

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Thursday, March 7, 2019
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 David Murphy at 9:35 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The roll was called. Those members in attendance included Andy Getch with the Lee County Department of Community Development; David Murphy with the Lee County Department of Transportation; Tyler Brown with the Lee County Port Authority; Levi McCollum with LeeTran; Elaine Romero with the Lee County School Board Transportation District; Persides Zambrano with the City of Cape Coral; 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; Gary Harrell with the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO; Charles Kammerer with the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council; and Mike Cook with the Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District. Others in attendance included Don Scott, Ron Gogoi, and Calandra Barraco with the Lee County MPO; FDOT's Michael Tisch; the Able Canal PD&E project team that includes Steven Andrews, Chris Coughlin, Kristin Caruso, and Lauren Peters; a member of the public John Majka.

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

There were no public comments on items on the agenda.

While waiting to achieve quorum for the action items, Chair Murphy moved on to the first information only agenda item, Agenda Item #9.

Agenda Item #9 - Overview of the Transportation Related Legislative Issues

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item as an overview of the transportation related legislative issues. He said the Florida Legislative Session began on March 5th. He reviewed the short descriptions of some of the transportation related legislation that are being proposed including HB 453/Micromobility devices, SB 78/Public financing of construction projects, HB 681/Florida Transportation Commission, and SB 7068/Infrastructure and security. **At 9:39 a.m. quorum was reached with the arrival of Mr. Andy Getch and Ms. Persides Zambrano.** Mr. Scott also discussed additional legislative items including regional transportation for the disadvantaged, traffic offenses, wireless communication devices, impact fees, motor vehicle and railroad trains, local funds in transportation funding, child restraint requirements, and communication services. He said there would be more information presented in future meetings as it becomes available.

Agenda Item #2 - LeeTran Report

Mr. Levi McCollum with LeeTran gave the LeeTran report. He said LeeTran was beginning to focus on its passenger amenities program which included improvements to landing pads and shelters. He specifically mentioned there would be improvements made to the shelter near the Social Security Office on Colonial. Chair Murphy said his office received complaints on the bus stop on the north side of the Colonial across from the Social Security Office. Mr. Ron Gogoi noted that stop had been eliminated. Mr. McCollum confirmed that the stop on the side of Colonial closest to Veronica is closed. Ms. Zambrano thanked LeeTran for improving a Cape Coral transfer station with the addition of outlets for

charging wheelchairs. Mr. McCollum noted in addition to the outlets, cell phones shelves are also being added. He noted that Rosa Parks, Edison Mall, and the Beach Park and Ride stations already have the charging outlet improvements.

Agenda Item #3 - FDOT Report

Mr. Michael Tisch with FDOT gave the FDOT report. He said FDOT is currently working with MPO staff to remove a Lee County project and find another project to add instead.

New Business

Agenda Item #4 - *Review and Approval of the February 7, 2019 TAC Meeting Summary

Mr. Carl Karakos made the motion to approve the minutes for the February 7, 2019 Meeting. Mr. Andy Getch seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - *Review and Approve Amendments to the FY 2018/2019 and FY 2019/2020 Unified Planning Work Program to Revise Task Descriptions, Adjust Funding Levels and to Update Certification and Assurances

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item to review and approve amendments to the FY 2018/2019 and FY 2019/2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to revise task descriptions, adjust funding levels and update the certification and assurances. He said the amendments to the Unified Planning Work Program (the MPO's budget) are being proposed to revise task descriptions and adjust funding levels to match current and upcoming activities. He noted the math errors pointed out by Mr. Getch had been corrected. He then reviewed the descriptions of the proposed changes including:

- Add a task in FY 2018/2019 to reflect the bicycle and pedestrian safety outreach activities related to upcoming projects.
- Add a task in FY 2019/2020 to include the \$125,000 in SU funds that will be used for the update of the City of Fort Myers Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan.
- Tiger adjustments
- Funding for socio-economic studies included
- Add additional funding for the Fort Myers Beach Lighting Study

Mr. Matt Feeney made the motion to approve the Amendments to the FY 2018/2019 and FY 2019/2020 UPWP. Mr. Levi McCollum seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 - *Approval of the TMOC Bylaws Amendments

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this agenda item for the review and approval of amendments to the TMOC bylaws to revise the responsibilities of the Committee and the membership. The changes were attached to the agenda packet. Mr. Gogoi explained the TMOC is an advisory committee to the TAC. He said its bylaws were recently amended at its February 13th meeting. He added for the amendments to be effective, they have to be approved by a majority vote of the TAC and CAC, and ratified by the MPO Board. He said the bylaws are being amended to revise the Committee's responsibilities to match their current duties, revise the Committee membership to include the Village of Estero, change FDOT to a non-voting member, and update the meeting time. He noted the language being removed is in strike through format and the language being added is in red. Chair Murphy asked if there was an issue changing FDOT from a voting to a non-voting member. Mr. Gogoi replied no, mentioning that FDOT agrees as they act in more of an advisory capacity. Chair Murphy asked about removing the fire chiefs. Mr. Gogoi said they have never attended a meeting.

Ms. Persides Zambrano made the motion to approve the TMOB Bylaws Amendments. Mr. Craig Chandler seconded the motion. There were no objections and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #7 - *Recommendation to the MPO Board on the SR 80 Sidewalk Project from Shoreland Drive to Buckingham Road

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item to discuss the programmed sidewalk project on the north side of SR 80 from Shoreland Drive to Buckingham Road and make a recommendation to the MPO Board. He said at its December 14th meeting, the Lee MPO Board had a lengthy conversation about the SR 80 sidewalk project following the public comments that raised issues with the impact to the driveway access to the business. He continued the MPO Board approved a vote to have staff bring back bicycle/pedestrian project alternatives that the SR 80 project funding could be spent on, if the Board decides to ask FDOT not to proceed with the project. He added one of the questions we did not know at the MPO Board meeting, when this was discussed, was how much of the funding would come back to the MPO for use on another project (as the project was delayed due to being changed from a shared use path to a sidewalk, the project was not currently included in the FDOT tentative work program that was reviewed at the meeting and we did not know the funding sources). He said since that meeting, FDOT has added the project to the latest version of the Tentative Work Program that was sent out in January, and it is programmed for construction in FY 2021. He added they have also informed us that if the project is removed from the work program, only \$222,929 will come back to Lee County as this is the only funding that is apportioned to our urban area (the rest is state funding and federal funding that can be spent in any area). He reviewed the funding table from the tentative work program for the project:

FPN: 4298231 Project/Location: SR 80 FROM SHORELAND DRIVE TO CR 80 (BUCKINGHAM RD)
 Desc: SIDEWALK
 Project Length: 6.781 Begin Mile Post: 6.080 End Mile Post: 10.555
 Comments:

Phase	Fund	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024
CST	DDR	\$0	\$889,749	\$0	\$0	\$0
CST	SA	\$0	\$564,149	\$0	\$0	\$0
CST	SU	\$0	\$222,929	\$0	\$0	\$0
CST	TALT	\$0	\$1,011,505	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Project Total:</i>		\$0	\$2,688,332	\$0	\$0	\$0

He said the potential projects that would be considered, if FDOT is asked to move the funds, were listed in Attachment A (our current prioritized list that has been through FDOT constructability analysis consistent with their requirements). He noted based on the \$222,929 in available funds and the projects that are ready for funding in FY 21, the design of one of the unfunded priorities is the only option to provide as a recommendation to the MPO Board (all for the construction costs are much greater than the available funding or have not been designed where they could be constructed in FY 2021). Mr. Scott questioned the validity of one of the design cost estimates. He also said the list was narrowed down to three projects for possible recommendation – W. Terry, Bonita Drive, and SW Santa Barbara. He noted the Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee recommended continuing with the SR 80 project as planned. Mr. Gogoi noted a large amount of funding has already been spent on the design of the SR 80 project. Chair Murphy asked if a motion could be made to continue the SR 80 project. Mr. Scott replied yes, the TAC could make a motion similar to the one made by the BPCC. Mr. Matt Feeney made a correction to the mileage for the Bonita project listed. Mr. Gogoi said he would correct the error. There was a brief discussion on the possible cost estimate discrepancy for the construction of the sidewalk on SR 80, north side. Chair Murphy asked if anyone wanted to nominate another project.

There were no other project nominations. Chair Murphy asked if there was then a motion to continue with the SR 80 project as planned.

Mr. Levi McCollum made the motion to continue with the SR 80 project as planned. Mr. Andy Getch seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

A brief discussion followed on re-evaluating project cost estimates.

Walk-On Agenda Item – *Amendments to the FY 2018/2019 through FY 2022/2023 Transportation Improvement Program to Add the FTA 5310 Operations and Capital Grant Funded Projects

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the approval of the amendments to the FY 2018/2019 through FY 2022/2023 Transportation Improvement Program to add the FTA 5310 Operations and Capital Grant funded projects. Mr. Scott handed out the walk-on agenda item. He said the grant funding includes projects for Hope Hospice, Lighthouse of Southwest Florida, Dr. Piper Center, and Good Wheels. He referred to the Transportation Improvement Program pages that had been attached to the walk-on agenda item handout.

Mr. Andy Getch moved the staff recommendation to amend the FY 2018/2019 through FY 2022/2023 Transportation Improvement Program to include the FTA 5310 Operations and Capital Grant funded projects. Mr. Matt Feeney seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #8 - Presentation on the Able Canal PD&E Project

Mr. Steven Andrews, the FDOT project manager for the Able Canal PD&E, presented this agenda item as an update. Mr. Andrews introduced the other Able Canal PD&E staff present – Mr. Chris Coughlin, Ms. Kristin Caruso, and Ms. Lauren Peters. Mr. Andrews then gave a Power Point presentation that include slides on project limits, purpose and need, planning consistency, pathway details, build alternatives, evaluation matrix, and public involvement. There was a brief discussion on the public meeting and other comments collected. Mr. Andrews finished his presentation with slides on the current status of the project and contact information. The full Power Point presentation can be found here: http://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/3-7-19_TAC-CAC-presentation_r3.pdf Another brief discussion followed on the importance of public input and the project process. Mr. Mike Cook noted that his Board has received only positive comments regarding the pathway. Chair Murphy thanked Mr. Andrews for his presentation.

Agenda Item #10 - Update on the Long Range Plan Development Activities

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item as an update on the Long Range Plan development activities. He showed a slide on the Base Year 2015 data noting it has been sent to FDOT. He said the validation of the model is through the end of October. He also showed slides on the 2045 LRTP update schedule and process and upcoming tasks. Mr. Getch asked if FDOT was working on the validation. Mr. Scott replied he did not think they started yet as they are still getting information from the MPOs.

Agenda Item #11 - Update on Public Outreach of the Two Stage Left Turn Bicycle Boxes

Mr. Gogoi presented this agenda item as an update on the public outreach for the two stage left turn bicycle boxes. He said the resurfacing of Daniels Parkway from I-75 to Treeline Avenue is anticipated to commence on March 2019 and finish on September 2019. He added as part of this project two stage left turn bicycle boxes will be placed at the four approaches to the intersection to facilitate left turn movements for cyclists. He said staff is in communication with a public involvement consultant,

Quest USA, to develop a flyer to notify and educate the motoring public and the cycling community about this new bicycle treatment in Lee County, and how to navigate them. Mr. Gogoi said they are also working with the broadcast media to develop an instructional video with drone footage. A copy of the public outreach scope was attached to the agenda packet.

Other Business

Agenda Item #12 - Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

Chair Murphy allowed Mr. Majka to speak on an item that was on the agenda as Mr. Majka was late to the meeting and missed the opportunity to speak. Mr. Majka commented on his SR 80 driveway issues with FDOT, right-of-way signs along SR 80, and project costs for the SR 80 sidewalk projects.

Agenda Item #13 – Announcements

Mr. Craig Chandler gave an update on the Sanibel Shared Use Master Plan Update noting they have received over 1200 comments to date. He added the next Project Advisory Committee Meeting is being held on March 22, 2019. Mr. Chandler also mentioned several suggestions that were made through the comment process.

Mr. Gogoi mentioned the Village of Estero's Wikimap and website for their Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan. He noted the final Project Advisory Committee meeting will be held on March 25, 2019 with a Public Workshop being held later the same day.

Mr. Gogoi also mentioned the FPL corridor project and the possible pathway project on US 41 in Bonita.

Agenda Item #14 - Topics for next meeting

Mr. Scott noted there would not be an MPO Board meeting in April. Mr. Mike Cook referred to the schedule noting there wasn't an April meeting scheduled for the TAC either. Chair Murphy suggested following the schedule with the next TAC meeting in May.

Agenda Item #15 - Information and Distribution Items

The information and distribution items included the Walk-on Agenda Item and the latest version of the MPAOC Legislative Highlights.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

*Action Items *May Require Action

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