

**TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS  
COMMITTEE**

10:00 a.m., March 10, 2021  
**VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING**  
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## **Meeting Minutes**

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### **Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order**

The virtual Zoom meeting recording was started at approximately 10:00 a.m. Chair Jansen called the meeting to order.

### **Agenda Item #2 - Roll Call/Introductions**

Roll was recorded by MPO staff and the Zoom platform. There was a quorum.

#### **Members Present**

Allison Evanitz	Commute Connector
Carl Karakos	City of Fort Myers
David Willems	Village of Estero
Doug Higgins	Lee County EMS
James Lear	Cape Coral Police Department
Jorge Puente	LeeTran
Kyle Grattic	Lee County Schools
Michael Cook	Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District
Pierre Beauvoir	Collier County DOT
Rick Anglickis	Citizen Advisory Committee
Steve Jansen	Lee County DOT
Tessa Heines	Cape Coral Public Works Traffic Engineering
Victoria Poleski	Lee County - Tolls

Others in attendance included: Ron Gogoi, Don Scott, and Calandra Barraco with the Lee County MPO; Natalia Lercari with McMahon; Kaye Molnar with Cella & Molnar; and Victoria Peters with FDOT.

### **Agenda Item #3 - Public Comments on Items on the Agenda**

There were no public comments on items on the agenda.

### **Agenda Item #4 - Discussion of the December 9, 2020 Minutes**

No changes were called out to the meeting minutes from December 9, 2020. Mr. Gogoi explained that due to the virtual only nature of the meeting, items could not be voted on as a quorum in the room was required. He noted that action items could be compiled and voted on and the next in-person meeting.

### **Agenda Item #5 - Discussion on the Officers for TMOC**

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this agenda item for the discussion on the Officers for the TMOC. He said that Chair Jansen could continue as Chair for the TMOC. Chair Jansen said that he was not able to continue as Chair for the TMOC as he was retiring in May. Mr. Gogoi said that Mr. Jay Anderson could move up from Vice-Chair to Chair, but Mr. Anderson was not present to accept. Mr. Gogoi suggested

that someone else could be nominated to serve for the rest of the year. Mr. Carl Karakos asked if it was procedure for the Vice-Chair to become the Chair. Mr. Gogoi replied no and added that was the procedure for the BPCC. Mr. Gogoi then listed the members present that were eligible to serve as Chair of the TMOC. Mr. Karakos asked who was replacing Chair Jansen when he retired. Chair Jansen said Mr. David Murphy would be replacing him. Mr. Karakos asked if Mr. Murphy could be nominated. Mr. Gogoi said that Mr. Murphy could not be nominated as he was not a member of the TMOC. Mr. Gogoi asked who was the CTST representative. Chair Jansen said the Vice-Chair Anderson was the CTST member. Mr. Gogoi then suggested Mr. Michael Cook. Mr. Cook said he would serve as Chair of the TMOC but noted that another agency representative might be better for the role as LA-MSID doesn't have a traffic department. Mr. Gogoi said Mr. Cook could serve as Chair of the TMOC in the interim, and he would inform him of any changes.

### **Agenda Item #6 - FDOT Commute Connector Update**

Ms. Allison Evanitz with FDOT's Commute Connector presented this agenda item as an update to the program. She gave a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on who they are, what they do, employer/employee services, commute platform insights, Lee County inflow/outflow among users, best workplaces in Lee County for commuters, and Commute Connector contact information. She asked if there were any questions. The entire presentation can be viewed here: [https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-8-Update-02232021Lee-County-MPO\\_TMOC\\_Commute-Connector-Update-final.pdf](https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-8-Update-02232021Lee-County-MPO_TMOC_Commute-Connector-Update-final.pdf) Mr. Karakos asked if Ms. Evanitz could provide the program link. Ms. Evanitz said it could be accessed on the Commute Connector website, but she would also provide a flyer that could be sent out. Mr. Karakos asked if Ms. Evanitz could present at his next virtual BPAB meeting. Ms. Evanitz said she would. Mr. Karakos said he would send an email reminder to Ms. Evanitz. Ms. Evanitz said she could also set up a cycle savvy course. She asked anyone else to contact her if they would like Commute Connector to attend their meeting. Mr. Gogoi asked if Ms. Evanitz could provide graphics with data for the past three to four years at the upcoming TAC/CAC meetings with all the modes separated out. Ms. Evanitz said she would gather and present that data. She said she could also provide sustainability reports on request. Chair Jansen asked if there were any other questions. There were none. Chair Jansen thanked Ms. Evanitz for her presentation.

### **Agenda Item #7 - LeeTran Fixed Route Bus Service Changes**

Mr. Jorge Puente with LeeTran gave a presentation on the LeeTran fixed route bus service changes. His Power Point presentation included slides with information on the upcoming bus service route changes and maps of the upcoming route changes. His presentation can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-2-LeeTran-SCC-Presentation.pdf> Mr. Gogoi asked Mr. Puente to explain the Transit Development Plan (TDP) and the Comprehensive Operations Analysis (COA). Mr. Puente explained the documents. The committee briefly discussed coordination between local jurisdictions and LeeTran, possible LeeTran funding contributions for project requests from LeeTran to help offset costs for local jurisdictions, upcoming City of Fort Myers projects that require coordination with LeeTran, status of bus rapid transit, and status of mobility on demand. Chair Jansen asked if there were any more comments. There were none. He thanked Mr. Puente for his presentation.

### **Agenda Item #8 - Lee County Urban Mobility Analysis**

Mr. Don Scott gave a presentation on the Lee County Urban Mobility Analysis. He reviewed and discussed the interactive map that can be found at the following link: <https://tableau.tamu.edu/t/TTI/views/SUMAForidaFreightPerformance/PrimaryDashboard?:showAppB&:isGuestRedirectFromVizportal=y&:embed=y> He noted there was no data for bridges. He said this could be used as a reference tool for upcoming projects. Mr. Gogoi noted that Veterans Parkway was shown as a freeway. Mr. Scott showed Veterans on the interactive map. Mr. Gogoi added that other

maps do not show Veterans as a freeway, usually only I-75. Mr. Scott commented on the unreliable segment background and asked if there were any comments. Chair Jansen asked what this could be used for. Mr. Scott replied it could be used for project priorities as it provides ranking information, especially for freight. Mr. Gogoi added it could be used by anyone submitting grants when specific traffic related data is required. Chair Jansen asked if the data was real-time and how often it was updated. Mr. Scott said the data is only available up to the end of 2019 and it is updated quarterly. Mr. Scott added that the data could be searched by time of day. Chair Jansen asked if there were any other questions. There were none. He thanked Mr. Scott for his presentation.

### **Agenda Item #9 - Information on the US 41 Caloosahatchee Bridge Bike Ped Discussions**

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item on the US41 Caloosahatchee Bridge Discussions at the MPO Board. Mr. Scott gave a brief Power Point presentation that included slides with information on background, various options, and other issues. He asked if there were any comments. The committee briefly discussed presentation of this information at the City of Fort Myers BPAB, bringing the updates back to the TMOC from the MPO Board meeting presentation, typical cross sections, MPO Board meeting viewing available on LeeTV, higher priority of project now, lack of funding, and possible need to resubmit or update previous applications. His presentation can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-Item-10-Caloosahatchee-Bridge.pdf>

### **Agenda Item #11 - Update on Funded and Unfunded Projects for 2020 Priority List**

In order to allow time for the City of Fort Myers consultant, presenting Agenda Item #10, to sign-on to the virtual meeting, Mr. Ron Gogoi and Chair Jansen agreed to move to Agenda item #11. Mr. Gogoi then presented this agenda item as an update on the Funded and Unfunded Projects for the 2020 Priority List. He gave a PowerPoint presentation that included information on 2019 Lee MPO SUN Trail priorities, funded and unfunded project lists, new candidate project phases for 2021, and the wrong way vehicle detection project system and graphics. Ms. Victoria Peters with FDOT added that she spoke with the project managers of the wrong way vehicle detection project, and they agree to add Corkscrew to the project. Mr. Scott thanked Ms. Peters. Mr. Karakos asked about the standing of the JYLP Trailhead application. Mr. Gogoi said it could be submitted for funding in 2024 or 2025 as the funds must be spent immediately and that project is not ready yet. Mr. Karakos asked if there was a feasibility phase. Mr. Gogoi replied no. Chair Jansen thanked Mr. Gogoi for his presentation. The presentation can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-10-Funded-Projects.pdf>

### **Agenda Item #10 - Winkler Avenue Access Management Plan**

Mr. Carl Karakos with the City of Fort Myers introduced Ms. Natalia Lercari with McMahan Associates, the consultant for this project. Ms. Lercari provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on the purpose of the study, key intersections included, scope of work, field reviews/observations, development projects under evaluation by the City of Fort Myers, operations summary, safety evaluation – crashes 2016 to 2018, signal warrant analysis, access management evaluation, and access management plan. Mr. Karakos mentioned a discussion with Fort Myers staff regarding funding these projects. He asked if anyone on the committee had any thoughts in anticipation of public feedback. Chair Jansen asked about accommodation of U-turn movements. Mr. Karakos said the same issue was faced on SR 80. Ms. Lercari mentioned one example in the Winkler project area noting there was enough room for a U-turn. She added that regular growth and committed developments were considered in the access management analysis. Mr. Karakos asked about differing public opinion regarding funding sources. Chair Jansen said that most developers will pay if spread out over several developments as they are able to absorb fairly readily. Mr. Karakos gave a local example and asked if there were any more comments. There were none. The entire presentation can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-10-Winkler-Access-Presentation.pdf>

## **Agenda Item #12 - Local Agency/MPO Updates**

Mr. Karakos mentioned upcoming City of Fort Myers projects including the Winkler Access Management plan, First and Second Streets, and McGregor. Chair Jansen mentioned several new traffic signals coming to Lehigh Acres and the Corkscrew widening project. Mr. Karakos asked if anything could be done regarding truck buildup at the signal at Alico and Ben Hill. Chair Jansen said it could be examined after the road is turned over. Mr. Karakos mentioned another area where trucks entering the roadway bring large accumulations of dirt. Chair Jansen said that may be a code enforcement issue. Mr. David Willems commented on upcoming Estero projects including Estero Parkway, River Ranch Road, landscaping for roundabouts, bike ped improvements on Williams, and the interlocal agreement on Corkscrew. Ms. Peters announced the FDOT hybrid public meeting for SR 31 would be held on Thursday, March 11. She provided additional details for the meeting. Mr. Michael Cook mentioned the agreement for Able Canal bikeway was finalized and should be going forward for approval next month. Sergeant James Lear mentioned the release of the 2021 Dangerous by Design report from Smart Growth America and the status of Cape Coral on the list. Mr. Scott added that the Cape Coral area included all of Lee County in the report. Mr. Scott also noted that our area had dropped from number one to number eight to the current spot of number eleven. He also mentioned a recent interview with Wink News on the report. The committee briefly discussed the Smart Growth organization, the methodology for calculating the results, and the release of the report to news outlets first.

## **Agenda Item #13 - Public and Member Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

Mr. Gogoi mentioned that Mr. Anglickis had asked about a bridge in Lehigh Acres at the recent CAC meeting. Due to technical difficulties, Mr. Anglickis was unable to share the information on the bridge. Staff said they would coordinate with Mr. Anglickis on the location of the bridge and pass the information along to Lee County.

## **Agenda Item #14 – Announcements**

There were no announcements.

## **Agenda Item #15 - Topics for next meeting**

Topics suggested for next meeting included the draft TIP and priorities. Mr. Gogoi said the next meeting, being held in May, would most likely be virtual again unless there were urgent action items that needed to be addressed in person.

## **Agenda Item #16 - Information and Distribution Items**

There were no information and/or distribution items.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

An audio recording of the entire meeting can be found here: <https://soundcloud.com/user-390911534/03-10-2021-tmoc>

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