

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Thursday, June 2, 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 9:31 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 Farhan Butt with Lee County; Ian Sikonia with Lee County Port Authority; Dawn Huff with LeeTran; Carl Karakos with the City of Fort Myers; Matt Noble and David Willems 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 Mike Cook with Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District. Others in attendance included Don Scott, Ron Gogoi, and Calandra Barraco with the Lee County MPO; Andy Getch with McCormick Taylor; Steve Ludwinski with Corradino Group; Ned Baier with Volkert; Cape Coral Police Department Officer; Victoria Peters and Steven Andrews with FDOT; and Matt Dockins with RK&K.

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 mobility on demand project in Bonita Springs, service development grant, and Rosa Parks completion. The committee briefly discussed LeeTran staff changes.

Agenda Item #3 – FDOT Report

Ms. Victoria Peters with FDOT said she had nothing to report on behalf of FDOT, but she would answer any questions. Chair Karakos mentioned an increased funding request from the City of Fort Myers. In response, Ms. Peters provided information on the Work Program cycle and project programming. The committee briefly discussed FDOT's upcoming Speed Management workshop.

New Business

Agenda Item #4 - *Review and Approval of the May 5, 2022 TAC Meeting Summary

Ms. Dawn Huff made the motion to approve the May 5, 2022 Meeting Summary. Mr. Matt Noble seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - *Endorsement of the FY 2023 through FY 2027 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item for the review and endorsement of the FY 2022/2023 through FY 2026/2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to be forwarded to the MPO Board

for their approval on June 17, 2022. The following link to the TIP was included in the agenda packet, posted to the MPO website, and reviewed at the meeting: [LEE MPO FY 2023 to FY 2027 TIP](#) Mr. Scott provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on funding by category, certification wording changes, Winkler Challenger project update for lead agency of City of Fort Myers, and SR 80 project wording changes. He asked if there were any questions on the document or a motion. His presentation can be viewed here: [TIP](#)

Mr. Scott Philips made the motion to endorse the TIP. Mr. Farhan Butt seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 - *Review and Approve the Multimodal Box Priorities

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the Multimodal Box Fund Priorities. The priorities, rankings, and evaluation criteria were attached to the agenda packet, [posted to the MPO website](#), and shown as slides at the meeting. Mr. Gogoi provided a Power Point presentation that included slides on a review of the projects in the TA/SU multimodal box fund priority table, Lee MPO funding, and District One funding. His presentation can be viewed here: [Multimodal Priorities](#) The committee discussed demographics, environmental justice criteria, project locations, providing map of environmental justice areas to the local jurisdictions prior to the next cycle, elements used for equity, providing [EJScreen tool link](#) to committee members, increased project costs, yearly funding, allocation, congestion management projects, project cost adjustment to current prices, FDOT project selection time frame, advanced Work Program cycle, adjustments to funding cycle based on when funding is approved, carbon reduction project application, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, micromobility, amendments, process of vetting and programming, process of state budget approval, City of Fort Myers carbon reduction project, acronyms, Fort Myers Beach bus shelter project, possibility of including bus shelters in Fort Myers Beach paver project, extra items like trash receptacles and signage not included in funding, possibility of bike racks being included in funding, using funding for bike racks for the front of buses, and coordination between FDOT/MPO and Fort Myers Beach on bus shelter project progress. Chair Karakos asked for a motion.

Mr. Mike Cook made the motion to approve the Multimodal Box Fund Priorities. Ms. Dawn Huff seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #7 - *Review and Approve the Updated Lee and Collier TRIP Priorities

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the updated Lee and Collier TRIP priorities. The priorities were attached to the agenda packet, [posted to the MPO website](#), and shown as slides at the meeting. Mr. Scott mentioned the Collier project list has been added for approval. Mr. Scott Philips noted the Collier MPO TAC and CAC had approved the item and it goes to their Board the following week. Mr. Scott asked for a motion.

Mr. Scott Philips made the motion to approve the Lee and Collier TRIP Priorities. Mr. Mike Cook seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #8 - Old US 41 PD&E Study Presentation

Mr. Steven Andrews with FDOT introduced Mr. Matt Dockins with RK&K to present this agenda item as an update to the Old US 41 Project Development and Environmental (PD&E) Study that is under way to evaluate the widening of Old US 41 to four lanes from US 41 in Collier County to Bonita Beach Road in Lee County. Mr. Dockins the provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on FDOT safety message, project goals and need, project alternatives, new quadrant roadway, new traffic signals, U-turn pavement bulb outs, major intersections, evaluation matrix,

project timeline, public workshop, comment topics, and next steps. The presentation was attached to the agenda packet, [posted to the MPO website](#), and shown as slides at the meeting. It can also be viewed here: [Old US 41 PD&E](#). The committee discussed the roundabout location with respect to Bonita Beach Road, public comments on the southern section of the project, cul-de-sac option in Alternative Two, intersection at Veterans and Old US 41, quadrant roads in Bonita Springs, differing sidewalk/pathway widths in each county, project cost, planning for consistency, upcoming meeting of staff on project programming, inflated costs, and adjusting project costs in future.

Agenda Item #9 - Provide Input on Safe Streets and Roads for All Discretionary Grant Opportunity (Don Scott)

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for input on the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Discretionary Grant opportunity. He reviewed the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) that was recently sent out for the Safe Streets and Roads For All (SS4A) Discretionary Grant Program. The NOFO was also attached to the agenda packet, [posted to the MPO website](#), and shown as slides at the meeting. Mr. Scott provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on background of the grant, eligibility, funding, definition of action plan, process, application pathway, examples of activities, implementation grants, and legislative selection considerations. His presentation can be viewed here: [SS4A](#). The committee discussed updating plans prior to 2017, funding amount, tracking on implementation side, competitiveness of grant, considerations for application, detail needed for implementation, project ideas need for implementation, examples of possible projects, increased odds of receiving grant with increased amount of local match, partnering in areas of Lee County that might show greater needs or on state highway, example of Collier bicycle trail, submission deadline, arranging further discussion with local jurisdiction staff, providing clarification of collective goal, example of TIGER project process, cost estimate for action plan, possible City of Fort Myers project that includes Complete Streets and Vision Zero elements with existing funding in CIP, presentation of grant information at upcoming Executive Committee meeting, possibility of applying for next fiscal year cycle, City of Fort Myers cost estimate outdated, forwarding City of Fort Myers project to FDOT staff for review, possible cap to funding, information provided on webinars, highway safety improvement program funding, email coordination for grant plan and application, and Collier data collection.

Other Business

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

There were no public comments on items not on the agenda. Mr. Gogoi mentioned an email he had received from a Lee County resident requesting information on unpaved roads. The committee briefly discussed public versus private roads, tracking, and request for speed humps in Lehigh Acres.

Agenda Item #11 – Announcements

Ms. Huff announced LeeTran staff changes. Mr. Gogoi mentioned the upcoming SRTS discussion at the June BPCC meeting. Chair Karakos mentioned the upcoming First and Second Street conversions. Mr. Ned Baier reminded the committee that the Rail Trail meeting was being held that evening in Estero beginning at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Ian Sikonia asked if the City of Fort Myers would be doing a crash analysis post conversion. Chair Karakos replied yes and added that would be the next phase with a traffic analysis at around six months post-conversion.

Agenda Item #12 - Topics for next meeting

Mr. Scott announced there would be no meeting in July, and the next meeting would be held on August 4, 2022. Topics suggested for the next meeting included a crash analysis for the first half of the year.

Agenda Item #13 - Information and Distribution Items

There were no information and distribution items.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed here: [June 2, 2022 TAC](#)

***Action Items *May Require Action**

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