

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Thursday, September 6, 2018
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 Carl Karakos at 9:37 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; David Murphy with the Lee County Department of Transportation; Levi McCollum with LeeTran; Richard Perdue with the Lee County School Board Transportation District; Carl Karakos with the City of Fort Myers Department of Engineering; Jason Green with the Town of Fort Myers Beach; Craig Chandler with the City of Sanibel Department of Planning; Matt Noble with the Village of Estero; Eric Ortman with the Collier MPO; Gary Harrell with the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO; and Mike Cook with Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District (LA-MSID). Others in attendance included D'Juan Harris with FDOT; and Don Scott, Ron Gogoi, and Calandra Barraco with the Lee County MPO.

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

There were no public comments on items on the agenda.

Agenda Item #2 - LeeTran Report

Mr. Levi McCollum with LeeTran gave the LeeTran report. He said that LeeTran is preparing for the service change from November through January. He noted there would be changes to the Beach Park and Ride, with service only operating from the park and ride facility to the island and back off. He added the trams will operate from Bowditch to Matanzas, and the 410 will only operate up and down Estero. Mr. D'Juan Harris asked about the relocation of a bus stop. Mr. McCollum replied LeeTran would be placing the stop within the next few weeks and bagging it until season starts.

Agenda Item #3 - FDOT Report

Mr. D'Juan Harris with FDOT gave the FDOT report. He announced that he was promoted to the new Project Management Division at the Southwest Area Office. He said there will be a team of five, including himself, to manage the projects in the area. Mr. Harris said he will mainly work with LAP and JPA projects. He added that he will still be working as a liaison with Ms. Victoria Peters as back up. He commented that FDOT is working on the draft Work Program for 2020-2024 with a new epublic hearing target date of December 3 – 7, 2018. He noted that Mr. Wayne Gaither is coordinating with Mr. Don Scott to present this information to the TAC/CAC, and FDOT will present the Work Program to the MPO Board at their December 21, 2018 meeting. Various members of the TAC congratulated Mr. Harris.

New Business

Agenda Item #4 - *Review and Approval of the August 2, 2018 TAC Meeting Summary

Mr. Andy Getch made the motion to approve the August 2, 2018 Meeting Summary. Mr. David Murphy seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - *Review and Approval of the Scope of Services for the Development of the 2045 Socio-economic Data

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the scope of services for the development of the Socio-economic data that will be used in the update of the regional transportation model. The scope was attached to the agenda packet. Mr. Scott mentioned the draft scope of services for the development of the 2045 socio-economic data for use in the Regional Model was discussed at the last meeting. He noted that some language revisions to the scope were made, and we are now seeking approval of the draft

scope. He mentioned that staff will organize members of the TAC to coordinate and review the data. He added staff from the local jurisdictions will be asked to work with the consultant. Mr. Andy Getch asked if there should be a line added to the scope related to autonomous vehicles. Mr. Scott said that was a good idea as it is a topic that many aren't sure how to address, especially from a land use side with possible decreases in retail space due to increased delivery of goods. Chair Karakos asked if there was a motion to approve with the revision of adding a line related to autonomous vehicles.

Mr. Andy Getch made the motion to approve the scope with the addition of the reference to autonomous vehicles. Mr. Levi McCollum seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 - *Review and Approval of an Amendment to the UPWP to Recognize Increase in FTA 5305 Transit Planning Funding

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) amendment to recognize the increase in FTA 5305 grant funding. The underline and strike through changes to the task sheet and the revised budget table were attached to the agenda packet and shown at the meeting. Mr. Scott said the FY 2019 and FY 2020 UPWP is being amended to recognize the increased Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5305 transit planning funding to match the recently released FY 2019 allocation. Chair Karakos asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none. He asked for a motion.

Mr. Levi McCollum made the motion to approve the amendment to the UPWP to recognize the increase in FTA 5305 Transit Planning Funding. Mr. Jason Green seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #7 - *Review and Approval of the Transit Asset Management Performance Measure Targets

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the transit asset management performance measure targets. He noted that previous performance measures like safety, bridge, and pavement have come directly from FDOT. He said LeeTran has been working on the development of a Transit Asset Management Plan that is due by October 1, 2018. Mr. Scott reviewed the targets that were sent to the MPO from LeeTran the prior day. He added LeeTran has done an excellent job identifying vehicles, average years, and mileage. Mr. Scott asked Mr. McCollum if the targets also identified maintenance. Mr. McCollum replied yes including building and revenue/non-revenue vehicles. Mr. Scott noted the MPO could adopt something different but that wouldn't make sense as stricter measures would mean additional funding would have to be provided. He noted the MPO is required to adopt regional transit asset management targets by October 1, 2018 or we risk the ability of amending the Transportation Improvement Program until it is done. Mr. Scott mentioned the next TIP amendment will include this. He asked Mr. McCollum if he had additional information to add. Mr. McCollum gave a brief rundown of stats including the number of vehicles and the average age of vehicles. He indicated the fleet is relatively young. Chair Karakos asked if they replace the old vehicles. Mr. McCollum replied yes, they are auctioned. Mr. Eric Ortman asked if the replacement program keeps the average age fairly consistent. Mr. McCollum replied yes. There was a brief discussion on the auctioning of vehicles. Mr. McCollum then referred to page 31 of the report, noting that funding was identified through 2022 and flex money will be used for 2023. Mr. Gogoi asked if Charlotte MPO is doing something similar. Mr. Gary Harrell replied that was part of the reason for his attendance, to see how LeeTran was handling the targets. Mr. Harrell noted that no direction has been given to their Tier II agency and asked Mr. McCollum if direction was given to LeeTran on format. Mr. McCollum said LeeTran is also a Tier II agency, and they copied and updated the format from another agency. Mr. Harrell requested a copy of LeeTran's document. Mr. Scott then asked who this gets sent to. Mr. McCollum said they send theirs to FTA Region 4. Mr. Scott said he wasn't sure who to send the MPO information to. Mr. McCollum added he could find out for Mr. Scott. Mr. Harrell said they would possibly add verbiage to allow staff to make minor changes. Mr. Scott asked the TAC if they would like to adopt the LeeTran targets. Mr. Gogoi suggested Mr. Scott call out the targets again. Mr. Scott called out the targets again.

Mr. Levi McCollum made the motion to approve the Transit Asset Management Performance Measure Targets. Mr. Jason Green seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #8 - Review of the 2045 LRTP Federal and State Revenue Projections and Project Information Discussions

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review of the 2045 federal and state revenue projections for use in the development of the Long Range Transportation Plan. He said the federal and state revenue projections that were received from FDOT for use in the development of the Long Range Plan were attached to the agenda packet for review. The agenda item can also be found here: <http://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/T08-8.pdf> Mr. Scott then provided information on the revenue projections, showing and referencing the tables that were included in the agenda packet. Mr. Scott mentioned the SIS isn't shown in the tables. He showed the 2035 LRTP revenue projections versus programmed costs and explained the history of artificially lowering. He noted that the lowered amount wasn't even reached. He mentioned the funding that was pulled for Metro. He showed a map of the Lee County 2040 Highway Cost Feasible Plan and discussed the projects shown on the map, noting the lack of funds for SR 78 and issues relating to Babcock growth. Mr. Getch mentioned the candidate project forms that were done last time. Mr. Scott said that would be a possibility from the public side but the TAC can discuss projects at their meetings. Mr. Scott mentioned a study being conducted on EVs and gas mileage. He said there would be more conversations on revenues, especially local CIPs. Mr. Getch asked if the figures in Table 5 were inflated. Mr. Scott said they are inflated, and the comparative numbers were inflated as well. Mr. Harrell said huge growth is expected in Florida. Mr. Scott noted the SIS is at 75%, the estimate was mid 60%. He questioned where the money was being spent, possibly maintenance. Mr. Gogoi added that beyond 2020-2025 the TRIP funds would increase. Mr. Scott said we have done well with TRIP, and SIS was all funded before. He said the CAC's discussion may be different as they want to pursue funding. He commented that taxes and fees may be voted down, and they may want to wait until after the elections. Mr. Jason Green mentioned a successful transportation measure. Chair Karakos asked about light rail considerations with regard to alternative transportation. Mr. Scott said a study indicated that may be a future concern, but AV may make that less of an issue. He added that rail lines could be converted into AV only lanes. There was a brief discussion that followed on the purchase of the rail lines. Mr. Scott noted that it may be difficult to put the right of way along the rails together again.

Agenda Item #9 - Discussion on the Guidance for Assessing Impacts and Opportunities of Automated, Connected, Electric and Shared-Use Vehicles

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for discussion on the guidance for assessing the impacts and opportunities of automated, connected, electric, and shared-use vehicles. He said the Florida Department of Transportation recently provided guidance, that was attached to the agenda packet, for MPOs on assessing the impacts of automated, connected, electric and shared use (ACES) vehicles during the development of the Long Range Plan. He noted that the last LRTP only had one page devoted to this. He said for the Long Range Plan update the MPO will consider some of the following items:

- Including goals and objectives that address automated, connected, shared use and electric vehicles
- Running scenarios to measure the potential impacts to travel demand and facility needs
- Scenario planning to estimate potential impacts to car ownership, facility design, employment and consumer attitudes etc.
- Analyzing potential revenue impacts
- Providing education and engagement opportunities
- Identifying potential projects to include in the Plan

Mr. Scott also discussed potential impacts to planning, noting that the regulations were not keeping up to speed with technology. He also reviewed the estimates of adoption time. Mr. Green asked how they defined electric vehicles (EV). Mr. Scott replied fully electric. Mr. Scott continued his presentation on travel demand model impacts, travel demand testing results, potential benefits, transit system impacts, and potential ACES projects. Mr. Richard Perdue asked if there was an electric charging fee. Mr. Scott replied that the library charges. Mr. Getch added that most charging stations are fee based. There was a brief discussion that followed on Mr. Getch's personal electric vehicle and charging specifics. Mr. Green referenced the vehicle miles travelled (VMT) increase with AVs. Mr. Scott said it would be partially due to the accessibility to people who were previously unable to drive. He added it could increase sprawl because the commute would be pleasant. Mr. Scott continued his presentation with a continuation of the potential projects related to ACES noting there could be a box fund to deal with these. He then discussed education and engagement. He concluded his presentation, and asked if there were any questions or comments. Chair Karakos asked at the stage of 70% autonomous vehicles (AVs), who will set speed limit and gap spacing between cars. Mr. Scott said the gaps will

probably be manufacturer based. He said the local jurisdictions would most likely be regulating speed. He added the industry wants consistency across the board. There was a brief discussion on the huge variance of speeds with regular drivers and the types of technology necessary for the AVs to communicate. Mr. Scott noted there were over forty companies currently testing AVs. Mr. Getch commented that the makers of AVs are looking to the Federal government to provide guidance so that all of the regulations are the same. Mr. Scott added that they don't want to spend money to design cars that are later declared illegal on streets. Chair Karakos noted that Complete Streets doesn't consider AVs. He then asked how the AVs would handle bad weather like snow or difficult terrain like mountains. Mr. Scott said they are currently testing, but Tesla has had issues in the snow. He added that LIDAR is expensive but it works. He said there were also discussions on where people might go to drive classic cars and possibly retrofitting older vehicles. Mr. Ortman asked how much vehicle prices would increase. Mr. Murphy replied car ownership might be a thing of the past. Mr. Getch brought up the modeling and testing we have done based on a validated model with known conditions. He added that this report suggests changing things that we don't have data to support. Mr. Scott said it might be possible to add another scenario. Chair Karakos asked if the committee could move on to the next 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.

Agenda Item #11 - Announcements

Mr. Scott announced that the October meeting will not be a joint meeting, but it will be held at the South County Regional Library on Three Oaks Parkway. There was a brief discussion between Chair Karakos and Mr. David Murphy on several Lee County roadway projects and their start dates.

Agenda Item #12 - Topics for next meeting

Mr. Scott noted that due to the FDOT Work Program presentation at the previously cancelled December MPO Board meeting, the November meetings may be cancelled.

Agenda Item #13 - Information and Distribution Items

There were no additional information and distribution items included as all information was printed with packet or included in a link.

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Karakos at 11:08 a.m.

*Action Items +May Require Action

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