

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT COLLIER & LEE COUNTY
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Held on October 1, 2009

The Joint Collier & Lee County Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting was held on October 1, 2009 at the Estero Community Park & Recreation Center, 9200 Corkscrew Palms Boulevard, 103A, Estero, Florida 33928.

Attendees:

Collier County

Karen Homiak	District 1
Jack Pointer	District 2
Richard Rice	Member At-Large
Fred Thomas (Vice-Chair)	Minority

Lee County

Thomas Ruscik	District 1
John Musser	District 2
David Maile	District 2
Heather Mazurkiewicz	District 4
Alexander Bower	District 4
Rick Anglickis (Chair)	District 5
Rick Williams	City of Cape Coral
John Pohland	Town of Fort Myers Beach
James Dati	City of Bonita Springs

Those also in attendance were: Phil Tindall, Sue Faulkner, and Tamika Seaton with Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO); Don Scott, Meghan Marion, and Ron Gogoi with Lee County MPO; Trinity Caudill-Scott and Mark Clark with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT); David Buchheit with Collier County Transportation Planning Department; Maureen Bonness with Naples Pathways Coalition; and Carmen Monroy with LeeTran.

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order/Roll Call

Mr. Scott of the Lee MPO called the meeting to order at approximately 1:03 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.

Agenda Item #2 – Election of a Chairperson

Mr. Scott stated that Mr. Anglickis, Chairman of the Lee County CAC, chaired the previous joint meeting and asked the Collier CAC Vice-Chair, Mr. Thomas, to chair the meeting.

Chairman Thomas suggested that the committee start the meeting with Agenda Item 6 (Reports and Presentations) and proceed as a committee of the whole since the committee had not attained a quorum.

Ms. Homiak arrived at approximately 1:04 p.m.

(Re-order) Agenda Item #6A – Update on the Proposed Lee-Collier Transit Route Connection on US 41

Mr. Scott presented an overview of the proposed Lee-Collier Transit Route connection on US 41 and noted that an inter-local agreement was drafted and would require both Lee and Collier Board of County Commissioners (BCC) to approve and execute it. In the meantime, Collier Area Transit (CAT) and LeeTran had agreed on a service map for the new route and that FDOT was putting together a Joint Participation Agreement (JPA) with each agency for them to sign. This will be scheduled to go before the Lee County BOCC first, and then Collier's BCC.

Ms. Mazurkiewicz suggested that the committee write a letter to the Joint MPO Board to ask that this project be funded because it is important and would make a difference.

Mr. Tindall noted that the committees have been in support of the route.

MOTION BY MR. ANGLICKIS AND SECONDED BY MR. RICE TO WRITE A LETTER TO BOTH BOARDS OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO FUND THE LEE-COLLIER TRANSIT ROUTE CONNECTION ON US 41. APPROVAL BY CONSENSUS.

Mr. Tindall suggested that the letter include both MPOs' logos.

Agenda Item #6B – Status of the CR 951 PD&E Study

Mr. Scott reported that Lee County has been the lead on the project and that they are now in the second round of responding to comments from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and that they are considering going to FHWA to get the study documents released so that they can move forward with the public hearing to get the public's input.

Agenda Item #6C – Discussion Regarding Regional Coordination on Future Stimulus Funding

Mr. Scott emphasized the importance of coordinating regionally to be prepared for stimulus funding opportunities in order to increase the chances of getting funding. He asked everyone to start thinking about projects that may be eligible for this type of funding.

Chairman Thomas presented an overview of Immokalee's potential for being a mega-region because of its location in Florida and there was a discussion about the inland port concept.

Agenda Item #6D – Discussion on the LRTP Update and Process and the Status of other Studies that Affect the Final Plan

Mr. Scott reported that there was a discussion at the September 18th Lee MPO Board meeting about a rail corridor grant and other planning studies in both counties and their relation to the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). He asked the committee to email him any updates on other studies they are aware of to add to the list prior to the Joint MPO Board meeting on October 16th.

Chairman Thomas stated that rail that once ran through Everglades City may have to be reincorporated as he believed that most of the right-of-way there is on the east side of SR 29.

Agenda Item #7– Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Report

None.

Agenda Item #8 – Transit Update

None.

Agenda Item #9 – Members' Comments

None.

Mr. Tindall stated that he did not think that the committee would attain a quorum.

Chairman Thomas asked that the committee go to Agenda Item 3 (Public Comments).

Agenda Item #3 – Public Comments

None.

Agenda Item #4 – Approval of the Agenda

MOTION BY MS. MAZURKIEWICZ AND SECONDED BY MR. POINTER TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. APPROVAL BY CONSENSUS.

Agenda Item #5A – Recommend Amendments to the Bi-County Regional Pathways Map

Mr. Scott presented an overview of the Bi-County Regional Pathways Map and noted that the Joint Pathways Advisory Committee voted to revise the map to show existing facilities, facilities programmed in the Five-Year Work Program, and planned facilities.

MOTION BY MR. RICE AND SECONDED BY MR. MAILE TO APPROVE THE BI-COUNTY REGIONAL PATHWAYS MAP. APPROVAL BY CONSENSUS.

Agenda Item #5B – Recommend Joint Regional Enhancement Priorities

Mr. Tindall presented an overview of the Joint Regional Enhancement Priorities.

Mr. Scott noted that the Joint Technical Advisory Committee approved the priorities.

Discussion ensued regarding the Joint Regional Enhancement Priorities. Ms. Mazurkiewicz felt that number three (Design phase for Old US 41 from US 41 in Collier County to Bonita Beach Road in Lee County) was the most important project on the list as it was the most regionally significant. Mr. Scott stated that the other projects higher up on the list were ready to move forward and that there are some questions about the crossing with the rail road tracks. Ms. Caudill-Scott noted that the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) study from SR 82 was not approved yet by FHWA.

Ms. Bonness presented an overview of the ROGG and distributed copies of the ROGG applications. She noted that letters of support for project was in the handouts.

Ms. Caudill-Scott announced that in FY 2014/15 \$4.5 million will be available for regional trails and that \$1 million will be available district-wide thereafter.

MOTION BY MS. HOMIAK AND SECONDED BY MR. POHLAND TO APPROVE THE JOINT REGIONAL ENHANCEMENT PRIORITIES, AS RECOMMENDED IN THE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY. APPROVAL BY CONSENSUS.

Agenda Item #5C – Update the Regional Priorities for SIS or Statewide Discretionary Funding

Mr. Scott presented an overview of the Regional Priorities for Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) and noted that four I-75 projects were added back on the list that were

previously assumed to be programmed in FDOT's Work Program. He noted that the construction phase of the I-75 six-laning from south of Colonial Blvd to south of SR 82 will be removed from the list because it is funded. He stated that the TAC approved the regional priorities for SIS this morning with one member dissenting because the four I-75 projects in Lee County were added to the top of the list.

Mr. Tindall stated that Collier staff is frustrated because the CR 951 interchange project was ranked number two in 2008 and now the project is being moved down on the list with the addition of the I-75 projects. The CR 951 interchange has been funded in the Work Program several times and then taken out. This interchange has been deficient for a long time and has been on the priority list for a long time. He stated that he was concerned with the selection criteria for SIS and suggested adding a column for level of service and cost of the projects.

MOTION BY MR. ANGLICKIS AND SECONDED BY MR. RICE TO APPROVE THE REGIONAL PRIORITIES FOR SIS OR STATEWIDE DISCRETIONARY FUNDING. APPROVAL BY CONSENSUS.

Mr. Scott noted that number seven (I-75 at Everglades Blvd.) needs to be revised to a PD&E study (from the design phase that is currently shown) for it to go through an Environmental Impact Statement.

Agenda Item #5D – Review and Approve the LRTP Goals and Objectives

Mr. Scott presented an overview of the LRTP Goals and Objectives and noted that the TAC made revisions and those changes were stated.

MOTION BY MR. RICE AND SECONDED BY MR. DATI TO APPROVE THE LRTP GOALS AND OBJECTIVES. APPROVAL BY CONSENSUS.

Ms. Mazurkiewicz stated that there was a lot of terminology in the goals and objectives and emphasized the importance of making them more clear to measure success.

Agenda Item #10 – Information Items

Mr. Scott noted that the minutes from the March 5th Joint CAC meeting was in the packet and the minutes were approved by each county's CAC.

Agenda Item #11 – Adjournment of the Joint CAC

Having no further business, the Joint CAC meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:03 p.m.