

MINUTES OF THE JOINT COLLIER & LEE COUNTY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Held on March 5, 2009

The Joint Collier & Lee County Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) 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

Don Scott	Lee County MPO
Trinity Caudill-Scott	Collier and Lee TAC
David Hutchinson	Collier and Lee TAC
Nick Casalanguida	Collier County TAC
Michelle Arnold	Collier County TAC
Jim Miller	Collier County TAC
Chuck Mohlke	Collier County TAC
Beth Yang	Collier County TAC
Krista Sherwood	Collier County TAC-non-voting

Lee County

Phil Tindall	Collier MPO
Trinity Caudill-Scott	Collier and Lee TAC
Bob Beluschak	Lee County TAC
David Hutchinson	Collier and Lee TAC
David Loveland	Lee County TAC
Steve Myers	Lee County TAC
Dawn Gordon	Lee County TAC
Glenn Heath	Lee County TAC
Persides Zambrano	Lee County TAC
Kathryn Sayers	Lee County TAC
Barbara Barnes-Buchanan	Lee County TAC
John Patterson	Lee County TAC

Those also in attendance were: Lorraine Lantz and Tamika Seaton with Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO); Meghan Marion and Ron Gogoi with Lee County MPO; Ken Heatherington with the Regional Planning Council; Johnny Limbaugh, Mark Clark and Julia Davis with the Florida Department of Transportation ; Carmen Monroy with LeeTran; Glama Carter with Alternative Transportation Modes (ATM) Department; Chris Swenson with CRSPE Inc.; David Buchheit with Collier County Transportation Planning Department; Peter Blackwell with the Lee County Division of Planning; and Amy Davies, Lee County CAC.

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order/Roll Call

Mr. Scott of the Lee County MPO called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

Ms. Tamika Seaton called the roll for Collier County MPO. Quorum present.

Ms. Marion called the roll for Lee County MPO. Quorum present.

Agenda Item #2 – Election of a Chairperson

MOTION BY MR. MOHLKE AND SECONDED BY MS. ZAMBRANO TO ELECT MR. LOVELAND AS CHAIRPERSON. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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 TRIP priority was endorsed by both Lee’s and Collier’s committees and was approved by the Lee County MPO Board, but has not been brought to the Collier MPO Board for action.

MOTION BY MS. ZAMBRANO AND SECONDED BY MS. SAYERS TO APPROVE THE PRIORITIZED TRIP PROJECTS FOR FY 2013 AND FY 2014.

Discussion ensued regarding the TRIP projects. Mr. Casalanguida stated that he spoke with Mr. Scott about some of his concerns with the new criteria. Mr. Casalanguida was interested in discussing the new criteria and specifically refining how the percentages are allocated to SIS facilities. He asked if it was possible to table adopting the new criteria. Mr. Tindall stated that the MPOs could refine the TRIP criteria at the joint meeting in the fall. Mr. Casalanguida stated that since the scoring of projects with the new criteria was the same as with the old criteria, he supported the new criteria. Ms. Caudill-Scott stated that FDOT is looking to program the funding for TRIP projects during their gaming cycle next year. The projects will be included in FDOT’s Draft Tentative Work Program this year.

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 revised to be more consistent with the way business is being conducted.

Discussion ensued regarding the revisions to the Joint Lee-Collier Regional Agreement and the membership on each MPO's list and the double counting of members at the joint meetings.

**MOTION BY MR. MOHLKE SECONDED BY MS. BARNES-
BUCHANAN TO APPROVE THE REVISIONS TO THE JOINT
LEE-COLLIER REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING
AND COORDINATION AGREEMENT. MOTION CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY.**

Agenda Item #4 – Reports and Presentations

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

Mr. Black stated his department was concerned with the coordination between the Lee County Greenways System Master Plan and the Bike/Ped regional transportation network's pathways component.

Mr. Scott stated that the Lee County MPO's Bike/Ped Master Plan that is adopted within their LRTP only focuses on state facilities and did not address the pathways element. Lee County is working on a separate master plan to address the bigger issues such as the regional component of the pathways facilities.

Discussion ensued regarding Bike/Ped Master Plans. Mr. Gogoi was concerned about some inconsistencies on paved shoulders and designated bike lanes that cross county lines. Mr. Limbaugh presented an overview of the costs associated with FDOT installing signs and restriping bike lanes. He suggested that if FDOT was doing a resurfacing project, the restriping would not be a cost to the City of Bonita Springs. Ms. Caudill-Scott suggested that Ms. Barnes-Buchanan contact Ms. Sarita Taylor of FDOT for assistance.

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

Mr. Myers stated that a few weeks ago he sent an email to the Lee County MPO chairman indicating that at this time, he felt that it was inappropriate to reduce local service levels in order to fund new services. He stated that at the present time, the Lee County MPO Board has not taken any formal action. He suggested that both counties ask FDOT to move forward with a Joint Participation Agreement (JPA).

Ms. Arnold stated that the Collier County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) is supportive of the Lee-Collier connection, and has asked staff to continue to pursue it; however due to recent budget constraints, there may be difficulty meeting the local match requirement.

Ms. Davis stated that the funding for both counties for two years has been encumbered and is waiting to complete the JPA. She stated that within the next week, FDOT needs to have an inter-local agreement from the two counties on how they are going to provide the services. She stated that all FDOT needs is a draft inter-local agreement to move the JPA forward.

Discussion ensued regarding a draft inter-local agreement between both counties. Mr. Mohlke asked if this was an action item. Ms. Davis stated that this item would not require any committee action. Mr. Mohlke noted that the executive summary stated that there was a “recommended action” and that this promotes a misunderstanding to the committee. He suggested adding “recommended discussion” instead.

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 presented an overview of Clean Low-Emissions Affordable New Transportation Equity Act (Clean TEA) that would 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. **He stated that he would send everyone an email with more information about the bill.**

Mr. Tindall stated that the Collier MPO’s LRTP Public Involvement Plan (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. Scott stated that he will be working with the local jurisdictions to ensure plan consistency. Mr. Scott stated that at a future time, both MPOs will be having a LRTP 101 workshop which would be offered to the committees, the boards, and all other interested parties. Lee County MPO is working on its LRTP PIP and it will be sent out for review. He stated that the MPO plans to update the committee on the LRTP at just about every meeting over the life of the project.

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. Mr. Casalanguida stated that this

program would work in a closed market but has fatal flaws in an open market. **Mr. Mohlke recommended that the joint MPOs create an agenda item at a subsequent meeting to follow-up on this item so that the local jurisdictions could have a role during the early stages of this program.** Mr. Heatherington stated that the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council has been selected as one of the Climate Prosperity Workshop members for innovation. A committee has been created to discuss the environment on a regional and local level. He stated that he would continue to monitor transportation and solar energy issues at the committee and **would report back to the MPO on the findings from the meeting.**

Agenda Item #4E – 2010 SIS Strategic Plan Update

Mr. Limbaugh presented an overview of the 2010 SIS Strategic Plan. He stated information on this item will be brought back to the committee on a regular basis. He stated that a SIS workshop will be scheduled sometime in the summer. For more information about the SIS, visit www.sisupdate.org.

Discussion ensued regarding SIS.

Agenda Item #5 – Florida Department of Transportation Report

Mr. Limbaugh stated that FDOT has received some initial economic stimulus funding estimates from FHWA and FDOT and is still sorting out how it filters down to the local jurisdictions. Priority lists have been received from the counties and cities, and FDOT is determining if the projects submitted are shovel ready.

Ms. Davis announced that FDOT's central office in Tallahassee is launching a hybrid ride project where they will be sending a hybrid bus to the transit centers in the district. They are scheduled to appear in Charlotte County and Lee County.

Mr. Hutchinson announced that a contractor from the FDOT central office will be having a transit oriented development design workshop on April 9, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The workshop will be at the RPC and will focus on transit oriented development in Florida, specifically smart land use strategies that are transit supportive.

Agenda Item #6 – Transit Update

Mr. Myers stated that a list of projects for economic stimulus funding was submitted.

Ms. Arnold concurred.

Agenda Item #7 – Public Comments

None.

Agenda Item #8 – Members' Comments

None.

Agenda Item #9 – Information Items

Minutes from the Joint October 2, 2008 TAC meeting.

Agenda Item #10 – Adjournment of Joint TAC Meeting

Having no further business, the Joint TAC meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:05 a.m.

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

Chairman Loveland called the Lee County TAC meeting to order at 11:11 a.m.

Agenda Item #12a – Approval of the February 5, 2009 TAC meeting minutes and Amendment to the Joint October 2, 2008 TAC meeting minutes.

Chairman Loveland asked that all the minutes be brought back to the April meeting for approval.

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

Ms. Monroy presented this item.

MOTION BY MS. ZAMBRANO TO RECOMMEND MPO ENDORSEMENT OF LEETRAN’S USC 5311 GRANT PROPOSALS FOR ARRA FUNDS. SECONDED BY MR. HUTCHINSON. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

Ms. Monroy presented this item.

MOTION BY MR. HEATH TO RECOMMEND MPO ENDORSEMENT OF LEETRAN’S USC 5307 GRANT PROPOSALS FOR ARRA FUNDS. SECONDED BY MR. BELUSCHAK. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

Mr. Scott and Ms. Monroy presented this item.

**MOTION BY MS. ZAMBRANO TO RECOMMEND
CONDITIONAL MPO APPROVAL OF TIP AMENDMENTS TO
INCLUDE ARRA FUNDED USC 5311 AND 5307 GRANT
PROPOSALS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.