

# METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD

9:00 a.m., Friday, September 22, 2023  
Lee County Administration East Building  
2201 Second Street, Room 118  
Fort Myers, FL 33901  
239-244-2220



## Meeting Minutes

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The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by MPO Board Chair/Lee County Commissioner Cecil Pendergrass. 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 Cecil Pendergrass, Brian Hamman, and Kevin Ruane; City of Fort Myers Councilmembers Johnny Streets Jr. and Fred Burson; City of Cape Coral Mayor John Gunter; City of Cape Coral Councilmembers Dan Sheppard, Jessica Cosden, Tom Hayden, and Patty Cummings; Town of Fort Myers Beach Councilmember John R. King; City of Sanibel Vice-Mayor Michael Miller; City of Bonita Springs Councilmember Laura Carr; and Village of Estero Mayor Jon McLain.

Others in attendance included the following – Amanda Tyner and Wayne Gaither with FDOT; Lee County MPO staff Don Scott and Ron Gogoi; Derek Rooney/MPO Legal; Dominic Gemelli with LeeTran; Lee County IT staff; LCSO deputy; Laura Dodd with Cape Coral; and Shana Overhulser with Quest.

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

Chair Pendergrass asked if there were public comments on consent agenda items. There were none.

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

- A. Approve the June 16, 2023 Meeting Minutes
- B. Approve the August 18, 2023 Lee and Collier Workshop Summary
- C. Approve Local Coordinating Board Member Appointments

Commissioner Kevin Ruane made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items. Mayor John Gunter 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**

Public comments will be taken at each new business item and are limited to three minutes.

## Public Hearing Items

### **Agenda Item #4 - ^Review and Approve an Amendment to the FY 2022/2023 through FY 2026/2027 Transportation Improvement Program to Add a SR 31 Movable Bridge Safety Project**

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of an Amendment to the FY 2022/2023 through FY 2026/2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add a SR 31 Movable Bridge Safety Project. He reviewed the information that was attached to the agenda packet and [posted to the MPO website](#). There were no public comments on this item.

Councilmember Laura Carr made the motion to approve the Amendment to the FY 2022/2023 through FY 2026/2027 Transportation Improvement Program to add a SR 31 Movable Bridge Safety Project. Commissioner Brian Hamman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all in favor, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Agenda Item #5 - ^Review and Approve an Amendment to the FY 2023/2024 to FY 2027/2028 Transportation Improvement Program to Add the Roll Forward Amendments**

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of an Amendment to the FY 2023/2024 to FY 2027/2028 Transportation Improvement Program to add the Roll Forward Amendments. He reviewed the information that was attached to the agenda packet and [posted to the MPO website](#). There were no public comments on this agenda item.

**Councilmember Laura Carr made the motion to approve the Amendment to the FY 2023/2024 to FY 2027/2028 Transportation Improvement Program to add the Roll Forward Amendments. Commissioner Brian Hamman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all in favor, and the motion passed unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item #6 - ^Adopt the Updated Public Involvement Plan**

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the adoption of the updated Public Involvement Plan (PIP). He reviewed the information included in the agenda packet and [posted to the MPO website](#). There were no public comments on this agenda item.

**Councilmember Laura Carr made the motion to approve the updated Public Involvement Plan. Councilmember John R. King seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all in favor, and the motion passed unanimously.**

## **New Business**

### **Agenda Item #7 - \*Review and Approve the Lee MPO Apportionment Plan**

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the Lee County MPO Apportionment Plan. He referred to the information that was included in the agenda packet and [posted to the MPO website](#). He then provided a Power Point presentation that can be viewed at the following link - [Apportionment](#) There were no public comments on this agenda item. The MPO Board discussed census data, Estero membership, possible Lehigh incorporation, changes to MPO Board membership based on incorporations, formula used, Cape Coral membership, and lack of census accuracy. There were no public comments on this agenda item.

**Councilmember Laura Carr made the motion to approve the Lee County MPO Apportionment Plan. Councilmember Tom Hayden seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item #8 - \*Endorsement of the Aviation Priorities**

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this agenda item for the endorsement of the Aviation Priorities. He provided a Power Point presentation that can be viewed at the following link: [Aviation Priorities](#) There were no public comments on this agenda item.

**Commissioner Brian Hamman made the motion to endorse the Aviation Priorities. Mayor John Gunter seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item #9 - Presentation on the District One Freight Mobility & Trade Plan**

Ms. Amanda Tyner with FDOT presented this agenda item on the District One Freight Mobility and Trade Plan. She provided a Power Point presentation that can be viewed at the following link: [Freight Plan](#) The MPO Board discussed electric freight vehicles, charging stations, spaces available signage and possible app, FL 511 app, and truck parking availability system. There were no public comments on this agenda item.

## Other Business

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

There were no public comments on items not on the agenda. Councilmember Carr commended and thanked Commissioner Hamman for leading the recent joint Collier and Lee MPO Boards' regional workshop. Chair Pendergrass also thanked Commissioner Hamman.

### **Agenda Item #11 - LeeTran/TD Report**

Mr. Dominic Gemelli with LeeTran provided the LeeTran report which included information on the South Fort Myers Transfer/Park and Ride station, Route 410 on Fort Myers Beach, the Lehigh Acres Park and Ride construction bid and scheduled groundbreaking in January, seasonal service starting on November 16, emergency relief grant award, mobility on demand programs in Lehigh and Bonita, and the Build a Better Mousetrap award. Mr. Gemelli asked if there were any questions. The MPO Board discussed the seasonal service start date and the Build a Better Mousetrap award.

### **Agenda Item #12 - FDOT Report**

Mr. Wayne Gaither with FDOT provided the FDOT report that included information on the work program cycle, public hearing dates for the work program from October 16 through October 20, virtual and in-person meetings for the work program being held on October 18, and a press conference with the governor's office being held on September 25 beginning at 10:00 a.m. to discuss the Moving Florida Forward program. He asked if there were any questions. There were none.

### **Agenda Item #13 - Announcements**

Councilmember Hayden announced Cape Coral Council's approval of funding to move the SR 78 widening study forward. Commissioner Hamman expressed support for the project. Chair Pendergrass commented on working together, population growth, and continued communication. Mayor McLain mentioned progress on Corkscrew, cooperation between FDOT and Estero, landscaping, future improvement plans, example in Roswell, Georgia, and the importance of trees and vegetation. Chair Pendergrass discussed the Corkscrew project delay, providing a project timeline update, and recent flooding in the area. Councilmember Patty Cummings mentioned a tree grant received by the City of Cape Coral. Mr. Scott said draft Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) changes will be brought back to the next MPO Board meeting.

### **Agenda Item #14 - Information and Distribution Items**

There were no information and/or distribution items.

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:51 a.m.**

**An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed here: [MPO Board September 22, 2023](#)**

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

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