

# METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD

9:00 a.m., Friday, September 16, 2022  
Lee County Administration East Building  
2201 Second Street, Room 118  
Fort Myers, FL 33901



## Meeting Minutes

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The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by City of Fort Myers Councilmember Fred Burson. 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 Kevin Ruane, Raymond Sandelli, and Mike Greenwell; City of Cape Coral Councilmembers Tom Hayden, Jessica Cosden, Keith Long, Jennifer Nelson, and Dan Sheppard; City of Fort Myers Councilmember Fred Burson; Village of Estero Vice-Mayor Jon McLain; and City of Bonita Springs Councilmembers Laura Carr and Fred Forbes.

Others in attendance included the following – L. K. Nandam, Wayne Gaither, Victoria Peters, and Dasha Kosheleva with FDOT; Lee County MPO staff Don Scott and Ron Gogoi; Derek Rooney with Gray Robinson; Robert Codie with LeeTran; Lee County IT staff; LCSO deputy; members of the public Charlotte Wheatcraft and Henry Burden; Persides Zambrano with Cape Coral; Dave Loveland and Randy Cerchie with Lee County; and Kelly Farabee with S&ME.

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

Councilmember Burson asked if there were public comments on consent agenda items. There were no public comments on Consent Agenda Items.

### **Agenda Item #2 - \*Consent Agenda**

- A. Approval of the June 17, 2022 Meeting Minutes
- B. Approve the Appointment of a CAC Member Representing Cape Coral
- C. Approval of the Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Certification
- D. Approve the 2023 MPO Meeting Schedule

Councilmember Jennifer Nelson made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items. Councilmember Laura Carr seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Agenda Item #3 - Public Comments will be taken on Each New Business Item**

Councilmember Burson noted public comments will be taken at each new business item.

## Public Hearing Items

### **Agenda Item #4 - ^Approval of an Amendment to the FY 2022/2023 through FY 2026/2027 Transportation Improvement Program to add the Roll Forward Report**

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item for the Approval of an Amendment to the FY 22/23 through FY 26/27 Transportation Improvement Program to add the Roll Forward Report. Mr. Scott explained the agenda item and reviewed several of the projects on the Roll Forward Report. He asked if there were any comments or questions and referred the MPO Board members to the public comments that had been emailed to MPO staff prior to the meeting. The emailed public comments were printed out, handed out at the meeting, and can be viewed here: [Public Comments on Roll Forward Report](#) Councilmember Burson asked if there were additional public comments. There were none.

**Councilmember Laura Carr made the motion to approve an Amendment to the FY 22/23 through FY 26/27 Transportation Improvement Program to add the Roll Forward Report. Councilmember Fred Forbes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all in favor, and the motion passed unanimously.**

**Agenda Item #5 - ^Approval of the Revised Federal and State Funded Priorities List**

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the Approval of the Revised Federal and State Funded Priorities List. He explained the agenda item. Councilmember Burson asked if there were any public comments on this item. There were none. Councilmember Burson then asked for a vote on this item.

**Councilmember Laura Carr made the motion to approve the Revised Federal and State Funded Priorities List. Councilmember Jennifer Nelson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all in favor, and the motion passed unanimously.**

**New Business**

**Agenda Item #6 - \*Endorsement of the Aviation Priorities**

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this agenda item for the Endorsement of the Aviation Priorities. He provided a brief Power Point presentation that contained slides with information on the priorities for both the Southwest Florida International (RSW) and Page Field (FMY) airports. His presentation can be viewed here: [Aviation Priorities](#) He mentioned MPO staff was seeking endorsement of the priorities. Councilmember Burson asked if there were any public comments. There were none.

**Councilmember Laura Carr made the motion to endorse the Aviation Priorities. Councilmember Fred Forbes seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

**Agenda Item #7 - \*Approval of the Carbon Reduction Program Fund Priorities**

Mr. Gogoi presented this agenda item for the Approval of the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) Fund Priorities. He provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on eligible projects, allocation, additional CRP details, and CRP priority list. He said MPO staff was seeking approval of this agenda item. His presentation can be viewed here: [Carbon Reduction Priorities](#) He asked if there were any questions. Councilmember Burson asked if there were any comments or discussion. There were no comments or discussion.

**Councilmember Laura Carr made the motion to approve the Carbon Reduction Program Fund Priorities. Councilmember Jennifer Nelson seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

**Agenda Item #8 - \*Approve a Letter of Support for Seminole Gulf Railway CRISI Grant Application Seeking Funding to Upgrade the Rail Line from Punta Gorda to Arcadia**

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the Approval of a Letter of Support for Seminole Gulf Railway Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Grant Application Seeking Funding to Upgrade the Rail Line from Punta Gorda to Arcadia. Mr. Scott provided a brief history of past grant requests from Seminole Gulf to update tracks, current information on the grant application, and project limit for requested rail improvement segment. He asked if there were any public comments. The Board briefly discussed the funding.

**Councilmember Fred Forbes made the motion to approve a Letter of Support for Seminole Gulf Railway CRISI Grant Application. Councilmember Laura Carr 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**

Councilmember Burson asked if there were any public comments on items not on the agenda. There were no public comments on items not on the agenda.

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

Mr. Robert Codie with LeeTran provided the LeeTran/TD report that included information on the recently opened Rosa Parks center, the South Area transfer center, the Lehigh Acres center, mobility-on-demand (MOD) projects, and seasonal service. The Board briefly discussed service areas for MOD and the success of the MOD project in Bonita. A member of the public, Ms. Charlotte Wheatcraft, gave a public comment regarding providing bus shelters. Mr. Codie responded that LeeTran has plans to reduce the number of bus stops and improve stops with shelters and ADA accommodations. He added LeeTran is coordinating with the local jurisdictions for funding. Councilmember Burson asked if there were additional comments. There were none.

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

Ms. Victoria Peters with FDOT presented the FDOT report that included information on upcoming grant information sessions and mobility week. Councilmember Burson asked if there were any comments. A member of the public and BPCC Vice-Chair, Mr. Henry Burden, commented on the SR 80 multi-use path and sidewalk projects. Ms. Peters noted the project is at seventy five percent completion and added she would coordinate with Mr. Burden to provide additional information. Mr. Gogoi mentioned the SR 80 discussion at the BPCC meeting and corresponding photographs.

### **Agenda Item #12 - Announcements**

Councilmember Burson asked if there were any announcements. Mr. Scott said the next meeting was scheduled for October 21, 2022.

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

Mr. Scott mentioned the information and distribution items included the notice of regional grant information sessions.

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 a.m.**

**An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed here: [MPO Board September 16, 2022](#)**

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

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