

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Thursday, January 5, 2023
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 Farhan Butt with Lee County; Ian Sikonia with Lee County Port Authority (9:43 a.m.); Persides Zambrano and Laura Dodd with the City of Cape Coral; Tony Palermo and Carl Karakos with the City of Fort Myers; Jason Smalley with the Town of Fort Myers Beach; Craig Chandler with the City of Sanibel; Matt Noble and David Willems with the Village of Estero; Sean Kingston with the Collier MPO; D’Juan Harris with the Charlotte County – Punta Gorda MPO; and Mike Cook with the Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District. Others in attendance included Don Scott, Ron Gogoi, and Calandra Barraco with the Lee County MPO; Joshua Jester and Bill Howell with FDOT; Steve Ludwinski with Corradino; Johnny Limbaugh with Wright; Nicole Harris with Stantec; Andy Getch with McCormick Taylor; and members of the public Marsha Ellis and Patty Whitehead.

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

A member of the public, Ms. Marsha Ellis, provided a public comment on Agenda Item #6 – LRTP Amendments. The committee briefly discussed Verdana Village, requiring road expansions to be developer responsibility, county road development process, and not placing widening responsibility on Lee County Department of Transportation.

Agenda Item #2 – LeeTran Report

LeeTran had nothing to report.

Agenda Item #3 – FDOT Report

FDOT had nothing to report, but Mr. Scott mentioned upcoming public meetings.

New Business

Agenda Item #4 - *Review and Approval of the November 3, 2022 Meeting Summary

Mr. Mike Cook made the motion to approve the November 3, 2022 Meeting Summary. Mr. Matt Noble seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - *Election of Officers for 2023

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item for the Election of Officers for 2023. He said consistent with the TAC bylaws, a Chair and Vice-Chair are to be elected at the first regularly scheduled meeting of each calendar year. Any voting member or his or her alternate may nominate another voting member to be an officer and the current voting members of the TAC, who are eligible to serve as officers, were listed on the roster that was included in the staff report and [attached to the agenda](#)

[packet](#). Ms. Persides Zambrano introduced Ms. Laura Dodd as the new primary Cape Coral Public Works representative to the TAC effective next meeting.

Ms. Persides Zambrano made the motion to elect Mr. Mike Cook as TAC Chair and Ms. Laura Dodd as TAC Vice-Chair for 2023. Mr. Carl Karakos seconded the motion. There were no other nominations and there were no objections. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Karakos then passed the meeting over to the newly elected Chair, Mr. Mike Cook.

Agenda Item #6 - *Review and Approve the Proposed 2045 LRTP Amendments

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the proposed amendments to the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). MPO staff is proposing the LRTP amendments/modifications to be voted on by the Board at their January 20th meeting. The proposed amendments to the Needs and Cost Feasible Plan tables and maps were [attached to the agenda packet](#) in underline and strike through format. He provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on a map of the Corkscrew area, traffic volumes, updated needs plan, updated language, updated project tables, review of projects, funding and revenues, and a map of the Hickey Creek area with respect to the Sunshine Boulevard extension project. His presentation can be viewed here: [2045 LRTP Amendments](#) The committee discussed City of Fort Myers staff forwarding a proposed Corkscrew alignment from an FDOT presentation to MPO staff, road widening study for Alico/Corkscrew, traffic modeling in the area, Alico Expressway, modeling threshold, funding for Cape Coral projects, truck parking facility/rest area project in Charlotte County, current truck parking issues, type of funding for Charlotte County truck parking/rest area, Challenger extension project, impacts of Challenger on traffic modeling, ensuring project is in cost feasible plan, and matching project to existing configuration. A member of the public, Ms. Patty Whitehead asked to make a public comment. Mr. Scott noted it was at the discretion of the Chair. Chair Cook agreed to take the public comment. Ms. Whitehead then provided a public comment on the Kingston Development. The committee continued their discussion on the FDOT access management review, contacting Lee County, review and permitting through South Florida Water Management, hiring attorneys to represent interests, Corkscrew widening, project status in Lee County funding tiers, SR 82 future widening, analysis and modeling of projects, possible creation of bottlenecks from improvements, and funding time frame. Ms. Marsha Ellis, a member of the public, provided a public comment on Alico Road. Chair Cook asked for a motion.

Ms. Persides Zambrano made the motion to approve the proposed Amendments to the LRTP. Mr. David Willems seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #7 - *Review and Approve the 2050 Zonal Data Scope of Work

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the scope of services for the development of the socio-economic data that will be used in the update of the Regional Transportation Model. He referred to and reviewed the draft scope of services for the development of the 2050 socio-economic data that will be used in the update of FDOT's Regional Transportation Model which was attached to the agenda packet and [posted to the MPO website](#). The committee briefly discussed the traffic analysis zones (TAZs), changes to the zones, different versions of the model, FDOT transitioning to new platform, different platforms used, ensuring Lee County DOT and FDOT use the same platforms, comparing outputs of platforms, calibration of new version of platform, developing socio-economic data in model, and using same consultant for new data.

Ms. Persides Zambrano made the motion to approve the 2050 Zonal Data Scope of Work. Mr. Matt Noble seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #8 - *Recommend MPO Support of FDOT's New Bridge, Pavement and System Performance (PM3) Targets

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this agenda item to recommend MPO Support of FDOT's Statewide PM2 and PM3 Targets for the Second Performance Period. He provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on the performance measure targets and performance periods and two and four year performance measure targets for bridge and pavement. He asked if there were any questions. His presentation can be viewed here: [Performance Measure Targets](#) The committee discussed clarification of performance measures, Daniels permanent count station, targets, and travel time index. Chair Cook asked for a motion.

Ms. Persides Zambrano made the motion to recommend MPO support of FDOT's Statewide PM2 and PM3 Targets for the Second Performance Period. Mr. Carl Karakos seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Marsha Ellis, a member of the public, asked to make another public comment. Chair Cook noted additional public comments would be taken at the end of the meeting (Agenda Item #11).

Agenda Item #9 - Presentation on the I-75 South Corridor Master Plan Updates

Ms. Nicole Harris with Stantec, FDOT's consultant for this project, presented this agenda item as an update on the I-75 South Corridor Master Plan. Ms. Harris provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on an introduction to the Mater Plan, 2045 No-Build Year of Need, preliminary list of proposed projects, proposed typical sections, weave section, public outreach, and next steps. The presentation can be viewed here: [I-75 Master Plan South Corridor Update](#) The committee discussed collector-distributor (C-D) roads, managed lanes, tolling, additional studies being done, autonomous vehicles, 951 in Collier County, usage of managed lanes in certain sections of I-75, improvements of parallel roads, adjacent intersections, identification of needs, accounting for growth, prioritizing and coordinating with local governments, example of interchange near Vanderbilt, other area meetings scheduled, providing presentations from other area meetings, year of failure/need, funding, multimodal solutions, determining right-of-way needed during the design phase, possibility for bus or rail, typical sections, Colonial interchange, Corkscrew interchange, consideration of autonomous vehicles in previous model but not current model, width of multimodal area, conceptual designs, noise walls, migratory bird populations, examining wildlife in Project Development and Environment (PD&E) phase, pond sites, and balancing impacts. Chair Cook asked if there was additional discussion. There was none. He thanked Ms. Harris for the presentation.

Agenda Item #10 - Review of the Draft Tentative Work Program for FY 2023/2024 through 2027/2028

Mr. Gogoi presented this agenda item as a review of the Draft Tentative FDOT Work Program for FY 2023/2024 through FY 2027/2028. The FDOT Draft Tentative Work Program, which covers fiscal years 2024 through 2028 and is developed consistent with FDOT's plans and project priorities, the MPO's project priorities and available funding and the summary of changes from FDOT were [attached to the agenda packet](#). Mr. Gogoi provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on the Federal and State funded priorities, the TA and SU Multimodal Priorities, Coconut Road project, Daniels Parkway project, Carbon Reduction Program Priorities, and Carbon Reduction Fund use and remaining balance. He asked if there were any questions. His presentation can be found here: [Work Program](#) The committee discussed the Gator Circle project, funding for the project,

Carbon Reduction Funds allocation from Central Office, City of Fort Myers Carbon Reduction projects, further studies related to these projects, updated language in the LRTP amendments to allow for use of funds for projects not specifically identified in the LRTP, adding to the list of traffic systems management and operations (TSMO) projects, Challenger extension project, need for new projects since most have been funded, sending out call for projects, Bell Boulevard sidewalk project, only including the one funded project right-of-way for mainline at Daniels for \$40 million, current traffic issues on Challenger, lights on Winkler, bicycle lanes on Winkler, and Burnt Store project.

Other Business

Agenda Item #11 - Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

A member of the public, Ms. Marsha Ellis, provided a public comment on the Alico Connector project and Conservation 20/20. Chair Cook asked if there were additional comments. There were none.

Agenda Item #12 – Announcements

There were no announcements.

Agenda Item #13 - Topics for next meeting

Mr. Scott noted there would be no TAC meeting in February due to the Joint Meeting between the Lee and Charlotte – Punta Gorda MPO Boards. Chair Cook noted the next TAC meeting was scheduled for March 2, 2023. There were no topics suggested for the March 2, 2023 meeting. Chair Cook asked if Ms. Ellis and Ms. Whitehead had contacted LCDOT. He noted that LAMSID has provided dirt for several Lee County projects. Mr. Farhan Butt suggested that Ms. Ellis and Ms. Whitehead contact Lee County DOT directly. Ms. Ellis, a member of the public, provided another public comment on a Conservation 20/20 meeting she had attended and FDOT's recent comment period. The committee briefly discussed project consultants, dirt available from LAMSID, Sunshine project, and previously purchased right-of-way.

Agenda Item #14 - Information and Distribution Items

There were no information and distribution items.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed here: [TAC January 5, 2023](#)

***Action Items *May Require Action**

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Calandra Barraco with the Lee County MPO at 239-330-2243 or by email at cbarraco@leempoc.com at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired call (800) 955-8770 Voice / (800) 955-8771 TDD. The MPO's planning process is conducted in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes. Any person or beneficiary who believes they have been discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, or familial status may file a complaint with the Lee County MPO Title VI Coordinator, Calandra Barraco, at 239-330-2243, or in writing at P.O. Box 150045, Cape Coral, Florida 33915-0045.