

# TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization

Thursday, September 3, 2020

**VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING**

**9:30 a.m.**



## MEETING MINUTES

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The virtual Zoom meeting was called to order at approximately 9:30 a.m. by Chair David Murphy.

### 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; Alicia Dixon, Juliet Iglesias, and Tyler Brown with the Lee County Port Authority; Dawn Huff and Levi McCollum with LeeTran; Nancy Crocker and Debbie Ferris with Lee County Schools; Persides Zambrano with the Cape Coral Department of Public Works; Anthony Palermo with the City of Fort Myers; Carl Karakos with the City of Fort Myers; Jason Green with the Town of Fort Myers Beach; Craig Chandler with the City of Sanibel; Matt Noble with the Village of Estero; Anne McLaughlin with the Collier MPO; Gary Harrell, Lakshmi Gurram, and Sai Edara with the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO; and Michael 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; John Majka, a member of the public; Joe Perri and Demond Hazley with VHB; Bill Spikowski with Spikowski Planning Associates; Tamara Piggott with Lee County; Steve Ludwinski with the Corradino Group; and Mark Mathes, Dan Preslar, and Michael Tisch with FDOT.

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

Mr. John Majka made a public comment on the SR 80 bicycle pedestrian projects. Mr. Don Scott read a public comment that was emailed to the MPO by Ms. Lark Campisano regarding the Del Prado Extension to I-75. A copy of Ms. Campisano's entire public comment that was read at the meeting can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/9-3-2020-Re-Del-Prado-Extension-75-LARK-CAMPISANO.pdf>

### Agenda Item #2 - LeeTran Report

Ms. Dawn Huff with LeeTran provided the LeeTran report. Ms. Huff's report contained information on the current schedules, Lehigh park and ride progress, South Fort Myers park and ride update, and the Rosa Parks renovations. Chair Murphy asked if the trolley on Fort Myers Beach would be operational for this season. Mr. Levi McCollum with LeeTran replied yes, starting January 3, 2021. Chair Murphy asked if there were special procedures due to COVID. Mr. McCollum noted there will be social distancing, signage, increased sanitization, and masks will be encouraged and provided if needed. Chair Murphy asked if this was also being done on the busses. Mr. McCollum replied yes, they are being fogged and sanitized regularly. Mr. Scott asked about collection of fares. Mr. McCollum said that fare collection will resume September 8, 2020 with the use of the new fast fare boxes. Chair Murphy asked if a regular credit card could be used. Mr. McCollum commented that it is not available now but is in the works. Mr. McCollum added that the LeeTran card can be purchased online and at the LeeTran centers.

### Agenda Item #3 - FDOT Report

Mr. Michael Tisch with FDOT gave the FDOT report. Mr. Tisch's report included information on responding to the Census, programming new projects into the next Work Program, and coordinating

with MPO staff on Fort Myers, Bonita Springs, and Cape Coral projects. There was a brief discussion on the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) application, Richmond Bridge project, budget year, and new funding cycle for SRTS.

### **New Business**

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

**Mr. Carl Karakos made the motion to approve the August 6, 2020 Meeting Summary. Ms. Debbie Ferris seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Agenda Item #5 - \*Review and Approval of the Aviation Priorities**

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this agenda item to recommend that the MPO endorse the Lee County Port Authority's priorities for aviation projects at the Southwest Florida International Airport and the Page Field Airport. He referred to the Lee County Port Authority's latest priorities for aviation projects at Southwest Florida International Airport and Page Field for endorsement by the MPO that were emailed to the committee and posted to the website prior to the meeting. The priorities can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Aviation-Priorities.pdf> He added that Ms. Juliet Iglesias, with the Lee County Port Authority (LCPA), was in attendance at the virtual meeting to answer any questions related to the priorities. Chair Murphy asked if Ms. Alicia Dixon, with the LCPA, had any comments. Ms. Dixon replied no, adding she was present in case there were any questions.

**Mr. Matt Noble made the motion to recommend endorsement of the Lee County Port Authority's Aviation Priorities. Mr. Craig Chandler seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Agenda Item #6 - \*Review and Approve the TIP Amendments to add a Transit and Lighting Retrofit Project to the Current Fiscal Year**

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item to Amend the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include a FTA Section 5310 grant funded project for LeeTran, a US 41 intersection lighting retrofit project, and a traffic crash investigation scanner to FY 2021. He referred to the draft TIP pages that were attached to the agenda packet, the [revised agenda item](#) that was emailed out/posted to the website, and explained the FY 2021 through FY 2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is being amended to add the following projects:

- A grant project for LeeTran that will provide trips for seniors and individuals with disabilities. The project is funded in this fiscal year (FY 2020/2021) and is in the total amount of \$329,564 that includes \$164,782 in FTA 5310 funds that is being matched with \$164,782 in local funds.
- A US 41 intersection lighting pedestrian safety project in the current fiscal year (FY 2020/2021) at twenty-one intersections between Bonita Beach Road and Pondella Road
- Traffic Crash Investigation Scanner to be purchased by the MPO for use by the Cape Coral Police Department in the amount of \$184,000 (federal SU funds for capital purchase) in the current fiscal year (FY 2020/2021). This TIP amendment was previously approved by the Board in January 2020 but the process/agreements delayed adding it to the TIP/work program until this fiscal year.

Chair Murphy asked if there were any questions regarding the projects. There were none.

**Ms. Persides Zambrano made the motion to approve the TIP Amendments to add Transit, Lighting Retrofit, and Crash Investigation Scanner Projects to the Current Fiscal Year. Ms. Dawn Huff seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item #7 - \*Review and Approve the Bonita Estero Rail Trail Feasibility Study Scope of Services**

Mr. Gogoi presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the revised scope of services for the Rail Trail Feasibility Study that was attached to the agenda packet. He said the BPCC approved the scope of services at their August 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. He briefly summarized his presentation, that had also been given at a previous meeting, which included information on the project details, timeline, project limits, and scope changes. His presentation can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Rail-Trail-Scope-2.pdf> Mr. Gogoi then asked for a recommendation for MPO Board approval. There was a brief discussion on the connection of the project to the existing network. Chair Murphy asked if there were any other comments/questions. There were none.

**Mr. Carl Karakos made the motion to approve the Bonita Estero Rail Trail Feasibility Study Scope of Services. Mr. Matt Noble seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item #8 - \*Review and Recommend Approval of the Lee MPO TSM&O Plan**

Mr. Ron Gogoi introduced this agenda item. He then introduced Mr. Mark Mathes with FDOT and Mr. Demond Hazley with VHB. He added the TSMO Plan is an element of the 2045 LRTP. Mr. Mathes then introduced himself and Mr. Hazley to present the TSMO Plan. Mr. Hazley gave a Power Point presentation that included information on the presentation overview, reaching the full potential of the TSMO, why prepare a TSMO Master Plan, report sections, prioritization of corridors, Top Ten state road priorities, Top Ten local road priorities, TSMO strategies, project identification, gap analysis, and systemwide ITS assessment. Mr. Joe Perri, also with VHB, then continued the presentation with information on the sample project analysis- SR 78/Pine Island Road, corridor issues, capacity/operations strategies, transit strategies, safety strategies, and connected/autonomous vehicles (CAV). Mr. Hazley concluded the presentation with information on implementation and next steps. Chair Murphy asked if a copy of the presentation could be provided. Mr. Hazley replied yes. There was a brief discussion on the county's CAV contract, continuing the analysis to Hancock instead of stopping at Santa Barbara, data segments, turbo signals, innovative intersections, ICE analysis, and advanced pedestrian technology. Chair Murphy asked if there was additional discussion/questions. There was none. The presentation can be viewed here: [https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Lee-MPO-TSMO-MP\\_9\\_3-TAC-Presentation.pdf](https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Lee-MPO-TSMO-MP_9_3-TAC-Presentation.pdf) The TSMO Plan can be viewed here: [https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Plan-Only-LeeCountyMPO\\_TSMO-Masterplan\\_July\\_17\\_2020.pdf](https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Plan-Only-LeeCountyMPO_TSMO-Masterplan_July_17_2020.pdf)

**Ms. Persides Zambrano made the motion to approve the Lee MPO TSM&O Plan. Ms. Debbie Ferris seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item #9 - \*Review and Approval of the Revised Public Involvement Plan**

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the Revised Public Involvement Plan that was attached to the agenda packet. He said the MPO has updated the Public Involvement Plan (PIP) to address the need for other outreach opportunities under emergency circumstances, as well as updating other outreach methods identified in the Plan. He noted the proposed changes were in underlined and strike through format and staff is seeking input on any additional changes that the Committee may have before MPO Board approval. Chair Murphy asked if there were any comments. There were none.

**Ms. Dawn Huff made the motion to approve the Revised Public Involvement Plan. Ms. Persides Zambrano seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

## **Agenda Item #10 - Update and Provide Input on the 2045 Long Range Plan**

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item as an update to the development of the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan. He provided a Power Point presentation that included information on LRTP activities, priority list, scoring criteria, current priority programming, SIS cost feasible plan, Lee County cost feasible alternative five improvements with and without 35% CAV, rough calculation of revenues for capital projects, M-Cores southern area – potential illustrative paths/courses, M-Cores northern area – potential illustrative paths/courses, LeeTran Transit Development Plan, transit needs to 2045, recent transit needs revisions, bike ped network needs projects, MPO projections for programming TA and SU funds, and proposed scheduling of priorities for this year and future years. Mr. Gogoi then explained the process and programming in the charts and reviewed several of the included projects. Mr. Scott then continued his presentation with additional information on the chart priorities and travel survey. Mr. Scott's presentation can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-Item-10-LRTP-Update.pdf> Mr. Gogoi then gave a presentation on the freight element. His presentation included information on stakeholder interviews and air cargo focus. His presentation can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/LRTP-Update-Freight.pdf> The committee briefly discussed revision of images/projects for NE 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue, costs calculations and inclusions of local funds, and five year program format. Chair Murphy asked if there were additional comments/questions. There were none.

### **Other Business**

## **Agenda Item #11 - Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

Mr. John Majka, a member of the public, made an additional public comment on the SR 80 projects.

## **Agenda Item #12 – Announcements**

Mr. Scott announced the next LRTP public meeting would be held September 24. Mr. Karakos mentioned an award workshop being held on Fort Myers TV. Chair Murphy asked if there were additional announcements. There were none.

## **Agenda Item #13 - Topics for next meeting**

Topics suggested for the next meeting included LRTP items. Chair Murphy asked if there were any other topics. There were none suggested.

## **Agenda Item #14 - Information and Distribution Items**

Information and Distribution Items included the SR 82 project award letter.

**The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.**

**An audio recording of the entire meeting can be accessed here: <https://soundcloud.com/user-390911534/09-03-2020-tac>**

\*Action Items    †May Require Action

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