

**METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

2:00 p.m., February 13, 2019
Cape Coral Public Works Building
815 Nicholas Pkwy E, Cape Coral, FL
Green Room/A200



MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mick Denham at 2:00 p.m.

The roll was called. There was a quorum. Those MEC members in attendance included Town of Fort Myers Beach Mayor Tracey Gore, City of Cape Coral Mayor Joe Coviello, Village of Estero Vice-Mayor William Ribble, City of Fort Myers Councilmember Gaile Anthony, City of Sanibel Vice-Mayor Mick Denham, and Lee County Commissioner Brian Hamman. Others in attendance included MPO Legal Counsel Derek Rooney; Andrew Laflin and Chris Kessler with Clifton Larson Allen; a member of the public John Majka; Johnny Limbaugh with Wright Construction; and MPO staff Don Scott and Calandra Barraco.

New Business

Agenda Item #1 - Public Comments on New Business Items

There were no public comments on new business items.

Agenda Item #2 - *Review and Approval of the December 12, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Councilmember Gaile Anthony made the motion to approve the December 12, 2018 Meeting Minutes. Vice-Mayor William Ribble seconded the motion. There were no objections. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #3 - +Review of the Year End Audit for FY 2017/2018

Mr. Andrew Laflin with Clifton Larson Allen introduced Mr. Chris Kessler, also with Clifton Larson Allen, to present this agenda item for the review of the Year End Audit for FY 2017/2018. Mr. Don Scott handed out copies of the final audit report to the committee. Mr. Kessler said he was the engagement principal and referred to the highlights of the financial statements on page six beginning with the management summary. Mr. Kessler mentioned the TIGER grant was ending thus there would be less funding/revenues. Chair Denham asked if the financial results were as expected. Mr. Kessler replied yes as the TIGER grant funding source was a capped amount. Mr. Scott noted there would be more expenditures this year due to finalizing the signage for the wayfinding project. Mr. Kessler then discussed the two single audit findings that involved year end closing errors from the outsourced accounting firm used by the MPO and period performance issues where expenditures were charged to the grant program outside of the contract period. Mr. Scott noted the year end closing errors should be corrected moving forward as the MPO will be working with a new accounting firm. He said the period performance issues will be corrected moving forward with new written policy procedures. Chair Denham asked Mr. Kessler if he was satisfied with the plans to resolve these issues. Mr. Kessler replied yes. Mr. Scott said the changes in procedures will be brought back for approval. Chair Denham asked Mr. Kessler if there were any other concerns related to the audit. Mr. Kessler replied no. Chair Denham asked if there was any further discussion. There was none.

Vice-Mayor William Ribble made the motion to accept the Year End Audit for FY 2017/2018. Mayor Tracey Gore seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #4 - Discussion Regarding the 2019 Dangerous by Design Report and Committee Comments

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item to provide an overview of the 2019 Dangerous by Design Report that was recently released on January 23rd and provide comments given by the Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee (BPCC), the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC). Commissioner Brian Hamman questioned the validity of the report as it was not produced by a government agency but rather an activist group. Mr. Scott said the report indicates that the Cape Coral Fort Myers urbanized area is ranked number eight based on their PDI (Pedestrian Danger Index), and we were ranked number one in the prior report. He noted that our area had the biggest decrease in score. Chair Denham asked why. Mr. Scott noted there were fewer fatalities, over the ten year period versus the previous analysis. Commissioner Hamman mentioned the county had reviewed and improved on some of the most dangerous intersections as well as adopting best practices to enhance the pedestrian environment. Mr. Scott said the PDI was based on how many people walk to work. Mayor Gore noted our area has a large number of pedestrians. Chair Denham mentioned the increase of electric vehicles on bike paths and sidewalks. Mayor Gore said the electric bicycles are not allowed on Fort Myers Beach sidewalks. Mr. Scott said that AVs are supposed to be the solution to all of our crash, distraction issues. Mr. Scott showed slides on the report background, changes from last report, pedestrian fatality crash analysis, infrastructure improvements, outreach activities, engineering, and BPCC recommendations. Chair Denham asked if Mr. Scott was looking for feedback. Mr. Scott replied yes. Chair Denham asked if the Village of Estero does bike/ped education. Vice-Mayor Ribble replied they are currently working on developing a bicycle pedestrian plan. Councilmember Anthony noted the bike lanes and turn lanes being installed by the county on Palomino. There was a brief discussion on bike lane standards and requirements and pathways being constructed. Mayor Joe Coviello said there is a problem with people riding bicycles in the wrong direction, even in areas that are clearly marked with arrows. A discussion followed on bicycle riders not stopping at stop signs. Commissioner Hamman suggested sending a letter from the MPO Board to local law enforcement agencies requesting a period of education and enforcement with regard to bicycles. Chair Denham asked if there was additional discussion. There was none.

Agenda Item #5 - Overview of the Current Transportation Related Legislative Issues

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item as an overview of the current transportation related legislative issues. He noted the legislative session begins soon and reviewed short descriptions of some of the transportation related legislation that is being proposed including HB 453 on micromobility. Chair Denham asked if this was a pre-emptive measure. Mr. Scott replied yes. There was a brief discussion on legal issues and pre-emption. Chair Denham noted this is the reason that the Florida League of Cities exists. Mr. Rooney read the current bill and discussed the definitions. Chair Denham suggested this legislation is to protect an industry. Mayor Gore said it was not yet assigned. Chair Denham said hopefully it would not be assigned and added that members should be alerted. Mr. Rooney said an equivalent would be golf carts and this appears to be similar to the legislation governing golf carts. Councilmember Anthony asked if HOAs or CDDs can overrule this legislation. Mr. Rooney said if the CDD is governed by uniform traffic code than this would apply. Mr. Scott then discussed the AV legislation. There was a brief discussion on automatic braking and automatic parking. Mr. Scott noted this new legislation is an attempt to open up the roads to AV testing. He then discussed the coastal/sea level impact study legislation. He concluded by saying these are all issues to watch moving forward.

Agenda Item #6 - Review of the upcoming MPO Agenda

Mr. Don Scott handed out copies of the upcoming MPO Board agenda. He noted the Lee County MPO Board meeting will start at 9:30 a.m. and the Joint Meeting with the Charlotte County-Punta

Gorda MPO will begin at 10:00 a.m. He added there would be a public comment on bringing back the old Fort Myers Beach arches. He then reviewed the topics for discussion at both meetings including a TIP amendment for the Lee County only meeting and Burnt Store Road for the Joint meeting. The committee briefly discussed Burnt Store and SR 31 improvements.

Other Business

Agenda Item #7 - Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

Mr. John Majka commented on his issue with FDOT regarding possible driveway alterations to his businesses located on SR 80.

Agenda Item #8 – Announcements

There were no announcements.

Agenda Item #9 - Information and Distribution Items

There were no information and distribution items.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

* Action Items + May Require Action

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