

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Thursday, November 4, 2021
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 Persides Zambrano.

Roll Call

The roll was recorded by MPO staff. There was a quorum. Those members in attendance included Rick Burris with Lee County; Barry Anderson with Lee County Port Authority; Dawn Huff with LeeTran; Persides Zambrano with the Cape Coral Department of Public Works; Anthony Palermo and Carl Karakos with the City of Fort Myers; Matt Noble with the Village of Estero; Scott Philips with the Collier MPO (9:41 a.m.); and D’Juan Harris (9:39 a.m.) and Lakshmi Gurram with the Charlotte County – Punta Gorda MPO. Others in attendance included Don Scott, Ron Gogoi, and Calandra Barraco with the Lee County MPO; Steve Ludwinski with the Corradino Group; Andy Getch with McCormick Taylor; and Victoria Peters and Tanya Merkle with FDOT.

Ms. Peters introduced Ms. Tanya Merkle with FDOT. Ms. Peters also commented on the development of the tentative work program.

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

At this time in the meeting, 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 mentioned LeeTran’s three infrastructure projects were moving forward. Ms. Huff also commented on the mobility on demand project in Bonita Springs.

Agenda Item #3 – FDOT Report

Ms. Victoria Peters with FDOT provided the FDOT report. She again noted FDOT was continuing development of the tentative work program and will take comments throughout the year.

New Business

Agenda Item #4 - *Review and Approval of the September 2, 2021 TAC Meeting Summary

Mr. Scott read an email sent at 9:33 a.m. by Mr. John Majka with a public comment regarding the minutes from prior meetings.

Mr. Matt Noble made the motion to approve the September 2, 2021 Meeting Summary. Ms. Dawn Huff seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - *Review and Approval of the October 7, 2021 Joint TAC Meeting Summary

Mr. Noble mentioned a comment regarding the SR 80 projects from a co-worker at the Village of Estero. Ms. Peters said she received an email as well.

Mr. Carl Karakos made the motion to approve the October 7, 2021 Joint Meeting Summary. Mr. Matt Noble seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 - *Review and Approval of the TIP Amendments to the FY 21/22 through FY 25/26 to Advance the McGregor and US 41/Crystal Drive Safety Projects and to add the Design Phase for Adding a Sidewalk on the US 41 Caloosahatchee Bridge

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the Amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to advance the McGregor and US 41/Crystal Drive Projects and to add the design phase for a sidewalk on the US 41 Caloosahatchee Bridge. The relevant TIP pages were attached to the agenda packet, posted to the MPO website, and shown as slides at the meeting. Mr. Scott noted the current FY 2022 through FY 2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is being amended to advance two safety projects and to add the design phase for one other project funded with American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds in FY 2022. He said the first project is the median modification project on McGregor Boulevard from Cypress Lake Drive to Edinburgh Drive that is being advanced from FY 2024 to the current fiscal year and will be constructed under a Design Build project. He continued the second project is the US41/Crystal Drive intersection safety project that is being advanced from FY 2025 to the current fiscal year and will also be constructed under a Design Build project. He concluded the third project is new and is adding the design phase in FY 2022 for the addition of a sidewalk to the US 41 Caloosahatchee Bridge. The committee briefly discussed MPO Board comments on the Caloosahatchee Bridge project and the design phase and cost of the project. The committee also welcomed Mr. D’Juan Harris in his new role as Executive Director of the Charlotte County – Punta Gorda MPO. Chair Zambrano asked for a motion.

Mr. Carl Karakos made the motion to approve the Amendments to the TIP. Mr. Matt Noble seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #7 - *Review and Approve the TIGER Project Data Collection Scope of Services

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the TIGER performance data collection scope of services that was attached to the agenda packet, posted to the MPO website, and shown as slides at the meeting. Mr. Scott explained the MPO is required to collect performance measure data for the next three years as part of the performance data collection and reporting requirements that came with the TIGER grant requirements. He mentioned prior data that had been collected and the locations identified to collect the counts that were illustrated on the exhibits in the agenda packet and are consistent with the data locations done in the past. Mr. Scott added the data shows an increase in use and safety numbers are down while the only negative seems to be bus ridership has declined. The committee briefly discussed the bike box project done at Daniels/Treeline. Ms. Zambrano asked if there was a motion.

Ms. Dawn Huff made the motion to approve the TIGER Project Data Collection Scope of Services. Mr. Rick Burris seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #8 - *Review and Approve the Safety Outreach Scope of Services

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the draft scopes of services for conducting safety outreach to help reduce fatalities, injuries, and crashes. He referred to the scopes that were attached to the agenda packet, posted to the MPO website, and shown as slides at the meeting. He provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on

performance measures, crash data, MPO budget task, partner discussions, and FDOT emphasis areas. His presentation can be viewed here: [Safety Outreach Scope Presentation](#) The committee briefly discussed deliverables, scopes, using FDOT information, COVID impacts, enforcement, increased fines, high visibility enforcement grants, speed related crashes, necessity for increased staffing for law enforcement, electronic tickets, enforcement in other areas of country, and observations at local intersections. Mr. Scott noted this item would be going to the Executive Committee for discussion and also to FHWA. Chair Zambrano asked if a motion was requested. Mr. Scott replied yes.

Mr. Carl Karakos made the motion to approve the Safety and Outreach Scope of Services. Ms. Dawn Huff seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #9 - Review of the Draft Tentative Work Program for FY 2022/2023 through 2026/2027

Ms. Victoria Peters with FDOT presented this agenda item for the review of the Draft Tentative FDOT Work Program for FY 2022/2023 through FY 2026/2027 that was attached to the agenda packet, posted to the MPO website, and shown as slides at the meeting. Chair Zambrano thanked Ms. Peters for working with Cape Coral and accommodating changes and also mentioned funding for the Gator Circle projects. The committee briefly discussed the Gator Circle projects, phases, and funding. Ms. Peters then reviewed the draft Tentative Work Program. Ms. Peters said FDOT will take public comments and questions at any time. The committee discussed the map included in the draft tentative work program, the new format, increase in resurfacing projects, errors corrected on two projects, project at McGregor and Iona, discontinuing practice of referring to projects in work program based on landmarks, Buckingham roundabout project, Winkler Challenger roundabout, safety funds, ACSU funds and explanation, balancing work program, LAP amendments, Bonita LAP certification status, coordination between Bonita/Estero/Lee County staff on Coconut Road, funding categories, Burnt Store projects and funding, SR 31 bridge funding, Big Carlos funding, resurfacing in City of Fort Myers and requirement to be on state road for certain categories of funding, allocations and basis on urban population, Charlotte County campaign to become TMA, census update, and example of Cape Coral population. Chair Zambrano noted additional comments could be sent to Mr. Scott.

Agenda Item #10 - Review and Comment on the Proposed 2045 Long Range Plan Amendments

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review of and input on the proposed amendments to the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). He explained MPO staff is proposing LRTP amendments/modifications to be voted on at the January MPO Board meeting. He then reviewed the following amendments that are being considered: Amend the Lee County project list to add in the widening of Corkscrew Road from Alico Road to east of The Place, about 4.5 miles; Add in the list of City of Fort Myers bicycle pedestrian projects matching the amount of \$5,000,000 in funding that was set aside for projects once the Fort Myers Bicycle Pedestrian Plan was completed; Add in a project identification column to provide a reference for reviewers that are not familiar with local road names; and Advance the SR 31 design phase to match the FDOT Tentative Work Program. The committee briefly discussed landmarks, funding and projections, remote workers in Cape Coral, increase in Cape Coral building permits, identifier column, Corkscrew area population increase, Cape Coral bike ped projects, and City of Cape Coral funding for SR 78 improvements. Mr. Scott said this will come back on the agenda of the January meeting for approval.

Agenda Item #11 - Review and Discuss Candidate Projects for TA and Multi-modal Box Funds for 2022 Funding Cycle

Mr. Gogoi presented this agenda item for the review and discussion of candidate projects for consideration of MPO allocated TA and SU Box funds for the 2022 funding cycle. There was a brief discussion on funding totals for Charlotte, Lee, and Collier counties. Mr. Gogoi then provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on unfunded projects, funding amounts, and projects from the local jurisdictions. His presentation can be viewed here: [Multimodal Box Fund Presentation](#) Ms. Peters mentioned the differences between GFSU sequence two and sequence three funding. Mr. Scott commented on the SR 78 project and another section that might need facilities more. Mr. Gogoi suggested the project limits might be modified. The committee discussed the estimate for the Daniels left turns, Fort Myers Beach bus shelters, applications needed for new bus shelters, space needed for bus shelters, bus shelter requirement for LAP, turn outs for bus shelters, and coordination between local jurisdictions and LeeTran.

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

Chair Zambrano mentioned the bridge projects that include the design of a west bound bridge, an addition of a lane on the east bound stretch, bike ped facilities, and improvements on both ends of bridge. The committee briefly discussed infrastructure funding.

Agenda Item #14 - Topics for next meeting

Mr. Scott noted there was no MPO Board meeting in December and asked if the committee would like to cancel the December CAC meeting. Chair Zambrano asked for a motion.

Mr. Carl Karakos made the motion to cancel the December CAC meeting. Ms. Dawn Huff seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #15 - Information and Distribution Items

There were no Information and Distribution Items.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed here: <https://soundcloud.com/user-390911534/11-04-2021-tacwma?si=2c00bd18ec664814ae92ef45f16743a0>

*Action Items +May Require Action

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