

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Thursday, November 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 at 9:30 a.m. by Chair David Murphy.

Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The roll was called. There was a quorum. Those members in attendance included Andy Getch with the Lee County Department of Community Development; David Murphy with the Lee County Department of Transportation; Mike Fiigon with the Lee County Port Authority; Dawn Huff with LeeTran; Richard Perdue with Lee County Schools Transportation District; Carl Karakos with the City of Fort Myers; Kalyani Bhutada with the Town of Fort Myers Beach; Craig Chandler with the City of Sanibel; Matt Feeney with the City of Bonita Springs; Eric Ortman with Collier MPO; Lakshmi Gurram 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 Michael Tisch with FDOT; Don Scott, Ron Gogoi, and Calandra Barraco with the Lee County MPO; Carmen Monroy with Stantec; and Steve Ludwinski with the Corradino Group.

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

Ms. Dawn Huff with LeeTran announced the Downtown Fort Myers trolley will resume seasonal service on November 20. She also mentioned a route extension to Moody River Estates.

Agenda Items #3; #5 - FDOT Report; Review and Comment on the FDOT FY 2020/2021 through FY 2024/2025 Tentative Work Program

Mr. Michael Tisch with FDOT gave the FDOT report. He began his presentation with the new work program video for the Draft Tentative FDOT Work Program for FY 2020/2021 through FY 2024/2025 that can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MXOHadFjU0E> Mr. Tisch also noted the work program document was out for review and comments can be sent to MPO staff. The committee briefly discussed the locations of the six I-75 interchange projects mentioned in the work program video. Mr. Scott then reviewed the summary of changes sheet noting several projects like the Big Carlos Bridge were included in this list but not in the work program. Mr. Andy Getch verified the adopted work program would include the projects Mr. Scott mentioned. Mr. Michael Tisch replied yes. Mr. Gogoi then gave a brief presentation on projects that are funded including a review of the SUN Trail projects, TRIP, and safety projects on SR 80 and US 41/Crystal Drive. Chair Murphy asked if there were any questions or comments on the work program. Mr. Scott commented on the recent MPOAC meeting in Orlando, resurfacing funds, and the decrease in revenue projections. There was a brief discussion on the SR 80 pathway project, Pine Island project, and the Fort Myers traffic signal reimbursement. Mr. Tisch asked Chair Murphy to provide a comment to the MPO on the Fort Myers traffic signal reimbursement.

New Business

Agenda Item #4 - *Review and Approval of the October 3, 2019 TAC Meeting Summary

Mr. Carl Karakos made the motion to approve the October 3, 2019 Meeting Summary. Mr. Charles Kammerer seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 - Discussion Regarding Additional Federal Funding Added to the MPO's Multi-Modal Enhancement Box in the Current Fiscal Year

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item to provide information on the additional funding that has been added to the current year and potential project funding options. He explained the MPO received an additional \$2.7 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 noted as this is current year funding, there are restrictions to how it can be spent, for instance, a single project cannot exceed \$543,000. He mentioned the work program amendment requirements that were attached to the agenda packet. The committee discussed several possible projects including a City of Fort Myers roundabout and a Lee County roundabout and time frame for completion. Mr. Scott showed a list of possible projects that he had compiled. Mr. Tisch mentioned the Lidar project at the top of the list had been approved for funding. The committee suggested several other projects including the Winkler pathway, parts for LeeTran buses, the repainting of the Fort Myers Beach bridge, Bonita Drive, and Richmond Avenue. Mr. Eric Ortman noted Collier County was encountering the same issues with finding projects that qualify. Chair Murphy said additional project ideas could be forwarded to MPO staff.

Agenda Item #7 - Provide Input on the Draft LRTP Project Evaluation Criteria

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item to review and provide input on the project prioritization evaluation criteria that will be used as part of the update to the Long Range Transportation Plan. He referred to the draft LRTP Project Evaluation Criteria that was also attached to the agenda packet. He said the Long Range Plan project evaluation criteria has been updated by MPO staff for review by the committees. He noted the criteria is developed to be consistent with the goals and objectives that were previously reviewed and approved by the committees and the Board. He added staff is looking for input on criteria that we might need to consider adding or the weighting/scoring that we should adjust. Mr. Scott noted resiliency might be difficult to track. Mr. Getch suggested it would be helpful to include evacuation zones from the public safety maps to assist in prioritization. Mr. Tisch said the dollars spent on damage done to roads could also be used. Mr. Scott continued to review the criteria. The committee discussed resurfacing, performance measures, re-ordering and adjusting the scoring criteria, and automated/connected/electric vehicles. Mr. Scott said he would adjust the scoring and the committees could review again before approval by the MPO Board. He asked for any comments to be sent to him, especially those that were data related.

Agenda Item #8 - Information on the FDOT Truck Parking Study

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item on the FDOT Truck Parking Study. He said 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 continued FDOT is almost done conducting a statewide study of this issue. He noted 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 mentioned in this study, Lee County has four truck parking locations identified, one public at the Daniels Parkway rest area and three private - Loves, Pilot and the Wal-Mart

at Six Mile and US 41, for a total capacity of 234 spaces. He continued the study is aiming to come up with solutions for providing future capacity. Below is a link to the Statewide Truck GPS data Analysis:

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

He continued his presentation with information on the statewide analysis, District One analysis, Lee County spaces, highly utilized truck parking areas, areas of concern, solutions, funding, potential parking locations, and next steps. He added that he would bring back any additional information. Chair Murphy asked if there were any comments or questions. Mr. Lakshmi Gurram asked about possible or known public/private partnerships. The committee further discussed this issue.

Other Business

Agenda Item #9 - Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

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

Agenda Item #10 – Announcements

Mr. Andy Getch announced he would be retiring at the end of the year.

Agenda Item #11 - Topics for next meeting

Topics for next meeting included items on the development of the Long Range Transportation Plan.

Agenda Item #12 - Information and Distribution Items

The information and distribution items included the latest MPOAC Legislative Update. Mr. Scott noted there was not a lot of movement on transportation related items yet. Chair Murphy mentioned there would be a meeting between Lee County Department of Transportation, Lee County Schools, and Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District soon regarding the letter on a school construction related bridge in Lehigh sent by the Citizen Advisory Committee. Ms. Carmen Monroy with Stantec introduced herself to the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

*Action Items +May Require Action

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