

**METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

2:00 p.m., October 9, 2019
Cape Coral Public Works Building
815 Nicholas Pkwy E, Cape Coral, FL
Green Room/A200



Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Vice-Chair Peter O’Flinn.

The roll was called. There was a quorum. Those MEC members in attendance included Lee County Commissioner Brian Hamman; City of Fort Myers Councilmember Gaile Anthony; Village of Estero Mayor William Ribble; City of Bonita Springs Deputy Mayor/MPO Vice-Chair Peter O’Flinn; City of Cape Coral Mayor Joe Coviello; Town of Fort Myers Beach Councilmember Bruce Butcher. Others in attendance included MPO Legal Counsel Derek Rooney; a member of the public John Majka; Tarrita Brown with Lee County Schools Transportation District; 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 September 18, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Mayor William Ribble made the motion to approve the September 18, 2019 Meeting Minutes. Councilmember Bruce Butcher and Commissioner Brian Hamman simultaneously seconded the motion. There were no objections. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #3 - Information on Additional Federal Funding Added to the MPO’s Multi-Modal Enhancement Box

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item on the Additional Federal Funding Added to the MPO’s Multi-Modal Enhancement Box. He explained the MPO received an additional \$2.5 million in federal funding in FY 19/20 that is now shown in the Multi-modal Enhancement Box (where it is put when the funding is not attributed to a specific project). He said as this is current year funding, there are restrictions to how it can be spent (for instance, a single project cannot exceed \$543,000) so staff is currently finding out what options we may have for funding project advancements or new project phases. Mr. Scott further discussed the rules involved for project funding and possible projects being considered. Councilmember Butcher asked for clarification on the year for funding. Mr. Scott replied it is this current fiscal year that ends in June. Councilmember Gaile Anthony asked if a Fort Myers project with design completed would qualify. Commissioner Brian Hamman suggested all of the backup information be mailed to the committee members so they could discuss possible projects with their staff. He also questioned where the excess funding came from. Mr. Scott replied that he wasn’t sure but that it is Federal SU dollars.

Agenda Item #4 - +Review and Provide Input on the Constrained Corridor List

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item to review and provide input on the constrained corridor segment list that will be included in the Long Range Plan documentation. He referred to the constrained corridor list that was attached to the agenda packet and shown as a slide at the meeting. He said a constrained corridor segment list had previously been developed to provide information to the public on what roadways the local jurisdictions have determined will not be widened in the future. He

continued those determinations have been based on various issues that include, for example, additional lanes will not provide enough of a benefit in increased capacity, the widening of the roadway is not consistent with local comprehensive plans, the widening of the roadway is too costly or it impacts the environment too much. He gave examples of several of the roadways on the list. He asked the committee if they had any questions or comments. He noted the list would be used in the maps when the LRTP goes out for public comment. Councilmember Butcher asked for further clarification of the definition of constrained roadways. Mr. Scott explained, noting these roadways require solutions to deal with congestion that do not involve widening. Mr. Rooney provided further explanations. Vice-Chair O'Flinn asked for direction on this agenda item. Mr. Scott said the constrained list was already presented to the TAC/CAC and he has addressed their comments. He said it has been brought to this committee in case they have additional comments. Commissioner Hamman asked if being included on the list prevents further improvements. Mr. Scott replied no, it only prevents further widening but still leaves the roadway open for intersection or other improvements. Councilmember Butcher asked if there was an action plan for the roadways on the list. Mr. Scott replied yes, there are many improvement plans for the roadways on the list, just not major widening. Vice-Chair O'Flinn referenced the example of the continuous flow intersection. Commissioner Hamman asked the history of Stringfellow being added to the list. Mr. Scott said it was based on community and environmental concerns. Councilmember Butcher asked if placing a roadway on the constrained list would also restrict development in the area. Mr. Scott said that is based on the jurisdiction. Mr. Rooney further explained. Vice-Chair O'Flinn clarified that the underlined items on the list are new and the rest are pre-existing. Mr. Scott replied yes. Vice-Chair O'Flinn asked if there were additional comments. There were none.

Agenda Item #5 - Overview of the MPO and Transit Planning Coordination Study

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item as an overview of the MPO and Transit Planning Coordination Study. He said the Florida Department of Transportation conducted a study on the coordination of MPO's and Transit agencies across the State. He said he was interviewed as was LeeTran staff. He referred to the summary of the results and the suggested ways to improve the coordination that was also attached to the agenda packet. He noted most of the suggested items in the study are currently done by LeeTran and the MPO on a daily basis. He presented a slide show presentation that provided information on the study including recommendations consistent with study findings, recommendation not consistent, and upcoming issues. Councilmember Butcher asked about LeeTran's benchmarking. Mr. Scott said it was part of the TDP. Councilmember Butcher asked if it was shared publicly. Mr. Scott replied yes and that he could provide the information and background. Councilmember Anthony asked if a specific commissioner was assigned to LeeTran. Commissioner Hamman replied no, all of the commissioners represent and coordinate with LeeTran. He also mentioned that Mr. Robert Codie was the new director. Vice-Chair O'Flinn asked how the study was conducted. Mr. Scott explained that FDOT hired CUTR to interview MPO/TPO staff statewide and their coordinating transit providers. There was a brief discussion on the issues across the state that were noted in the report.

The full report can be found here: <http://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/MEC5-link-fdot-bdv25-977-49-rpt.pdf>

Agenda Item #6 - Information on the FDOT Truck Parking Study

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item on the FDOT Truck Parking Study. He mentioned the truck parking availability signs for the rest area at I-75 and Daniels Parkway have just been added to I-75 north and south of Daniels although they are not activated yet. He said FDOT is conducting a statewide study of this issue. He said the unauthorized parking of trucks due to the regulations on drivers is greater in the Miami, Orlando, and Jacksonville areas but due to increases in freight, it is only expected to get worse. He noted in this study, our County has four truck parking locations identified, one public at the Daniels Parkway rest area and three private at Loves, Pilot and the Wal Mart at Six Mile/US 41

for a total capacity of 234 spaces. He said the study is aiming to come up with solutions for providing future capacity. He gave a slide show presentation that included information on statewide truck GPS data analysis, District One truck parking analysis, parking utilization for District One, parking utilization statewide, parking areas of concern statewide, and FDOT's next steps. The committee briefly discussed rest areas, weigh stations, and the new Buc-ee's coming to Fort Myers. Mr. Scott said he would bring back FDOT's recommendations that come out of the current study. Vice-Chair O'Flinn asked if there were any other comments. There were none. The link below provides access to the Statewide Truck GPS data Analysis:

<https://fdotwww.blob.core.windows.net/sitefinity/docs/default-source/statistics/multimodaldata/multimodal/fdotcoswtruckgpsparkingfinalreportb03efb1d092a4d23b31c29a5dd13d4d6.pdf>

Agenda Item #7 - Proposed Cancellation of the October 18, 2019 MPO Board Meeting

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item on the proposed cancellation of the October 18, 2019 MPO Board Meeting. He said we had previously planned to work towards a joint MPO Board meeting for October but that was put off by Collier. He added FDOT had planned on having the presentations on the tentative work program at the October meeting and this has been delayed until next month. He continued that now there are no items of substance for this meeting and asked if the Committee has any issues with cancelling it. Councilmember Gaile Anthony noted that many MPO Board members would be attending the Florida Redevelopment Association Annual Conference in Tampa.

Commissioner Brian Hamman moved to cancel the October 18, 2019 MPO Board meeting. Mayor Joe Coviello seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Other Business

Agenda Item #8 - Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

Mr. John Majka gave public comment on his issues surrounding the proposed sidewalk/pathway project on SR 80.

Agenda Item #9 - Announcements

Mr. Scott announced the October MPO Board meeting was cancelled. Vice-Chair O'Flinn announced he was resigning from his position with the City of Bonita Springs in December. He said he would work with the City of Bonita Springs to find his replacement for the MPO Board. He also asked MPO staff to look into the Village of Estero's placement in the rotation of MPO Board Chair and Vice-Chair. Mr. Scott said he will bring the rotation back as an agenda item.

Agenda Item #10 - Information and Distribution Items

There were no information and distribution items.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

* Action Items + May Require Action

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