

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Thursday, January 6, 2022
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 Dave Loveland with Lee County; Dawn Huff with LeeTran; Persides Zambrano with the Cape Coral Department of Public Works; Andrew Waeger with Cape Coral Mini-bus; Anthony Palermo, Barb Carr, and Carl Karakos with the City of Fort Myers; Oisin Dolley with the City of Sanibel; Matt Noble with the Village of Estero; 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; David Willems with the Village of Estero; Steve Ludwinski with the Corradino Group; Andy Getch with McCormick Taylor; and Victoria Peters and Richard Oujevolk 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 mentioned LeeTran was moving forward with their three infrastructure projects as well as starting the mobility-on-demand (MOD) project in Bonita Springs. She provided additional information on the MOD program.

Agenda Item #3 – FDOT Report

Ms. Victoria Peters with FDOT provided the FDOT report. Ms. Peters provided information on the February 3 public hearing for SR 865 and the progress of the Work Program cycle.

New Business

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

Mr. Dave Loveland made the motion to approve the November 4, 2021 Meeting Summary. Mr. Carl Karakos seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - *Election of Officers for 2022

Chair Zambrano asked for nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair of the TAC. Mr. Dave Loveland nominated Mr. Carl Karakos to Chair the TAC. There was a brief discussion on other possible nominations. Chair Zambrano asked if there were any other nominations for Chair. There were none.

Mr. Dave Loveland made the motion to elect Mr. Carl Karakos as Chair of the TAC for 2022. Mr. Mike Cook seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Zambrano asked if there were any nominations for Vice-Chair of the TAC. Ms. Dawn Huff nominated Mr. Mike Cook to the role of Vice-Chair of the TAC. Chair Zambrano asked if there were any other nominations. There were none.

Ms. Dawn Huff made the motion to elect Mr. Mike Cook as Vice-Chair of the TAC. Mr. Carl Karakos seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 - *Review and Approval of the Amendments to the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan to add the widening of Corkscrew Road project east of Alico Road, add in bicycle pedestrian projects in Fort Myers, adjust project limits, advance project phases and adjust cost estimates consistent with recent changes in five-year work programs

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of amendments to the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) to add the widening of Corkscrew Road east of Alico Road, adjust project costs and project phases consistent with recent changes with programmed projects over the next five years. He provided a Power-Point presentation in which he reviewed the following amendments being considered: Add the design, right-of-way and construction project phases for the widening of Corkscrew Road from two to four lanes between Alico Road and Verdana Village in which the design and right-of-way phases are included in the 2026 to 2030 time frame and the construction phases is included in the 2031 to 2035 time frame; Add in the list of the City of Fort Myers bicycle pedestrian projects consistent with the projects identified in the recently completed Fort Myers Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan; Adjust project costs and project phases to match the Transportation Improvement Program and local Capital Improvement Program projects; Advance the design phase for the SR 31 project from SR 80 to SR 78 into the 2021-2025 time frame to match the FDOT Tentative Work Program; Extend the Hanson Street project limits from Fowler Street to Veronica Shoemaker to match the previously adopted Cost Feasible map and what was included in the transportation model; Revise the cost feasible map to match the amended project list; and Add in a project identification column to provide a reference for reviewers that are not familiar with the local road names. The proposed underline and strike through changes to the document and tables were attached to the agenda packet, posted to the MPO website, and shown as slides at the meeting. Mr. Scott's presentation can be viewed here: [LRTP Presentation](#). The committee discussed the new LRTP template, traffic near Verdana and The Place, updating cost estimates for Lee County in the CIP to accommodate price increases, Work Program representing the first five years of projects, adjusted time frames, and SR 31 project. Chair Zambrano asked if there was a motion for approval.

Ms. Dawn Huff made the motion to approve the amendments to the 2045 LRTP. Mr. Dave Loveland seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #7 - *Review and Approve Amendments to the Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) amendments to Task 4.4 consultant planning funds and project timing. The underline and strike through changes to the Task 4.4 sheets were attached to the agenda packet, posted to the MPO website, and shown as slides at the meeting. Mr. Scott explained that the UPWP Task 4.4, Administration and Planning Consultant Services, is being amended to include the Cape Coral evacuation study that was not included in the second year, which is the current year, of the UPWP when it was first developed and to update the timing of several projects. Chair Zambrano

asked about the status of the Cape Coral evacuation project. Mr. Scott said the contract has been agreed to and the next step is obtaining signatures. Chair Zambrano asked about the funding and mentioned sending it through Cape Coral’s procurement department. Mr. Scott provided an example of funding splits between the MPO and the City of Fort Myers. He noted the Cape Coral study is for a larger amount than what Fort Myers paid out. Chair Zambrano commented this agenda item was being done to account for minor changes. Mr. Scott replied yes.

Mr. Dave Loveland made the motion to approve the UPWP amendments. Mr. Carl Karakos seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #8 - *Recommend MPO Adoption of the 2022 Highway Safety Targets

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item to review and recommend MPO Board adoption of 2022 Highway Safety Performance Measure Targets. He said every year the MPO is required to adopt the Highway Safety Performance Targets. He noted FDOT has been maintaining ‘zero’ for the target for the five (5) Highway Safety Performance Measures since the statewide targets were first established in 2018. He added the Lee MPO continues to support the Florida statewide targets and referenced the link below of the safety performance measures reporting by MPO area. He referred to the safety targets that staff is recommending for 2022 to be consistent with FDOT that are listed below:

Statewide and MPO Safety Performance Targets

PERFORMANCE MEASURES	STATEWIDE TARGET (2022)	MPO TARGET (2022)
Number of Fatalities	0	0
Number of Serious Injuries	0	0
Fatality Rate per 100 million Vehicle Mile Travelled (VMT)	0	0
Serious Injuries per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMT)	0	0
Total Number of Non-motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries	0	0

Safety Performance Measure Targets by MPO Area : https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/T08a.2016-to-2020_FHWA_PerformanceMeasuresPerMPO.pdf Mr. Scott also provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on Safety Performance Measures and crash dashboard data. Mr. Scott’s presentation can be viewed here: [2022 Highway Safety Targets](#). He asked if there were any comments. The committee discussed driver behavior, enforcement, speeding regardless of traffic volume, Alico example, lowering speed limits, Collier example, I-75 example, automated enforcement, current legislation to prevent automated enforcement, Tiger Grant example, vehicle miles travelled, retrofitting streets, adding transit, enhancing design features to make up for lack of enforcement, SR 78 example, SR 31 example, current demographic in area, parking study in Fort Myers, planning for future with transit, sprawl in Lee County, mobility-on-demand, aiming for zero, FDOT goal of reducing injuries and fatalities, rates and calculations, Investment Jobs Act, Complete Streets, performance measures, assisting jurisdictions, high visibility enforcement grants, and additional funding. Chair Zambrano asked for a motion.

Mr. Carl Karakos made the motion to recommend MPO adoption of the 2022 Highway Safety Targets. Mr. Oisin Dolley seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #9 - *Amendment of the TAC Bylaws

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the amendment of the TAC bylaws. He said the TAC bylaws are being amended to add an additional TAC voting member for the Village of Estero, representing their Public Works Department. He referred to the bylaw change that includes recognizing an Estero representative from Community Development and an Estero representative from Public Works, consistent with several of the other local jurisdictions which was attached to the agenda packet, posted to the MPO website, and shown as slides at the meeting.

Mr. Dave Loveland made the motion to approve the amendment to the TAC Bylaws. Mr. Matt Noble seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #10 - Update on the SR 865 (San Carlos) Project Development & Environment Study

Mr. Scott introduced Mr. Richard Oujevolk with FDOT who presented this agenda item as an update on the SR 865 Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study. Mr. Oujevolk provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on safety, project limits, project goals, preferred alternative, evaluation matrix, schedule, funding, contacts, and coordination with other local projects. The presentation can be viewed here: [SR 865 Update](#) The committee discussed ICE evaluation for the planned signal, modified traffic pattern similar to roundabout, location specifics, sidewalks and pathways, speed limit, physical constraints of roadway, crossing movements, budget, accommodations for cyclists, design plans, speed study, steep profile of Matanzas bridge, comparison to Sanibel causeway, new state law, enforcement of motorists, traffic flow, modelling, mitigation of bottleneck, traffic issue, monorail, current flow of traffic, next planned resurfacing for north of Hurricane Pass to Summerlin, avoiding promoting of cycling in unsafe areas, increase of project costs if other modifications are made, coordination with Lee County and Town of Fort Myers Beach, presentation to MPO Board, LeeTran beach park and ride, Margaritaville parking garage, ensuring coordination, anticipated completion, right-of-way, improvements to public beach, and design plans. Chair Zambrano asked if this presentation was to seek input on the project. Mr. Oujevolk replied yes as the project is just a concept now and there is still room for changes and modifications. Chair Zambrano thanked Mr. Oujevolk for his presentation.

Agenda Item #11 - Information on the Federal Transportation Bill - Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

Mr. Scott presented this informational agenda item on the Federal Transportation Bill – Infrastructure and Jobs Act. He said on November 15, 2021, the president signed the Federal Infrastructure Bill that includes an extension of the Federal Transportation Act (FAST Act) for the next five years. He reviewed the information from the USDOT on the apportionment levels and a bill analysis done by the national Association of Regional Planning Councils that was attached to the agenda packet, posted to the MPO website, and shown as slides at the meeting. The presentation included information on an explanation of the bill, formula funding projections, bipartisan breakdown chart, bill transportation breakdown, three funding types, infrastructure allocations per resident, general fund transfers, new construction typical section, resurfacing typical section, supply chain variables, upcoming tasks and can be viewed here: [Federal Infrastructure Bill](#) The committee discussed the funding amounts, carbon reduction program, funding for LeeTran buses and shelters, notice of funding, time frames for applications and receipt of funding, TIGER grant example, Cape Coral bridge, Big Carlos bridge, example of Matlacha bridge, competitive projects, disbursement of funding, hiring consultants to

complete applications, FDOT letters of recommendation, reasons for allocations per resident being so low in Florida, basis in 2007 census numbers, other states like California and Texas receiving more funding, misconception that there is ample funding, issue with stimulus funds, length of projects, Pine Island road example, preferences for facilities, priority list order, example in Punta Gorda, San Carlos project, projects with minimal right-of-way, inclusion of Fowler project, Burnt Store project, Old 41, US 41 in Bonita, and possibility of cleaning or re-painting bridge. Chair Zambrano asked to move on to the next agenda item.

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 announced there would be no TAC meeting in February in part due to the Joint Charlotte – Punta Gorda and Lee MPO Board meeting being held in Punta Gorda on February 18, 2022.

Agenda Item #14 - Topics for next meeting

Topics suggested for next meeting included Burnt Store Road and review of Joint Charlotte-Punta Gorda and Lee MPO Board meeting topics.

Agenda Item #15 – Information and Distribution Items

The information and distribution items included the latest FDOT RoadWatch report and the proposed Florida House and Senate Bills for the 2022 legislative session. There was a brief discussion on the newly proposed bills.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed here: https://soundcloud.com/user-390911534/01-06-2022-tacwma?si=76cd51656450478f8f533069f381e741&utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing

*Action Items *May Require Action

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