

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Thursday, March 5, 2020
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.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

The roll was recorded by MPO staff. There was a quorum. Those members in attendance included Rick Burris 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; Dawn Huff with LeeTran; Debbie Ferris with Lee County Schools Transportation District; Wyatt Daltry with the Cape Coral Department of Community Development; Anthony Palermo with the City of Fort Myers; Carl Karakos with the City of Fort Myers; Kalyani Bhutada with Fort Myers Beach; Craig Chandler with Sanibel; Matt Feeney with Bonita Springs; Matt Noble with Estero; Eric Ortman with the Collier MPO; Gary Harrell with the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO; Charles Kammerer with the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council; and Michael Cook with Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District. Others in attendance included Don Scott, Ron Gogoi, and Calandra Barraco with the Lee County MPO; Ned Baier with Volkert; and Michael Tisch with FDOT.

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 provided the LeeTran report. She gave a brief Power Point presentation that included slides on rapid growth in Lee County, ridership, route ridership examples, Quarter One fixed route passenger trips, tram and trolley annual comparison, 2020 planning toolkit, comprehensive operational analysis, transit development plan, and bus stop accessibility study. There was a brief discussion on photographs of the actual LeeTran bus shelters and proposed bus stop shelter locations. Ms. Huff continued her presentation with slides on facility planning and farebox upgrades. Chair Murphy asked about LeeTran's response to Good Wheels' closure. Ms. Huff said LeeTran was servicing the Transportation Disadvantaged trips only, not Medicaid. Mr. Scott further explained that LeeTran had an emergency agreement until the end of June to provide those trips at which point they can decide to take over permanently or it could go out for a request for proposal.

Agenda Item #3 - FDOT Report

Mr. Michael Tisch with FDOT gave the FDOT report. He mentioned that FDOT was partnering with LeeTran after the closure of Good Wheels. He also commented that FDOT is still evaluating the projects submitted by the MPO. He announced there would be a Big Carlos meeting on March 19 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the recreation center on Fort Myers Beach. Mr. Scott provided the I-75 managed lanes information for the upcoming meetings being held in Lee and Collier Counties. There was a brief discussion on the I-75 meetings, HOV lanes, tolls in other areas, caps on charges per mile, variable charges by time of day, and AV/electric only lanes in the future. Mr. Tisch also mentioned the upcoming TransPlex conference in April.

New Business

Agenda Item #4 - *Review and Approval of the February 6, 2020 TAC Meeting Summary

Mr. Matt Feeney made the motion to approve the February 6, 2020 Meeting Summary. Mr. Michael Cook seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - *Review and Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding for Purchase and Share of Terrestrial Laser Scanner

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the updated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Lee MPO and the City of Cape Coral for sharing a LIDAR based Terrestrial Laser Scanner. Mr. Gogoi handed out the clean version of the MOU that included all of the latest updates. He showed slides on and reviewed the additional changes that were made to the MOU. He mentioned it would be going before the MPO Board and the Cape Coral Council for approval at their next meetings. Chari Murphy asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

Mr. Matt Feeney made the motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for Purchase and Share of a Terrestrial Laser Scanner. Mr. Michael Cook seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 - *Review and Approve the Bicycle Pedestrian Element Scope

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the 2045 LRTP Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Element Scope of Services that was attached to the agenda packet and shown as a slide at the meeting. Mr. Scott mentioned the City of Fort Myers Bike Ped Master Plan update would be completed soon and that would be added. He said the scope had been approved by the BPC, and now he is asking for approval from the TAC. Chair Murphy asked if there was a motion.

Mr. Anthony Palermo made the motion to approve the Bicycle Pedestrian Element Scope. Mr. Craig Chandler seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #7 - *Review and Approve the Amendments to the TAC Bylaws

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the amendments to the TAC bylaws to change the quorum from one half plus one to seven members and to add LA-MSID to the list of members consistent with previous bylaw changes. He said the current bylaws require that amendments are approved by a two thirds vote of the committee provided that they were presented and discussed at the previous meeting (these amendments were reviewed and approved at the February meeting). Chair Murphy asked if there were any questions on the changes. There were none. Chair Murphy asked for a motion.

Mr. Charles Kammerer made the motion to approve the Amendments to the TAC Bylaws. Ms. Dawn Huff seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #8 - +Review and Comment on the Draft FY 2020/2021 & FY 2021/2022 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and comment on the draft tasks included in the FY 2020/2021 and FY 2021/2022 Unified Planning Work Program. He noted this was discussed at last month's meeting as well. He added it was due to be submitted in draft form to FDOT in ten days. He said the committee will be asked to approve the final version of the UPWP at its May 7, 2020 meeting. Mr. Scott then reviewed several of the tasks for the next two years including 1.6/Transit and 4.4/Projects. The committee further discussed the Cape Evacuation Study and the Rails Study. Mr. Scott continued his presentation with information on additional projects under the 4.4 task and the continuing bike/ped counts under 4.5/TIGER. The committee briefly discussed the impact of M-Cores on the UPWP. Chair Murphy noted this was an item that may require action. Mr. Scott asked if there were any changes being suggested by the committee. Chair Murphy asked if the committee had anything to add or remove. There were no suggestions.

Agenda Item #9 - Multi-modal Box Fund Candidate Projects and Preliminary Priorities

Mr. Gogoi presented this agenda item for the preliminary priorities list of multimodal box funded candidate projects and discussion. He said a preliminary list of project priorities is due to FDOT by March 15, 2020 and the final priorities will be brought through the committees for final approval by the MPO Board at the May or June meetings. He noted local governments were asked to split projects into phases if total project costs were over \$500,000. He referred to the Fort Myers Beach project, the Bonita project, the new Island Coast High School sidewalk project in Cape Coral, and the Fort Myers project. He added the preliminary project priorities may change once Island Coast High is evaluated and ranked. Ms. Huff said that LeeTran appreciates the funding for bus purchases. Chair Murphy asked about the funding for the LeeTran Hybrid Bus transmissions and other parts. Mr. Gogoi said that was approved and funded. Mr. Tisch added the amount was over a million dollars, and it was difficult to spend money in the short period of time given for that specific type of funding. There was a brief discussion on transit and benefits of investment in transit.

Agenda Item #10 - Information and Discussion on the M-Cores Process and Task Force Meetings

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for information and discussion on the M-Cores Process and Task Force Meetings. He showed a Power Point presentation that included slides on the M-Cores area map, comp plan changes related to M-Cores, route/corridor placement, current policies, last comp plan updates, comp plan synthesis, consolidated land use map synthesis, and new/enhanced corridors. There was a brief discussion on right-of-way, space needed for utilities, and the rail/freight corridor. Mr. Scott continued his presentation on multi-modal solutions, Heartland 2060, relationship to other plans, amending comp plans, accommodating multiple modes, existing rail/trail infrastructure, 2050 roadway model network, and 2050 future conditions level of service. The committee briefly discussed potential funding sources. Mr. Scott continued his presentation with information on program funding approach/level, Suncoast Parkway 2 Phase 1 cost example, Wekiva Parkway cost example, feasibility components, project development process, and summary. There was a brief discussion on building in phases and time frame for completion. Mr. Scott reviewed the draft guiding principles and the draft map. The committee discussed the map legend, existing corridors, high speed rail, economic benefits for land owners, economic benefits for poorer communities, and evacuation routes. Mr. Scott mentioned the upcoming M-Cores meetings. The committee discussed state roads, adding interchanges, moving inland to avoid sea-level rise, failing existing roads, construction start dates, examples of other areas toll roads, map of other corridors under M-Cores, farm and wildlife crossings, and modeling alternatives.

Agenda Item #11 - Update on the Long Range Plan Development Activities

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item as an update on the Long Range Plan schedule and the updated project costs that were attached to the agenda packet. He provided additional information on the LRTP schedule, public workshop date, District One LRTP model development process and schedule, project costing tool comparison, and cost feasible plan. Mr. Scott asked for alternate requests for monthly runs to be sent to him. There was a discussion on local roadways, modeling, and projects included. Mr. Gogoi mentioned the Sunrise project in Lehigh. The committee briefly discussed that project. The costing data can be accessed here: <http://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/T11b.Costing-Data.xlsm>

Other Business

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

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

Agenda Item #13 – Announcements

Mr. Scott again mentioned the public meetings that were coming up that were mentioned earlier – I-75 Managed Lanes and Big Carlos. There was a brief discussion on the BUILD grant program.

Agenda Item #14 - Topics for next meeting

Topics suggested for next meeting included approval of final UPWP, draft TIP, FDOT Five Year Work Program, and additional LRTP items. Mr. Scott also mentioned there would be no meetings in April and the next meeting would be in May.

Agenda Item #15 - Information and Distribution Items

The information and distribution items included the latest MPOAC Legislative Update and the updated version of the MOU. There was a brief discussion on the proposed mid-block crossing legislation.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Adjournment *Action Items †May Require Action

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