

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Thursday, March 3, 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 Carl Karakos.

Roll Call

Those present introduced themselves. The roll was recorded by MPO staff. There was a quorum. Those members in attendance included Dave Loveland and Farhan Butt with Lee County; Ian Sikonia with Lee County Port Authority; 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; Scott Philips with the Collier MPO; D'Juan Harris and Lakshmi Gurram with the Charlotte County – Punta Gorda MPO; and David Lindsay with Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District. Others in attendance included Don Scott, Ron Gogoi, and Calandra Barraco with the Lee County MPO; Joseph McCabe and Paul Clark with LeeTran; Andy Getch with McCormick Taylor; and Victoria Peters 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 presented the LeeTran report. She provided updates on LeeTran's three infrastructure projects as well as the mobility-on-demand (MOD) project in Bonita Springs. The committee briefly discussed the possible impacts on Rosa Parks that may occur due to City of Fort Myers projects, City of Fort Myers feasibility studies, possible re-routing of SR 82, additional City of Fort Myers projects, projects on roadways owned by FDOT, design/completion of projects before transference to City of Fort Myers, US 41 road diet, project on SR 82 in front of courthouse, and consultant alternatives for this project.

Agenda Item #3 – FDOT Report

Ms. Victoria Peters with FDOT provided the FDOT report. Ms. Peters provided information on an upcoming speed management workshop and Work Program progress. The committee also discussed the location of the workshop, use of data for the workshop, FDOT study on speeds in the state, Complete Streets, StreetLight data access and licensing/subscription, acquisition of StreetLight by Jacobs, and the cost of StreetLight access.

New Business

Agenda Item #4 - *Review and Approval of the January 6, 2022 TAC Meeting Summary

Ms. Barb Carr made the motion to approve the January 6, 2022 Meeting Summary. Ms. Dawn Huff seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - *Review and Approval of a TIP Amendment to add Transit Bus Replacements to FY 2021/2022

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item to amend the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add a transit project to cover the replacement of four buses in the current fiscal year. The new TIP sheet was attached to the agenda packet, posted to the MPO website, and shown as a slide at the meeting. Mr. Scott noted the current FY 2022 through FY 2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is being amended to add a transit project for bus replacements in the current fiscal year. He said the replacement of four buses is consistent with LeeTran's bus replacement needs. The committee discussed impacts from Covid on prices and delivery schedules, electric buses, and electric vehicle grants.

Mr. Scott Philips made the motion to approve the TIP amendment to add Transit Bus Replacements to FY 2021/2022. Mr. Dave Loveland seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #6- *Review and Approval of Transit Performance Measures

Mr. Ron Gogoi introduced this agenda item to review LeeTran's Transit Asset Management Plan (TAMP) and Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) Performance Targets for FY 2022 and recommend MPO adopt a resolution supporting the Targets. Mr. Gogoi began a Power Point presentation that included a slide on the target setting process. He then introduced Mr. Joseph McCabe and Mr. Paul Clark with LeeTran. Mr. McCabe continued the Power Point presentation with slides on an overview of the targets, the adopted safety targets, short/long term goals, and transit asset management performance measures. The full presentation can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-6.Transit-Performance-Targets.pdf> The committee discussed definition/categories of safety events, National Transit Database, facilities targets, replacement of fleet vehicles, analysis of data for improvements, hazard reporting, acceptable risk levels, registry, reduction of risks, and conversion of First and Second Streets in Fort Myers. Chair Karakos asked if there was further discussion. There was none. He then asked for a motion.

Mr. Dave Loveland made the motion to approve the LeeTran Transit Performance Measures. Ms. Persides Zambrano seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #7 - *Endorsement of USBR15 Bicycle Route Through Lee County

Mr. Gogoi presented this agenda item to recommend that the MPO Board adopt a resolution endorsing the expansion and designation of USBR 15 through Lee County. Mr. Gogoi provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on the existing/proposed route maps, application process, proposed route through Lee County, local government support, and support in other counties. His presentation can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-7.USBR-15-FL.pdf> The committee discussed signage, maintenance, requirements, SUN Trail alignment, flexibility of altering route, route to Miami, safety measures, route target of experienced bicyclists, vetting through BPCC, route through downtown Fort Myers, traffic volumes, example in Cape Coral, FDOT involvement, AASHTO and Adventure Cycling involvement, and route in other parts of the United States. Mr. Gogoi asked if there was further discussion. There was none. Chair Karakos asked if there was a motion.

Mr. Scott Philips made the motion to endorse a resolution of USBR 15 bicycle route alignment through Lee County. Ms. Persides Zambrano seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #8 - +Review and Provide Comments on the Draft FY 2022/2023 & FY 2023/2024 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item to review and provide comments on the draft tasks included in the FY 2022/2023 and FY 2023/2024 Unified Planning Work Program. He reviewed the UPWP draft including planning funds, other funds, and apportionments. The committee discussed carbon reduction funds, application process, FDOT guidance, electric chargers, agreement with LeeTran, challenges of new UPWP format from FDOT, discretionary funds, RAISE grants, FDOT support/consistency letters, technical assistance, grant training, electric vehicle charging program, electric vehicle discretionary funding, active transportation plan, Cape Coral Evacuation study funding amount, and Pine Island Road projects. Mr. Scott said any comments or changes could be emailed to him. Chair Karakos asked if this was an action item. Mr. Scott replied no.

Agenda Item #9 - Summary of the Joint Lee and Charlotte-Punta Gorda MPO Boards Meeting Items and Discussion

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item to provide a summary of the February 18, 2022 Joint Meeting items and Board discussion for the committee. He provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on TRIP priorities, I-75 Connect Studies, Burnt Store Road corridor, SR 31 projects, I-75 Purple Heart Highway, and Joint Regional Coordination. His entire presentation can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-9-Joint-Charlotte-Punta-Gorda-MPO-and-Lee-MPO-Board.pdf> The committee discussed the Burnt Store Road projects, truck parking at closed rest area in Charlotte County, staff changes/promotions at FDOT, roundabout on SR 31, cost increases for projects, regional coordination and agreements, and current regional organization issues.

Other Business

Agenda Item #10 - Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

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

Agenda Item #11 – Announcements

Mr. Scott announced there would be a Federal Highways Certification Review meeting on March 15 with both virtual and in-person options. The committee then discussed photographs of several Cape Coral projects that Ms. Zambrano emailed to Mr. Scott to show to the committee.

Agenda Item #12 - Topics for next meeting

Mr. Scott noted the next meeting would be held in May. Topics suggested for next meeting included approval of the UPWP, review of the draft TIP, and review of the updated priorities.

Agenda Item #13 - Information and Distribution Items

The information and distribution items included a legislative tracking spreadsheet and an appropriations project request matrix.

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

An audio recording of the entire meeting can be accessed here: https://soundcloud.com/user-390911534/03-03-2022-tacwma?utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing

***Action Items †May Require Action**

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