe Perri and Demond Hazley with VHB; Johnny Limbaugh with Wright; Trinity Scott with Collier County; a member of the public John Majka; a member of the public Denise Diamond; a member of the public Darleen Loef; Wally Blain with Tindale Oliver; and Alayna Delgado and Ned Baier with Volkert.

Due to lack of quorum at the start of the meeting, Chair Forbes requested Mr. Scott present the first non-action item, Agenda Item #8 – Update on the Development of the Long Range Transportation Plan.

### **Agenda Item #8 - Update on the Development of the Long Range Transportation Plan**

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item as an update on the development of the Long Range Transportation Plan. He gave a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on LRTP activities, existing conditions, needs projects, evaluation criteria, project priorities, overview of model run results, fourth alternative model run with CAV at 35%, transit needs, calculation of revenues, request to analyze current MPO priorities, Federal funded projects, state funded projects, SIS Cost Feasible Plan, SIS funded projects, bicycle pedestrian needs projects, TA and SU priorities, LRTP Freight Element, sample of public comments received, and travel survey. His complete presentation can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-Item-8-LRTP-Update.pdf> Mr. Scott asked if there were any questions or comments. Councilmember Laura Carr asked if there was an increase in flights into RSW due to Walmart and FedEx. Mr. Scott replied that the flights have been about the same.

At this time, approximately 9:20 a.m., it was noted by Mayor Ribble that there was a quorum present.

### **Agenda Item #1 - Public Comments on Consent Agenda Items**

Chair Fred Forbes asked if there were any public comments on Consent Agenda Items. He noted there was a three minute time limit for public comment. Mr. Derek Rooney added this was not a question and answer session, but rather public comment only. Mr. John Majka, a member of the public, requested changes to the June 19, 2020 Minutes. After some discussion, the MPO Board decided to pull the minutes from the Consent Agenda items and table only the minutes until the next meeting so that Mr. Majka could provide strike through and underline changes for MPO Board examination.

**Vice-Mayor Mick Denham made the motion to table the minutes until the next meeting. Mayor William Ribble seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item #2. \*Consent Agenda**

- ~~A. Approve the June 19, 2020 Meeting Minutes (tabled until next meeting)~~
- B. Approve the Local Coordinating Board Member Certification
- C. Approve the Appointment to the Citizen Advisory Committee
- D. Approve the 2021 Meeting Schedule

**Mayor William Ribble made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items minus the minutes. Councilmember Laura Carr and Councilmember Teresa Watkins Brown seconded the motion simultaneously. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

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

Additional public comments were taken at each agenda item.

#### **Public Hearing Item**

### **Agenda Item #4 - ^Approval of the TIP Amendments to add Transit Operating Funds, a US 41 Lighting Retrofit Project, the Crash Investigation Scanner and the Roll Forward Projects to the FY 20/21 through FY 24/25 Transportation Improvement Program**

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item for the approval of the TIP Amendments to add Transit Operating Funds, a US 41 Lighting Retrofit Project, the Crash Investigation Scanner and the Roll Forward Projects to the FY 20/21 through FY 24/25 Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Scott briefly reviewed the projects. He asked if there were any comments. Commissioner Hamman thanked FDOT for the matching grant funds for LeeTran. He then asked about updates on the roll forward projects at Colonial/I-75 and the I-75 Corkscrew to Daniels addition of lanes projects. Mr. Scott replied the Corkscrew to Daniels project has been in the report for a long time possibly due to a partial segment/right of way being contested and the Colonial project had a notice to proceed issued last month. There was no public comment.

**Mayor William Ribble made the motion to approve the TIP Amendments and the Roll Forward Projects. Councilmember Laura Carr seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all in favor, and the motion passed unanimously.**

## New Business

### **Agenda Item #5 - \*Endorsement of the Aviation Priorities**

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this agenda item for the endorsement of the Aviation Priorities. He introduced Mr. Chad Rosenstein with Lee County Port Authority in case the MPO Board or public had questions regarding the Aviation Priorities. There were no questions or public comments on this item.

**Councilmember Laura Carr made the motion to endorse the Aviation Priorities. Councilmember Teresa Watkins Brown and Mayor Ray Murphy seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item #6 - \*Review and Approve the Bonita Estero Rail Trail Feasibility Study Scope of Services**

Mr. Gogoi presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the Bonita Estero Rail Trail Feasibility Study Scope of Services. He gave a brief Power Point presentation that included slide with information on project details, project limits, study area, trail options, and scope outline. Mr. Gogoi's entire presentation can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Rail-Trail-Scope-3.pdf> He asked if there were any questions and noted this item required MPO Board approval. Vice-Mayor Mick Denham asked for the total project cost. Mr. Gogoi referenced the project costs from the presentation. Mr. Scott clarified that Vice-Mayor Denham was asking for total project costs including construction and design. Mr. Gogoi replied that those costs will be looked in to as part of the feasibility study. Councilmember Carr asked if this was being raised due to possible impacts of COVID on budgets. Mayor Ribble commented that the cost estimate he was provided was \$93 million. There was a brief discussion on the estimated project cost, where it came from, and what it included. Mr. Gogoi added that federal funds could be applied for to assist with the project. He also commented that MPO funds were not being spent on the feasibility study as it was funded through mostly state (\$400,000) and some local funds from Bonita (\$25,000) and Estero (\$25,000). Mr. Derek Rooney noted the time was almost 10:00 a.m. and there was one more item to review.

**Mayor William Ribble made the motion to approve the Bonita Estero Rail Trail Feasibility Study Scope of Services. Councilmember Laura Carr seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

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

Chair Forbes asked if there were any public comments on items not on the agenda. Mr. John Majka member of the public, asked Mr. Scott to read the public comment that he had just emailed to him during the meeting. Mr. Scott read Mr. Majka's public comment on the SR 80 projects. Mr. Majka's comment that was emailed to Mr. Scott at 9:48 a.m. can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/John-Majka-Public-Comment-091820-PDF-Document.pdf> Ms. Barraco noted there was still an agenda item that needed approval, Agenda Item #7 – Review and Approve the Lee MPO TSM&O Plan.

### **Agenda Item #7 - \*Review and Approve the Lee MPO TSM&O Plan**

Mr. Demond Hazley and Mr. Joe Perri, both with VHB, presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the Lee MPO TSM&O Plan. Mr. Hazley started the Power Point presentation with slides on overview, reaching the full potential of the TSM&O, why prepare a TSM&O Master Plan, report sections, prioritization of corridors, and systemwide ITS assessment. Mr. Joe Perri then briefly reviewed the remainder of the presentation that included information on sample project analysis of SR 78, corridor issues, Mr. Mark Mathes with FDOT asked if there were any questions or comments on

the presentation. The entire presentation can be viewed here: [https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Lee-MPO-TSMO-MP\\_9\\_18-Presentation-.pdf](https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Lee-MPO-TSMO-MP_9_18-Presentation-.pdf) Mayor Coviello referred to several large projects in Cape Coral. Mr. Scott then read a public comment that had been submitted the previous day before 5:00 p.m. from Ms. Diana Giraldo and also emailed to the committee/posted to the website the prior day. Ms. Giraldo's public comment can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/MPO-9.18.20-SASWFL-Public-Comment-Diana-Giraldo.pdf>

**Councilmember Laura Carr made the motion to approve the Lee MPO TSM&O Plan. Commissioner Brian Hamman seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

**Due to time constraints of several MPO Board members, no Other Business was taken.**

### **Other Business**

#### **Agenda Item #10 - LeeTran/TD Report**

Due to time constraints, the LeeTran Report was not heard.

#### **Agenda Item #11 - FDOT Report**

Due to time constraints, the FDOT Report was not heard.

#### **Agenda Item #12 – Announcements**

Due to time constraints, no announcements were made.

#### **Agenda Item #13 - Information and Distribution Items**

The FDOT Source Book data that was included in the packet was the only information and distribution item.

**The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 a.m.**

**The entire meeting audio can be accessed here: <https://soundcloud.com/user-390911534/09-18-2020-mpo>**

**^Roll Call Vote    \*Action Items    +May Require Action**

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