

MINUTES OF THE JOINT COLLIER & LEE COUNTY CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Held on March 5, 2009

The Joint Collier & Lee County Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting was held on March 5, 2009 at the Estero Community Park & Recreation Center, 9200 Corkscrew Palms Boulevard, 103A, Estero, Florida 33928.

Attendees:

Collier County

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| Karen Homiak | District 1 |
| Jack Pointer | District 2 |
| Tim Nance (Chair) | District 5 |
| Richard Rice | Member at-large |
| Fred Thomas (Vice-Chair) | Minority |

Lee County

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|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Amy Davies | District 1 |
| Thomas Ruscik | District 1 |
| John Musser | District 2 |
| David Maile | District 2 |
| Tony Cardinale | District 3 |
| Albert O'Donnell | District 3 |
| Heather Mazurkiewicz | District 4 |
| Rick Anglickis (Chair) | District 5 |
| Phillip Boller | City of Cape Coral |
| John Pohland | Town of Fort Myers Beach |
| Arthur Godar | Members at-large |
| Kemi Morten | Members at-large |

Those also in attendance were: Phil Tindall, Lorraine Lantz, and Tamika Seaton with Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO); Don Scott, Meghan Marion, and Ron Gogoi with Lee County MPO; Trinity Caudill-Scott with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT); Carmen Monroy with LeeTran; Michelle Arnold with Alternative Transportation Modes (ATM) Department; Chris Swenson with CRSPE Inc.; and David Buchheit with Collier County Transportation Planning Department.

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order/Roll Call

Mr. Tindall of the Collier MPO called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

Ms. Seaton called the roll for Collier CAC. Quorum not present.

Ms. Marion called the roll for Lee County CAC. Quorum not present.

As a quorum was not present, the meeting proceeded as a Committee of the Whole.

Agenda Item #2 – Election of a Chairperson

**MOTION BY MR. THOMAS AND SECONDED BY MR. GODAR
TO ELECT MR. ANGLICKIS AS CHAIRPERSON. APPROVAL
BY CONSENSUS.**

As a quorum was not present, Chairman Anglickis asked that the non-action items be discussed first.

(Re-order) Agenda Item #4 – Reports and Presentations

Agenda Item #4A – Discuss Planned Bicycle /Pedestrian Facilities that Cross the County Line

Mr. Scott presented an overview of the planned bicycle and pedestrian facilities that cross the Lee-Collier County line. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Cardinale and Mr. O'Donnell arrived at approximately 1:06 p.m. and the Lee County CAC attained a quorum.

Agenda Item #4B – Update on the Proposed Lee-Collier Transit Route Connection on US 41

Ms. Arnold stated that the ATM Department is coordinating with LeeTran to make a transit route connection on US 41. She stated that the Collier County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) asked staff to pursue the transit route connection to Lee County, but due to budget constraints, there may be difficulty meeting the local match requirement. This morning, at the Joint Lee-Collier Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting, FDOT stated that a Joint Participation Agreement (JPA) could be used to secure funding for the connection. Ms. Arnold stated that LeeTran expressed concerns that implementing this new service would cause existing services to be cut.

Discussion ensued regarding the proposed Lee-Collier Transit route connection on US 41. Mr. Thomas asked if the Joint TAC discussed creating a Lee-Collier transit connection farther east. He stated that implementing a route connecting northern Immokalee to Lehigh Acres would be beneficial for the residents of Immokalee. Ms. Arnold stated that the Joint TAC did not discuss this item but this route was identified as a need. She stated that a northern connection would be another area that the transit would look in the future.

Ms. Homiak arrived at approximately 1:20 p.m. and the Collier County CAC attained a quorum.

MOTION BY MR. THOMAS AND SECONDED BY MR. POINTER TO OFFICIALLY ELECT MR. ANGLICKIS AS CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT LEE-COLLIER CAC. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Discussion ensued regarding the proposed Lee-Collier transit connection. Ms. Mazurkiewicz asked what can be done to help transit thrive. Ms. Arnold stated that talking to elected officials about transit would help. Mr. Thomas stated that a transit route connecting Immokalee to Lehigh Acres would get more people on transit and help take the pressure off SR 82. Ms. Davies stated that transit is competing for ad valorem funds and until there is a dedicated funding source like a transit authority or sale tax, transit would continue to compete against law enforcement and other agencies for funding and will lose every time.

Mr. Maile arrived at approximately 1:25 p.m.

(Re-order) Agenda Item #2A – Public Comments on Items on the Agenda

None.

Agenda Item #3A – Prioritize TRIP Projects for FY 2013 and FY 2014

Mr. Scott presented an overview of the TRIP projects for FYs 2013 and 2014. He stated that the old and new criteria were used to score projects submitted. The Lee-Collier MPO Board will be prioritizing the TRIP projects at their March 20 meeting.

MOTION BY MR. THOMAS AND SECONDED BY MR. BOLLER TO APPROVE THE PRIORITY ORDER OF TRIP PROJECTS FOR FY 2013 AND FY 2014. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #3B – APPROVAL OF THE REVISIONS TO THE JOINT LEE-COLLIER REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND COORDINATION AGREEMENT

Mr. Scott stated that the Agreement was being revised to be more consistent with the way business is being conducted.

MOTION BY MR. GODAR AND SECONDED BY MR. THOMAS TO APPROVE THE REVISIONS TO THE JOINT LEE-COLLIER REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND COORDINATION AGREEMENT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #4C – Long Range Transportation Plan Update

Mr. Scott presented an overview of the LRTP Update. He distributed a copy of the LRTP schedule and stated that the LRTP had to be adopted by December 3, 2010 to be consistent with the Federal Highway Administration's requirements. Mr. Scott stated that further on down the road, the MPOs will be having a LRTP 101 workshop which would be offered to the committees, the board, and all other interested parties. The Lee County MPO is working on a LRTP Public Involvement Plan (PIP) which will be sent out for review. He stated that the MPOs plan to update the committee on the LRTP at every meeting.

Mr. Tindall stated that the Collier MPO's LRTP PIP will involve speaking at civic associations, the chamber of commerce and other community organizations. He stated that the Collier MPO staff will begin conducting its LRTP PIP sometime in the fall.

Discussion ensued regarding the LRTP Update. Mr. Thomas stated that he was concerned that based on the trends, significant things will be happening quickly. He presented an overview of the Hard Rock Hotel that is currently being built in Immokalee and that there may be transportation issues in the future. He stated that Collier County has always been based on growth and that there is a systematic involvement into the process. Mr. Thomas stated that Collier County's Land Development Code (LDC) needed to be changed for the Immokalee area. In his opinion, changing the LCD would spur economic development. Ms. Caudill-Scott stated that FDOT is conducting a PD&E study in Immokalee (SR 29 and SR 29 Bypass) and that information can be provided and incorporated into the LRTP.

Mr. Scott presented an overview of Clean Low-Emissions Affordable New Transportation Equity Act (Clean TEA) which is the proposed transportation bill to replace SAFETEA-LU. He stated that he is uncertain as to when it would be adopted and that this is something that was not addressed in the LRTP Scope.-

Agenda Item #4D – Presentation on Possible Future Funding for Carbon Reduction

Mr. Swenson, P.E., of CRSPE, Inc., made a presentation outlining how state and local governments have the opportunity to generate transportation funding through Carbon Cap and Trade revenues. He stated that Cap and Trade would allow entities that reduce their carbon emissions to sell credits in a voluntary market to offset their carbon emissions.

Discussion ensued regarding carbon reduction. Mr. Scott stated that he would post Mr. Swenson's presentation on the Joint MPO's web site.

Agenda Item #4E – 2010 SIS Strategic Plan Update

Ms. Caudill-Scott presented an overview of the 2010 SIS Strategic Plan. She invited everyone to visit the SIS Web Site at www.sisupdate.org for updates and upcoming events.

Agenda Item #5 – Florida Department of Transportation Report

Ms. Caudill-Scott stated that FDOT is working with the local government to get shovel ready economic stimulus projects. FDOT submitted all municipalities priority lists to Tallahassee for funding allocations. She stated that FDOT did not know which projects would be funded.

Agenda Item #6 – Transit Update

Ms. Monroy presented an overview of LeeTran’s economic stimulus projects and stated that LeeTran would continue to work towards the proposed Lee-Collier transit route connection on US 41.

Mr. Thomas stated that he was concerned about the Collier connection from Immokalee to Lehigh Acres.

Ms. Monroy stated that Mr. Thomas’ concern was already identified in LeeTran’s future plan and that they will continue to review the route. **She stated that LeeTran would bring back additional information about the route at the next joint meeting.**

Agenda Item #7 – Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

None.

Agenda Item #8 – Members’ Comments

None.

Agenda Item #9 – Information Items

None.

Agenda Item #10 – Adjournment of Joint CAC Meeting

Having no further business, the Joint Lee/Collier CAC meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:48 p.m.

Agenda Item #11 – Call to Order/Roll Call Lee County CAC

Chairman Anglickis called the Lee County CAC meeting to order at 2:51 p.m.

Agenda Item #12a – Approval of the February 5, 2009 CAC Meeting Minutes

MOTION BY MS. MAZURKIEWCZ TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 5, 2009 CAC MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY MR. BOLLER. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #12b&c – Request Public Input and Recommend MPO Endorsement of LeeTran’s USC 5311 Grant Proposals and 5307 Grant Applications for ARRA Funds

Ms. Monroy requested to combine Agenda Item 12b and 12c into one motion.

Ms. Monroy presented the information regarding the 5311 and 5307 Grant Applications for ARRA funds.

MOTION BY MR. O’DONNELL TO RECOMMEND MPO ENDORESEMENT OF LEETRAN’S USC 5311 GRANT PROPOSALS AND 5307 GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR ARRA FUNDS. SECONDED BY MR. BOLLER. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #12d – Recommend Conditional MPO Approval of TIP Amendments to Include ARRA Funded USC 5311 and 5307 Grant Proposals

Ms. Monroy presented this item.

MOTION BY MS. MAZURKIEWCZ TO RECOMMEND CONDITIONAL MPO APPROVAL OF TIP AMENDMENTS TO INCLUDE ARRA FUNDED USC 5311 AND 5307 GRANT PROPOSALS. SECONDED BY MR. BOLLER.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chairman Anglickis would like to request that Staff write a letter to Lee County and the Lee County School Board thanking them for the effort to get the sidewalks completed in front of Lehigh Elementary School.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.