

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Thursday, March 2, 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 Mike Cook.

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; Laura Dodd with the City of Cape Coral; Tony Palermo and Nicole Monahan with the City of Fort Myers; Matt Noble with the Village of Estero; Sean Kingston with the Collier 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; Ned Baier with Volkert; Steve Ludwinski with Corradino; Andy Getch with McCormick Taylor; and members of the public Marsha Ellis, Patty Whitehead, and Deb Orton.

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

Members of the public Ms. Marsha Ellis (Agenda Item #7) and Ms. Deb Orton (Agenda Item #5) provided public comments on items on the agenda. Mr. Ron Gogoi commented on the positive public involvement of Friends of BERT (Bonita Estero Rail Trail) under the direction of Ms. Deb Orton. Chair Cook asked if there were additional public comments. There were none.

Agenda Item #2 – LeeTran Report

Ms. Dawn Huff with LeeTran provided the LeeTran report on LeeTran's off season changes beginning April 27, the South Fort Myers Transfer Station opening on April 27, out to bid status of the Lehigh transfer station, and mobility on demand projects in Lehigh and Bonita.

Agenda Item #3 – FDOT Report

FDOT had nothing to report.

New Business

Agenda Item #4 - *Review and Approval of the January 5, 2023 Meeting Summary

Ms. Laura Dodd made the motion to approve the January 5, 2023 Meeting Summary. Mr. Matt Noble seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - *Acceptance of the Bonita Estero Rail Trail Feasibility Study

Mr. Ned Baier with Volkert provided a Power Point presentation on the Bonita Estero Rail Trail Feasibility Study that included slides with information on purpose, team, rails-to-trails program information, example of the Legacy Trail, map of proposed Rail Trail area and SUN Trail network, rail corridor market value, funding, feasibility study content, study area, methodology, alternatives, map of alignments, safety and security on trails, example of Snoqualmie Valley Trail, public involvement, feasibility study status, study findings, and next steps. He asked if there were any questions. His

presentation can be viewed here: [Rail Trail Study](#) The committee discussed an award given to the Legacy Trail and similarities to Legacy Trail project.

Ms. Dawn Huff made the motion to accept the Bonita Estero Rail Trail Feasibility Study. Mr. Ian Sikonia seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 - Discussion and Impacts Regarding the 2020 Census Data and Maps Release

Mr. Don Scott provided a Power Point presentation on the 2020 Census Data and Maps Release that included slides with information on MPO activities related to the 2020 Census, population changes, 2020 census map, 2000 census map, 2010 census map, urbanized area population estimates, growth, Transportation Management Area (TMA) table, Federal funding allocations, funding impacts, previous actions on urbanized census changes, and current urban area census actions. He asked if there were any comments or questions. There were none. His presentation can be viewed here: [2020 Census Update](#)

Agenda Item #7 - Review of the Federal Certification Report

Mr. Scott provided a Power Point presentation as a review of the Federal Certification Report that included slides with information on the Federal Certification review team, purpose, overview of the process, summary of risk assessment, noteworthy practices, recommendations, and review findings. Mr. Scott noted the Public Involvement Plan update will be brought to the committees soon and asked if there were any comments or questions on the presentation. There were no comments or questions. His presentation can be found here: [Federal Certification Report](#)

Agenda Item #8 - Information on the Safe Streets For All Award

Mr. Scott provided a Power Point presentation on the Safe Streets For All (SS4A) Grant Award that included slides with information on background, funding, National Roadway Safety Strategy, Safe System Approach, basics of roadway safety, types of SS4A grants, overview of FY 2022 SS4A grants, roles and responsibilities of grant recipient, requirement of grant agreement, execution of grant agreement, and expenditure of Federal grant funds. Mr. Scott noted more information will be brought back as it is available. He asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none. His presentation can be accessed here: [SS4A Grant Award](#)

Other Business

Agenda Item #9 - Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

Members of the public Ms. Deb Orton, Ms. Patty Whitehead, and Ms. Marsha Ellis provided public comments.

Agenda Item #10 – Announcements

Chair Cook announced the Bell Boulevard emergency bridge repairs would be completed this weekend. Mr. Scott noted there was not a TAC meeting scheduled for April, and the next TAC meeting would be held on May 4.

Agenda Item #11 - Topics for next meeting

Topics suggested for next meeting included the update of the Public Involvement Plan.

Agenda Item #12 - Information and Distribution Items

There were no information and distribution items.

Ms. Dawn Huff made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Farhan Butt seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed here: [TAC March 2, 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@leempo.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.