

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Thursday, September 1, 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 9:33 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 and Thomas Marquardt with Lee County; Ian Sikonia with Lee County Port Authority; Dawn Huff with LeeTran; Persides Zambrano with the City of Cape Coral; Carl Karakos with the City of Fort Myers; Matt Noble with the Village of Estero; Scott Philips with the Collier MPO; and D'Juan Harris with the Charlotte County – Punta Gorda MPO. Others in attendance included Don Scott and Ron Gogoi with the Lee County MPO; Victoria Peters with FDOT; Andy Getch with McCormick Taylor; and a Cape Coral Police Department Officer.

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 [a handout](#) to the committee that included updates on the mobility-on-demand (MOD) program and ridership. The committee discussed how the MOD program works, use of Uber app, cost, outreach, population serviced, map of service area, destinations, subsidies and funding, LeeTran ownership of vehicles, qualifications for services, paratransit services, extension of service, drivers, possibility of expansion to other areas of Lee County, current plans for expansion, impact of Covid on ridership levels, and ridership levels post-Covid.

Agenda Item #3 – FDOT Report

Ms. Victoria Peters with FDOT provided the FDOT report that included information on the development cycle of the new draft tentative Work Program, timeline for programming and submission of new projects, public workshop for US 41 median changes, grant writing and collaboration workshop, mobility week, and adopted Work Program. The committee discussed workshop times, possibility of professional credits for grant workshop, last adopted Work Program, and funding.

New Business

Agenda Item #4 - *Review and Approval of the August 4, 2022 Meeting Summary

Mr. Scott Philips made the motion to approve the August 4, 2022 Meeting Summary. Mr. D'Juan Harris seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - *Endorsement of the Aviation Priorities

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this agenda item to recommend that the MPO endorse the Lee County Port Authority's (LCPA) priorities for aviation projects at the Southwest Florida International Airport (RSW) and the Page Field Airport. He provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on the 2022 Aviation Priorities for RSW and the 2022 Aviation Priorities for Page Field. His presentation can be viewed here: [Aviation Priorities](#) The individual priority lists for RSW and Page Field were emailed to the TAC and CAC on Monday, August 29th and can also be viewed at the following links: [RSW Aviation Priorities](#) and [Page Field Aviation Priorities](#) The committee discussed the new concourse project, project increases and inflation, bond funding, FDOT program funding, FAA funding, construction of new public safety building at Page Field, and upcoming LCPA presentation.

Mr. Scott Philips made the motion to recommend MPO Board endorsement of the Aviation Priorities. Mr. Ian Sikonia seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

The committee then discussed the hanger updates project at Page Field, electric vehicle charging stations at RSW, car rental center expansion, Uber and bus/shuttle pick-up sites, cell phone and overflow lots, issues with Uber staging in downtown Fort Myers, examples of other areas designating staging spots for Uber, funding for airport shuttles and EV charging stations, LeeTran low emission grant, and adding EV charging stations to existing parking garage at RSW.

Agenda Item #6 - *Revise the Federal and State Priority List to Include the Cape Coral Bridge

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the revised Federal and State priority list to include the Cape Coral Bridge project. The list was attached to the agenda packet, [posted to the MPO website](#), and shown as slides at the meeting. Mr. Scott provided a brief history of the revision and project, funding requirements, and current status of design underway. The committee briefly discussed project specifics, needs plan, funding amount, replacement plans, connection to Fort Myers, and upcoming public meeting.

Ms. Persides Zambrano made the motion to approve the revised Federal and State Priority List to include the Cape Coral Bridge. Mr. D'Juan Harris seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #7 - *Review and Approve the Carbon Reduction Program Fund Priorities

Mr. Gogoi presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the recommended Carbon Reduction Program fund priorities 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 the Carbon Reduction Program and funding, eligible projects, requirements, consistency with the Long Range Transportation Plan, and review of the recommended priorities. His presentation can be viewed here: [Carbon Reduction Priorities](#) The committee discussed non-motorized transportation, micromobility, public transportation, McGregor Boulevard project, fund codes, types of projects, project timing, Work Program cycle, allocation of funding, project programming, guidance on grant program, committee approval of projects and funding, and proactive stance of MPO.

Ms. Persides Zambrano made the motion to approve the Carbon Reduction Fund Priorities. Mr. Farhan Butt seconded the motion.

The committee then discussed ranking criteria, priority order, examples of Cape Coral design and construction, FDOT requirements and match, not showing match in Work Program, existing project priorities, and amendments. Chair Karakos called the motion and second.

There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #8 - Update on the Federal Discretionary and Formula Grant Programs

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item as an update on the Federal Discretionary and Formula Grant Programs. He provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on Five Year Work Program amounts, next steps, National EV Infrastructure Formula Program, EV Program, Alternative Fuel Corridors, interested parties, Florida EV Deployment Plan, EV Planning Resources, Carbon Reduction Program, FY 22 Allocations for Urbanized Areas, Carbon Reduction Strategy (CRS), CRS requirements, additional background, Federal Discretionary Grants, New Federal Opportunities, our approach, FDOT Grant Applications, recent partner successes, grant information sessions, in-person schedule, letters of consistency, MPO support of Federal grant, and grant coordinators for Florida. His presentation can be viewed here: [Grant Programs](#) The committee discussed studies, EV charging at rest areas, approval by FHWA and FDOT, other programs, performance measures for tailpipe emissions, reduction of emission on NHS facilities, using lower threshold from 2021, Estero charging station and network, types of charging stations, funding for charging stations, universal charging stations, example in Europe, funding availability, coordination with FDOT, regional coordination, toll revenue credits, local funding match, letters of consistency, and including local FDOT staff in coordination and communication.

Agenda Item #9 - Information on Project Cost Increases

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item on project cost increases. He provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on increases for new construction, increases for resurfacing, Florida Cost Trend for Asphalt Pavement, Asphalt Binder Trends, Florida Cost Trends for Structural Concrete, Base Florida Cost Trends, US Steel Price Trends, Florida Cost Trends for Guardrail, Florida Cost Trends for Overhead Signage, Florida Cost Trends for Single Mast Arms, and Florida Producer Input Prices versus FDOT Bid Prices. His presentation can be viewed here: [Project Increases](#) He asked if there were any comments or questions. The committee discussed examples of Fort Myers projects, approval of new funds by Central Office, approval process of Fort Myers projects, and FDOT LAP coordinator staff changes.

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

There were no announcements.

Agenda Item #12 - Topics for next meeting

There were no topics suggested for next meeting.

Agenda Item #13 - Information and Distribution Items

The information and distribution items included public meeting notices for the Burnt Store Road PD&E, SR 739 project, and SR 78 corridor vision. Ms. Peters mentioned the US 41 and Old US 41 public meetings. Chair Karakos asked about wording for a potential motion at the City of Fort Myers BPAC meeting regarding funding for a Fort Myers bridge and said he would follow-up in an email to staff.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed here: [TAC September 1, 2022](#)

*Action Items †May Require Action

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