

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization

Thursday, June 1, 2017

City of Cape Coral Public Works Building

815 Nicholas Parkway East, Cape Coral, FL 33990

9:30 a.m.



Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Chair Andy Getch at 9:30 a.m.

The roll was called. A quorum was present. Those members in attendance included Andy Getch with the Lee County Department of Community Development; Derek Faulkner with Lee County Port Authority; Wayne Gaither and Lee Combs with LeeTran; Gladys Gonzalez with the Lee County School Board Transportation District; Persides Zambrano with the City of Cape Coral Department of Public Works; Kitty Sayers with the Cape Coral Mini Bus Service; Carl Karakos with the City of Fort Myers Department of Engineering; Craig Chandler with the City of Sanibel Department of Planning; Matt Feeney with the City of Bonita Springs Public Works; Anne McLaughlin with the Collier MPO; and Gary Harrell with the Charlotte County – Punta Gorda MPO. Others in attendance included D’Juan Harris with FDOT; Juliet Iglesias with the Lee County Port Authority; Cassie Gomez with Lee County Community Development; and Don Scott and Ron Gogoi with the Lee County MPO.

Agenda Item #1 - Public Comments on Items on the Agenda

There were no public comments.

Agenda Item #2 - LeeTran Report

Wayne Gaither with LeeTran gave the LeeTran report. He stated that LeeTran had 288,000 passenger trips in April 2017. He added this was a 4.5% decrease from April 2016. He noted there was one less weekday in April 2017 that contributed to that loss. Mr. Gaither mentioned that they had the best year ever on the beach routes 490 and 410.

Chair Getch moved to Agenda Item #4, to allow time for D’Juan Harris, presenter of Agenda Item #3, FDOT Report, to arrive.

New Business

Agenda Item #4 - *Review and Approval of the May 4, 2017 Meeting Summary

Wayne Gaither made the motion to approve this agenda item for the review and approval of the May 4, 2017 Meeting Summary. Persides Zambrano seconded the motion. There were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - *Endorsement of the FY 2017/2018 through FY 2021/2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and endorsement of the FY 2017/2018 through FY 2021/2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to be forwarded to the MPO Board for their approval on June 16, 2017. He explained that each year the MPO develops a five year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that includes highway, bicycle/pedestrian, operations and management, safety, transit, intermodal, planning, maintenance and aviation projects that are funded with State and Federal money. The endorsement of this TIP will conclude the annual project prioritization and programming cycle that began last spring with the development of the MPO’s project

priorities. Inclusion of projects in the TIP is a prerequisite for federal funding of surface transportation projects. The TIP also includes the Capital Improvement Programs for each of the municipalities, for informational purposes only. The following link, <http://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/DRAFT-TIP-FY-2018-2022-Update.pdf>, includes the TIP with the revisions that have been made to address the comments we have received. The changes that have been made from the draft include adding some missing projects, updating maps, removing old planning numbers, and rephrasing references to other documents.

Persides Zambrano made the motion to approve this agenda item for the endorsement of the FY 2017/2018 through FY 2021/2022 TIP. Carl Karakos seconded the motion. There were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 - *Review and Approval of Bike Ped and Management & Operation Priorities

Mr. Gogoi presented this agenda item to review and recommend MPO approval of the Lee MPO TAP, Regional TAP, and the Multi-Modal Enhancement Box “SU” priorities. He reviewed **Attachment A** of the agenda packet that included the proposed Year 2017 priorities for the MPO allocated Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) funds. All nine projects on the list are unfunded priorities from last year. Because of the already long list of projects and the limited availability of MPO allocated TA funds, staff did not call for any new projects this year. The priority order for the projects remains the same and consistent with rankings from the original project evaluations from 2015 based on the MPO Bicycle Pedestrian Evaluation Criteria. Mr. Gogoi then discussed **Attachment C** of the agenda packet that included the proposed 2017 Multi-Modal Enhancement “SU” Box fund priorities. Projects must be along federal aid highways to be eligible for this type of funds. Bike/Ped, Transit, and Traffic Operations projects all compete for this category of funds. Transit and Traffic Operation projects, which come under Management and Operations, are typically identified by the Traffic Management Operations Committee while bike ped projects are identified by the BPCC. No new bike ped projects were considered this year because of the already long list of unfunded bike ped box priorities from last year. On the other hand, two new Management and Operations projects have been added to the list in **Attachment C** including the Iona/McGregor intersection improvements and the Winkler Avenue/Challenger roundabout to address safety issues. The top two on the list are operations and management projects that are typically implemented off-the-top of available “SU” funds. He also went over **Attachment B** of the agenda packet that included the proposed Year 2017 Regional TAP fund priorities. They are all new projects. Candidate projects for this category of funding have to be along trail corridors identified in the Lee Collier Bi-County Regional Pathways Map. The funding source is the state portion of TAP funds. Mr. Gogoi noted that the SR 80 project had been extended from Linwood to Werner to match the Safe Routes to School limits based on the recommendation of the BPCC.

Carl Karakos made the motion to approve this agenda item for the review and approval of Bike Ped and Management & Operation Priorities. Wayne Gaither seconded the motion. There were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gogoi presented the first walk-on item on a potential roundabout at SR 80 and Seaboard. He said the road is currently a state facility. He added that the City of Fort Myers is currently looking into converting the one-way road back to a two-way road. He said before the state transfers ownership of the road, the City would like to have a roundabout constructed as it would still be covered by state funding. Mr. Karakos mentioned the two-way conversion has been controversial and a financial analysis is being conducted. He said he would talk with the City about the implications of the roundabout and transference. Discussion followed regarding the area of the project and what type of study should be conducted. The suggestion was to change it to a SEIR/PD&E to begin with. Mr. Gogoi asked the committee to approve this as a priority.

Roundabout Walk-On Item – Carl Karakos made the motion to include this roundabout for state discretionary funds. Anne McLaughlin seconded the motion. There were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gogoi then presented the second and final walk-on item, Highway Safety Program Fund Priorities. He said these priorities must have high benefit cost ratios and numerous crashes. He added the funding wouldn't be available until after 2018, and they must be accompanied by a safety analysis. Mr. Gogoi said Mr. Jansen with Lee County would provide those by the end of the month. Mr. Gogoi reviewed the projects on the list. He asked for a motion. Mr. Harris asked if Mr. Jansen would also do a benefit cost analysis as it was a requirement. Mr. Gogoi said he was fairly certain Mr. Jansen would. Mr. Gogoi stated that Mr. Wheeler needed the documentation by the end of June. Mr. Gogoi then asked Mr. Harris if he could have a sample of the benefit cost analysis emailed to him. Mr. Harris said he would.

Highway Safety Program Fund Priorities Walk-On Item – Persides Zambrano made the motion to approve the highway safety walk-on agenda item. Carl Karakos seconded the motion. There were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gogoi noted the Port Authority was still working on their priorities and they wouldn't be completed in enough time to be approved at the June MPO meeting.

Chair Getch asked if Mr. Harris would like to present the FDOT report. Mr. Harris replied that he would and apologized for being late.

Agenda Item #3 - FDOT Report

D'Juan Harris with FDOT gave the FDOT report. He reported that Colonial Boulevard east and west bound at the railroad crossing will be closed June 9 through June 23 for work on the railroad crossing. He urged the committee to help spread the word and to avoid the area during construction. He mentioned the I-75/Colonial Interchange public hearing was moved to June 15 at the Gulf Coast Church of Christ from 5 – 7 p.m.

Agenda Item #7 - *Review and Approval of the Regional Priorities

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item to review and recommend approval of the Regional Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) priorities and the Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) priorities. The TRIP program provides funding for roadway and transit projects on the regional roadway network map. The map was updated and adopted by the two MPO's last month. The updated TRIP priorities were attached to the agenda packet and were scored based on the scoring criteria which takes into account performance, SIS connectivity, matching funds etc. The project phases for the projects being requested are identified in the fiscal year that is indicated in the local Capital Improvement Elements. He handed out an updated TRIP list that included the Burnt Store SR 78 to Tropicana project which is funded. He also handed out the V/C table that was omitted from the original agenda packet. The SIS is a statewide network of high priority transportation facilities that includes roadways, airports, rail corridors, seaports, waterways, and the spaceport. In our area the roadways include I-75, SR 80, SR 82, SR 31, and SR 29. The two MPOs have had joint SIS priorities since 2004 and have developed the priority order using a comparison of volume to capacity for determining the initial rankings (at a previous Joint MPO Board meeting, the Board voted to make SR 82 the top priority until it is completed). He noted the volume to capacity analysis does not really work for the Interchanges so we have listed the project needs separately. He mentioned that FDOT staff is currently working on updating the SIS Needs Plan which will help provide input on future versions of

this list. There was a brief discussion on the ten-laning project. Chair Getch asked if there was a motion.

Anne McLaughlin made the motion to approve this agenda item for the review and approval of the Regional Priorities. Wayne Gaither seconded the motion. There were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #8 - *Review and Approval of the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Amendments

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the proposed amendments to the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The MPO staff is proposing LRTP amendments to be voted on at the June MPO Board meeting to amend the Plan to make the I-75/Corkscrew Road improvements consistent with the current project plans and to add the SR 31 from SR 80 to SR 78 Project Development and Environment Study back into the State/Other Arterial Cost Feasible funding table. The underlined and strike through changes for Committee review and input to reflect what is being proposed were attached to the agenda packet. He said the change to the I-75/Corkscrew Road interchange project is being done to match the current plan for the design and construction of interim interchange improvements at this location. He noted that previously, the LRTP project description and corresponding priority request included the design of the ultimate interchange reconstruction project that assumed construction would be years away and a much larger project, estimated to cost \$60 to \$80 million. The current plan is to design and construct an additional eastbound and westbound turn lane onto northbound and southbound I-75 at this location. He continued explaining the change for SR 31 is being done to reflect what is needed to get the Project Development and Environment study for the SR 80 and SR 78 segment moving forward again. He added that the Project Development and Environment study phase is being added to the state other arterial table, shown with the PE phase that is currently shown, and the Existing plus Committed table is being updated to remove the previously funded project that was stopped back in 2012 due to the gas line issues. He commented there might be private funding involved as well as costs associated with right-of-way acquisition. Chair Getch asked if there was a motion.

Carl Karakos made the motion to approve this agenda item for the review and approval of the 2040 LRTP Amendments. Gary Harrell seconded the motion. There were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #9 - *Endorsement of the Federal and State Funded Priorities

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the endorsement of the updated federal and state funded priorities, attached to the agenda packet. He stated that the federal and state priority list, which was attached to the agenda packet, has been updated to reflect the addition of a priority for the SR 31 Project Development and Environment Study, from what was previously seen by the Committee back in April. This addition is consistent with the LRTP amendment from the previous agenda item. Ms. Zambrano asked about the Cape Coral bridges referring to the discussion at the May MPO Board meeting. Mr. Scott said he spoke with the County and they are looking into it, and he will report back when he has more information. Chair Getch asked if there were any more questions. A committee member asked if a change could be made to the improvement type from “two lanes to four” to “add lanes and reconstruct” regarding Old 41. Mr. Scott said he would change it to match the TIP. There was a discussion on complete streets and changes needing to be made to wording. Chair Getch asked if there was a motion.

Matt Feeney made the motion to approve this agenda item, with removal of “two lanes to four” and addition of “add lanes and reconstruct” in the wording for Old 41, for the Federal and

State Funded Priorities. Wayne Gaither seconded the motion. There were no objections and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #10 - *Review and Approval of the Amendments to the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item to approve the amendments to the FY 2017/2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to add planning funding and tasks and to add transit 5307 planning funds. He stated the MPO staff is proposing amendments to the Unified Planning Work Program (the MPO's budget) to recognize additional planning funds from statewide reserves and from previous unspent carryforward funds. He said we have added FTA 5307 funds for transit planning to match proposed LeeTran activities. The FY 2017/2018 available funds are now \$926,020 and the underline and strike through changes, attached to the agenda packet, match the new available funding amount. The additional funding is being used to conduct the Bicycle Pedestrian Safety Action plan update, continuing with the rail feasibility study recommendations for legal review, starting the tasks necessary for updating the Transportation model, the continuation of the Fort Myers Beach Lighting Study, and developing performance targets.

Wayne Gaither made the motion to approve this agenda item for the review and approval of the Amendments to the UPWP. Matt Feeney seconded the motion. There were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #11 - +Review and Provide Input on the Scope for the update of the Bicycle Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (BPSAP)

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item to review and provide input on the scope for updating the Lee MPO Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Action Plan that was attached to the agenda packet. He noted that with the *Dangerous by Design Report* designating the Cape Coral Urbanized Area as the #1 most dangerous place in the nation for walking, the MPO Board recommended that the Lee MPO Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (BPSAP) be updated. This Plan was developed in 2013. Accordingly, earlier this year, the MPO's Unified Planning Work Program was amended assigning funds in fiscal years 2017 and 2018 to update the BPSAP. He noted the Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee (BPCC) reviewed and made comments and those are reflected in this draft, but they also wanted to hear the TAC and CAC comments before approving. Mr. Scott commented that he heard FDOT is going with the Vision Zero plan. He added that there are numerous issues that need to be addressed including education, design, and involving stakeholders. Ms. McLaughlin asked how similar this scope is to the original scope. Mr. Scott said there have been changes made including addressing recommendations from the BPCC. The committee decided to have the item brought back at a later date. Mr. Gogoi said the BPCC was just asking for recommendations or comments from the TAC. There was a brief discussion on examining crashes, injuries, fatalities, and other influencing factors in a more holistic way. Mr. Scott mentioned a list from FDOT on the high crash locations from 2013-2015 from around District 1.

Agenda Item #12 - *Proposal to add the Three Oaks/Imperial Parkway and Alico Road Corridor to the Land Trails Opportunity Map

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item to discuss a proposal to add Three Oaks Parkway/Imperial Parkway to the Land Trails Opportunity Map from Bonita Beach Road to Daniels Parkway. He showed a map of the proposed area. The proposal is to have the Three Oaks Parkway/Imperial Parkway corridor from Bonita Beach Road to Daniels Parkway added to the Land Trails Opportunity Map during the ongoing update of the Florida Greenways and Trails System Plan. Accordingly, the MPO staff would like to have the proposal vetted by all the MPO committees before a formal request is submitted to the Office of Greenways and Trails. He commented that the BPCC recommended

connecting up to the Daniels Parkway opportunity trail with the Three Oaks Extension instead of connecting down Alico Road over to the Michael G. Rippe Parkway and that is the recommendation moving forward. Mr. Scott said they won't decide until December. Mr. Gogoi mentioned that the Office of Greenways and Trails only wants one trail option not two. He added that if we have the Coastal Loop it opens up more opportunities to tap in to SUN Trail funding. Mr. Scott commented on the recent conversations with FDOT on new maintenance agreement requirements. He said this could affect many corridors moving forward. Mr. Gogoi commented that the type of facility shouldn't be an issue. The discussion continued on the preference of shared use paths or bike lanes or both. Mr. Karakos suggested there should be more criteria set for shared use paths. Chair Getch asked if there was a motion for approval.

Matt Feeney made the motion to approve this agenda item for the addition of Three Oaks/Imperial Parkway and Alico Road Corridor to the Land Trails Opportunity Map. Persides Zambrano seconded the motion. There were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #13 - *Approval of the Public Involvement Plan (PIP)

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item to review and approve the updated Public Involvement Plan following the public review and comment period, attached to the agenda packet. He said the committee has seen this item before. He added the MPO staff has updated the *Public Involvement Plan* (PIP) and the document has been out for public review over the last two months. He stated we are now seeking final approval and listed below are the changes that have been made from the previous version:

- Adding an introduction describing what we do and identifying the communities that are covered
- Adding our standard public participation language and contact information
- Adding language to the TIP section to cover public involvement activities as part of LeeTran's transit Program of Projects requirements
- Adding language in the UPWP section to cover local planning projects
- Updating PIP approval language to match current proposed schedule
- Updating survey language to match what is being done
- Updating the Collier regional coordination activities and references
- Developing the Charlotte regional coordination section

Wayne Gaither made the motion to approve this agenda item for the review and approval of the PIP. Matt Feeney seconded the motion. There were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

Agenda Item #14 - Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

There were no public comments on items not on the agenda.

Agenda Item #15 - Announcements

Mr. Scott suggested cancellation of the July meeting. The committee agreed.

Mr. Getch said he will be on vacation for the August meeting and Mr. Gaither, Vice-Chair, will take over.

Mr. Harris announced that Chris Smith, the FDOT Director of Production, will be retiring after 33 years.

Mr. Getch also introduced Cassie Gomez, a planning intern for Lee County.

Mr. Harrell announced the Charlotte County Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan will begin later this summer. He said it is being funded with County funds through the Charlotte County – Punta Gorda MPO.

Ms. McLaughlin said Collier County will be updating their Comprehensive Pathways Plan.

Mr. Gogoi noted that CPWG was selected by the Fort Myers Beach Lighting Committee to perform the Lighting Study.

Agenda Item #16 - Topics for next meeting

The topics for next meeting included aviation priorities. Mr. Harris said he will try to schedule Debra Chestnut to present. Mr. Gogoi asked if she could present to the BPC as well, preferably at the June meeting. Mr. Harris said he will try to arrange that as well.

Agenda Item #17 - Information and Distribution Items

There were no information and distribution items.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

*Action Items +May Require Action

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