

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Thursday, November 3, 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 9:30 a.m. by Vice-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; Carl Karakos with the City of Fort Myers (arrived at 9:50 a.m.); Craig Chandler with the City of Sanibel; Matt Noble with the Village of Estero; Anne McLaughlin and 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; Victoria Peters, Steven Andrews, Tanya Merkle, and Abra Horne with FDOT; Andy Getch with McCormick Taylor; Kristin Caruso and Jay Winter with Scalar; Laura Everitt and Amanda Harig with Benesch; 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 information on upcoming service changes related to seasonal service, services being provided to Sanibel, Rosa Parks completion, 90% completion plans for Lehigh, south facility construction, and the ADA assessment.

Agenda Item #3 – FDOT Report

Ms. Victoria Peters with FDOT provided the FDOT report that included information on rescheduling of discretionary grant workshops due to Hurricane Ian, draft work program updates, and work program public involvement outreach. She asked if there were any questions. There were none.

New Business

Agenda Item #4 - *Review and Approval of the September 1, 2022 Meeting Summary

Mr. D'Juan Harris made the motion to approve the September 1, 2022 Meeting Summary. Ms. Dawn Huff seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - *Recommend MPO Adoption of the 2022 Highway Safety Targets

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item to recommend MPO Adoption of the 2022 Highway Safety Targets. He noted that every year the MPO is required to adopt the Highway Safety Performance Targets. He added FDOT has been maintaining 'zero' for the target for the five (5) Highway Safety Performance Measures since the statewide targets were first established in 2018. He said the Lee

MPO continues to support the Florida statewide targets and referred to the safety performance measures reporting by MPO area and the safety targets that staff recommended for 2023 to be consistent with the safety targets that FDOT set on August 31st which were attached to the meeting agenda packet, [posted to the MPO website](#), and shown as slides at the meeting. The committee discussed studies to determine causalities, application for a Safe Streets for All grant, single vehicle high speed crashes, lack of enforcement, poor driver behavior, hit-and-run incidents, suggestions for possible pilot studies, reading crash reports, difficulty in determining solution, local example of Mid-point bridge teen driver death related to high speed, difficulty with mitigation of incidents, FHWA suggestions to design roadways differently, inability to add roundabouts and turns on every roadway, use of speed cameras, use of training, distracted behavior, understanding causes but needing enforcement, increase in serious injuries, and age related injuries. Vice-Chair Cook asked if there was a motion.

Mr. D’Juan Harris made the motion to recommend MPO Adoption of the 2022 Highway Safety Targets. Mr. Farhan Butt seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 - *Review and Approve the TIGER Project Data Collection Scope of Services

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the TIGER Project Data Collection Scope of Services. He said the MPO is required to collect performance measure data for the next two years as part of the performance data collection and reporting requirements that came with the TIGER grant requirements back when it was awarded in 2013. He explained the baseline data was collected in 2015, just prior to construction starting. He continued the first year of performance data, after construction completion, was collected last in 2019 in mid-December based on the date of project completion. He added the collection of bicycle pedestrian counts, crash data analysis and transit ridership are required to be collected each year whereas the survey data collection is required to be collected in 2021 and 2023, this was also collected for the baseline prior to construction. He referred to the draft scope for this year’s data collection, which was attached to the agenda packet, [posted to the MPO website](#), and shown as slides at the meeting. He also mentioned the locations identified to collect the counts are illustrated on the exhibits and are consistent with the data locations done in the past. He noted there may be impacts due to the storm. He said there have been benefits in that additional people have been using the areas since completion of the project. The committee briefly discussed required updates and reluctance of some jurisdictions due to requirements. Vice-Chair Cook asked if there was a motion for approval.

Mr. Matt Noble made the motion to approve the TIGER Project Data Collection Scope of Services. Mr. Ian Sikonia seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Walk-on Agenda Item – Recommend 2022 SUN Trail Priorities

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this walk-on agenda item to recommend MPO Board approval of the 2022 Sun Trail priorities. He provided a brief Power Point presentation that included slides with information on the SUN Trail priority list, Kismet Parkway project, Estero Boulevard project, and the Caloosahatchee Downtown Multimodal Alternative Study project. His presentation can be accessed here: [2022 SUN Trail Priorities](#) The committee discussed local match for a Fort Myers project, use of MPO funding to replace the local match for the Fort Myers project, previous applications, resubmitting applications that were not approved, introduction of newly appointed SUN Trail coordinator, entering applications into GAP system and sending to FDOT staff electronically, updating cost estimate for JYLP, waiting for draft Work Program to determine course of action for projects, Del Prado phases, project cost increases, limits of project phases, success of Kismet SUN Trail project, prior

presentation with photos of Kismet SUN Trail project, and pathway projects adding value to nearby properties.

Ms. Dawn Huff made the motion to recommend MPO Board approval of the 2022 SUN Trail Priorities. Mr. D'Juan Harris seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Carl Karakos arrived at 9:50 a.m. and Vice-Chair Mike Cook passed the meeting over to him.

Agenda Item #7 - Burnt Store Road Project Development & Environment Study Presentation

Mr. Steven Andrews with FDOT introduced Ms. Abra Horne and Ms. Victoria Peters, also with FDOT. He then introduced Ms. Kristin Caruso and Mr. Jay Winter with Scalar, FDOT's consultant for this project, to present this agenda item. Ms. Caruso then presented this agenda item on the Burnt Store Road Project Development & Environment Study. Ms. Caruso provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on project description, project background, main design considerations, project alternatives, evaluation matrix, public involvement, project timeline, transportation project development process, action items, and FDOT contact information. The staff report and presentation can be viewed here: [Burnt Store Road PD&E](#). The committee discussed the turn from Burnt Store Marina, using Vincent Lane for the turn, use of Vincent Lane by commercial vehicles, serving other area communities, homeowners associations in the Burnt Store Area, highly populated area near Burnt Store Marina, planning consistency and funding, consideration of alternatives, cost differences, use of present day costs for estimates, regular updates to estimates, difficulty in predicting costs, using FDOT estimates, local examples, increasing competition in Florida, inflation, price increases, specifics for Burnt Store project that should make it easier to construct, cost difference between Lee and Charlotte portions, Charlotte plans to further widen, not widening sidewalks, presentations at future meetings, avoiding utility building, pedestrian crossings, determining patterns and counts, trail on both sides of road, and generation of pedestrian trips. Chair Karakos thanked the presenters.

Agenda Item #8 - Presentation on the PD&E Study Process

Ms. Abra Horne with FDOT presented this agenda item on the PD&E Study Process. She provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on the transportation project development process, transportation planning, the project development and environment (PD&E) process, typical schedules, and contact information. Her presentation can be viewed here: [PD&E Study Process](#). The committee discussed buy in from local jurisdictions for project to move forward, technical analysis, safety factors, education, categorical exclusions, no build options, NEPA, example of Bonita Beach Road, example in Clearwater Beach, historic preservation involvement, McGregor safety improvements, example of fountain interchange, rectangular rapid flashing beacons, finding common ground and compromises, and example of moving a light rail station.

Agenda Item #9 - LeeTran Bus Stop and Facilities ADA Assessment Plan

Ms. Amanda Harig with Benesch, LeeTran's consultant for the ADA Assessment Plan, presented this agenda item on the LeeTran Bus Stop and Facilities ADA Assessment Plan. Ms. Harig provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on ADA purpose, study purpose, study objectives, minimum ADA bus stop requirements, signage requirements, photo examples of bus stops, transit facilities, data collection, weighting and prioritization, results, costs, implementation plan, and conclusion. The presentation can be viewed here: [LeeTran ADA Presentation](#). The committee discussed curb ramps, bus stops, coordination with municipalities, assistance with permitting, funding costs subject to change, spreading total project costs over several years, plan to complete projects, land development code, LeeTran involvement in sidewalk construction, LeeTran providing bus stop

improvements, budgets, developer contributions, coordination with Estero and Bonita on land development code, providing example to Fort Myers staff, hurricane damage to signs, assessment of damage, assessment of sign inventory and possible changes, and presentation to MPO Board at their November meeting.

Agenda Item #10 - Review and Comment on the Proposed Draft 2045 LRTP Amendments

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for the review of and comment on the Proposed Draft 2045 LRTP Amendments. The staff report with the proposed amendments was attached to the agenda packet and [posted to the MPO website](#). He reviewed the amendments, maps, and tables included in the staff report. The committee discussed the time frame for several of the amendments, requiring developers to pay for portion of projects, Lee County projects delayed due to project cost increases, possible additional delays due to hurricane, projects that lack consistency, matching projects with upcoming work program release, project time frame, project cost estimates and segments, bringing item back at January meetings, submitting comments to MPO staff, and possible project limits being off.

Agenda Item #11 - 2021 Lee County NHS Pavement and Bridge Condition Performance Data

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this agenda item on the 2021 Lee County NHS Pavement and Bridge Condition Performance Data. The staff report with the NHS performance data was attached to the agenda packet and [posted to the MPO website](#). He provided a Power Point presentation that included information on Lee MPO statewide pavement and bridge condition performance targets and Lee County pavement conditions. His presentation can be viewed here: [2021 Lee County NHS Data](#)

Other Business

Agenda Item #12 - Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

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

Agenda Item #13 – Announcements

There were no announcements.

Agenda Item #14 - Topics for next meeting

Topics suggested for the next meeting included approval of the LRTP amendments and review of the draft Work Program. Mr. Scott noted the next meeting would be held in January as there were no December meetings. The committee briefly discussed the timing of the draft Work Program presentations to the area MPO Boards.

Agenda Item #15 - Information and Distribution Items

There were no information and distribution items.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed here: [TAC November 3, 2022](#)

*Action Items *May Require Action

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