

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization

Wednesday, January 11, 2023

Fort Myers Collaboratory

2031 Jackson Street,

Fort Myers, FL 33901

10:00 a.m.



Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order

Chair Jay Anderson called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m.

Agenda Item #2 - Roll Call/Introductions

The committee members introduced themselves. Roll was recorded by MPO staff. There was a quorum.

Members Present

Bill Floyd	Lee County Emergency Management
Carl Karakos	City of Fort Myers
David Rivera	Lee County Schools
David Willems	Village of Estero
Dennis Petracca	Lee County Sheriff's Office
Ian Sikonia	Lee County Port Authority
James Lear	Cape Coral Police Department
Jason Freeman	Town of Fort Myers Beach
Jay Anderson	Community Traffic Safety Team
Jillian Scholler	Lee County Department of Transportation
Kristi Neroni	Fort Myers Police Department
Mike Cook	Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District
Sean Kingston	Collier MPO
Teresa Lewis	Lee County MPO Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee
Victoria Poleski	Lee County Department of Transportation, Tolls

Others in attendance included: Ron Gogoi and Brian Raimondo with the Lee County MPO; Andy Getch with McCormick Taylor; Trent Ebersole with McMahon; Zachary Tapp 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 – Approval of September 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Mike Cook made the motion to approve the September 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes. Mr. Bill Floyd seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

In order to allow additional time for FDOT to arrive, Chair Anderson agreed to delay Agenda Item #5 and skip to Agenda Item #6.

Agenda Item #6 - Level 2 Traffic Signal Damage Assessment Overview

Ms. Jillian Scholler with LCDOT provided an overview of Level 2 Hurricane Ian Traffic Signal Damage Assessment, repair costs, and repair cost share between the County and the individual municipalities. She provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on recovery phases and related data. The presentation can be viewed here: [Traffic Signal Assessment](#) The committee discussed City of Fort Myers signals, number of signals in other jurisdictions, signal timing issues in the county, influx of visitors after hurricane, increased traffic counts, traffic in Lehigh. In order to allow additional time for FDOT to arrive, Chair Anderson agreed to delay Agenda Item #5 and Agenda Item #7 FDOT items and move to Agenda Item #8 and #9.

Agenda Item #8 - Challenger Blvd Extension and Winkler Avenue Access Management Improvements

Mr. Carl Karakos presented the proposed Challenger Boulevard extension. He discussed the project limits, typical sections, and proposed frontage roads along Colonial that will serve adjoining parcels and feed traffic into the proposed extension and the Winkler Avenue Access Management improvements. He also discussed the concept plans of two new Lee Memorial Hospitals that will be served by the proposed extension. His presentation can be found here: [Challenger/Winkler Improvements](#).

Agenda Item #9 - Edison Home Crosswalk and Traffic Signal Improvements

Mr. Karakos provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Edison Home Crosswalk and Traffic Signal Improvements. His presentation included slides with information on crosswalk location map, letter from Edison Home staff, historic preservation application, comments made at Historic Preservation Commission meeting, Edison Home perceived issues and needs, traffic calming study, crash investigation, traffic calming devices, engineering's plan, seasonal safety risk of aggressive driving, evaluation of in-pavement flashing warning lights, traffic cameras, City of Fort Myers land development code, Historic Preservation Certificate of Review, latest crosswalk design with pavers and cameras, and upcoming Historic Preservation meeting. His presentation can be viewed here: [Edison Home Improvements](#) The committee discussed low number of crashes/incidents in Edison Home area, involvement of City Council/City Manager/City Attorney, jurisdiction of roadway, issues with use/maintenance of cameras, speed tables, maintaining character of area, use of state-of-the-art equipment, use of lights to reflect Edison Home history, hours of Edison home, possible use of more traditional traffic signal, residents'/committee member use every day and not noticing issues, queuing issues for crossing street, hiring additional officers for enforcement, rumble strips use, speed feedback strips, issues with passing in turn lane, possible use of tree that overhangs instead of palm tree, displacement of palm tree issues, safety concerns, and Historic Preservation Committee jurisdiction.

Agenda Item #5 - Draft Tentative Work Program

Ms. Victoria Peters with FDOT gave an overview on the District 1 Draft Tentative Work Program (DTWP) covering fiscal years 2024 through 2028 that was released on December 1st. The DTWP for Lee County and the summary of changes were attached to the agenda packet and [posted on the MPO website](#). Mr. Gogoi then showed slides identifying the projects from the Federal and State Funded Priority list, TA and SU Multimodal Priority list and Carbon Reduction Priority list that were funded in the DTWP. He also showed a table of the projects in the DTWP that received Carbon Reduction funds and the fund balance in each fiscal year. He also discussed a MPO memo on a call for proposals for the new funding cycle that he had earlier transmitted to all the local governments. The slides can be viewed here: [Draft Work Program](#).

Agenda Item #7 - Business 41/SR 739 Corridor Improvements

Ms. Victoria Peters with FDOT introduced Mr. Zachary Tapp, the project manager with Atkins, who provided a presentation on the Business 41/SR 739 Corridor Improvements. The PowerPoint presentation can be accessed here: [SR 739 Improvements](#). Committee discussed a suggestion from Ms. Teresa Lewis to replace the existing sidewalk with a shared use path, and providing better protection to cyclists by providing a barrier separating the proposed bicycle lanes from the motor vehicle lanes. It was pointed out that right of way was constrained, and that construction of shared use paths would be very expensive. Speeding issue on this roadway corridor and proposed landscaping in the median was also discussed.

Agenda Item #10 - Local Agency/FDOT/MPO Updates

Ms. Victoria Peters with FDOT mentioned upcoming grant training workshops, SIS update workshop, and SR 31 from SR 80 to SR 78 public meeting. Mr. Raimondo commented on the Safe Kids Day event and crash car demonstration at various locations/high school in Lee County.

Agenda Item #11 - Public and Member Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

There were no public comments on items not on the agenda.

Agenda Item #12 – Announcements

There were no announcements.

Agenda Item #13 - Topics for next meeting

There were no topics suggested for the next meeting.

Agenda Item #14 - Information and Distribution Items

Mr. Gogoi spoke about a new grant opportunity called US Environmental Justice Government to Government Program. Eligible applicants are local governments in partnership with a Community Based Organizations. The slides can be found here: [Environmental Justice Grant](#) The committee discussed possible topics for the upcoming Bicycle Pedestrian Committee meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:10 p.m.

An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed at: [TMOG Audio January 11, 2023](#)

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