

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT COLLIER & LEE COUNTY MPO TECHNICAL
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Held on October 1, 2009

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

Attendees:

Collier MPO

Don Scott**	Lee County MPO
Trinity Caudill-Scott*	Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)
David Hutchinson*	Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC)
Michael Greene	Collier County Transportation Planning
Michelle Arnold	Collier County Alternative Transportation Modes
Steve Olmstead	City of Marco Island
Chuck Mohlke	Representing Everglades City
George Archibald	City of Naples

Lee County MPO

Phil Tindall**	Collier MPO
Mark Clark*	FDOT*
David Hutchinson*	SWFRPC*
David Loveland	Lee County Department of Transportation
Steve Myers	LeeTran
Dawn Gordon	School Board
Persides Zambrano	Public Works
John Patterson	Town of Fort Myers
William Horner	Lee County Port Authority
Rick Burris	Department of Community Development

Those also in attendance were: Sue Faulkner, Lorraine Lantz, and Tamika Seaton with Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO); Meghan Marion and Ron Gogoi with Lee County MPO; Julia Davis with FDOT; Carmen Monroy with LeeTran; Andy Getch with Lee County Department of Transportation; Kate Crosley Conservancy of Southwest Florida; Maureen Bonness with the River of Grass Greenway; and Stacy Revay with Collier County Health Department.

**MPO staff members do not count for a quorum and do not vote.

*Organizations which have TAC members on both committees do not count towards a quorum, and vote only once

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order/Roll Call

Mr. Scott called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m.

Ms. Tamika Seaton called the roll for Collier MPO, quorum present.

Ms. Marion called the roll for Lee County MPO, quorum not present.

Agenda Item #2 – Election of a Chairperson

Mr. Scott stated that the Lee County TAC chaired the previous joint meeting and asked Collier TAC Chairman, Mr. Mohlke, to chair the meeting and Mr. Loveland agreed.

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

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

Ms. Arnold gave an update on the Lee-Collier Transit Route connection on US 41 and stated 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.

Discussion ensued regarding the Lee-Collier Transit Route Connection on US 41. Mr. Myers agreed with Ms. Arnold and stated that he did not have any more information on the connection. Ms. Davis stated that FDOT has JPAs for each transit agency and that the JPAs need to be placed on each county's agenda for action. Mr. Myers stated that LeeTran will prepare its JPA for board action within the next few weeks. Ms. Arnold stated that CAT would place its JPA on its board agenda after LeeTran has completed its JPA. Mr. Myers stated that funding is an issue with Lee County with regards to the fifty percent match requirement for the transit connection. Mr. Hutchinson asked if this item would be on the Joint MPO's agenda on October 16th. Ms. Davis recommended that this item be on the Joint MPO's agenda as an information item.

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

Mr. Scott reported that Lee County was now in the second round of comments with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and that the Lee County staff is working to get the study released so that it can move forward with the public hearing.

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 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.

Mr. Clark arrived at approximately 9:46 a.m.

Ms. Zambrano arrived at approximately 9:47 a.m.

Ms. Marion announced that with the arrival of Ms. Zambrano, the Lee County TAC had attained a quorum.

Ms. Seaton noted that the Collier TAC had a quorum.

Chairman Mohlke asked to re-order the agenda to Item 2 (Election of a Chairperson).

Agenda Item #2 – Election of a Chairperson

MOTION BY MR. LOVELAND AND SECONDED BY MS. ZAMBRANO TO NOMINATE MR. MOHLKE AS CHAIR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #3 Public Comments

None.

Agenda Item #4 – Approval of Agenda

Mr. Scott noted that Mr. Tindall and he would not count as a quorum and would not be voting based on the amendments to the by-laws. Members from the SWFRPC and FDOT would not count for a quorum, but each would be allowed to have one vote. Ms. Caudill-Scott and Mr. Clark agreed that Ms. Caudill-Scott would be the voting member from FDOT for this meeting.

Chairman Mohlke entertained a motion to approve the agenda.

MOTION BY MR. LOVELAND AND SECONDED BY MR. OLMSTEAD TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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, programmed facilities in s the Five-Year Work Program, and planned facilities.

Discussion ensued regarding the Bi-County Regional Pathways Map. Ms. Zambrano noted that the Del Prado Blvd. pathways north of SR 78 to Kismet Parkway is planned and from Kismet Parkway to US 41 is already built and should show as an existing facility. She asked that the map be amended to reflect the changes. Mr. Scott suggested noting that the map will be re-evaluated every year. Mr. Greene stated that the map should be updated sooner than waiting a year as funding opportunities may be missed. Mr. Scott suggested that the map be updated at each county's committees' meetings if updates were necessary.

Ms. Caudill-Scott asked about Lee County's Parks and Recreation's plans for Metro south of Six Mile Cypress. Mr. Loveland stated that he was not aware of Parks and Recreation's plans for the area. Chairman Mohlke suggested that the committee formulate a motion to include language like "provisional" or "recommended for further consideration" that will acknowledge suggestions. Ms. Caudill-Scott asked that the CR 951 (between Vanderbilt Beach Rd. and Golden Gate Parkway) sidewalk project be programmed. Mr. Greene stated that the layer should be changed to green. Ms. Caudill-Scott asked if the CR 951 from Davis Blvd. to US 41 south of I-75 should be shown as existing as the project is currently under construction. Ms. Faulkner stated that Mr. Nick Casalanguida of the Collier County Transportation Planning Director directed staff to show this segment as programmed because it is not open. Mr. Greene stated that he anticipated that the project would be completed in a month.

Ms. Caudill-Scott stated that Rattlesnake Hammock was added last year and that the first section is existing. Mr. Greene stated that the road project has been completed. Ms. Caudill-Scott asked if Rattlesnake Hammock Road to the west is programmed. Mr. Greene stated that he was uncertain about the project. Mr. Loveland suggested making the corrections noted and that the committee adopts the map and come back to update the map later after the Pathways Master Plans are updated.

MOTION BY MR. HUTCHINSON AND SECONDED BY MR. GREENE TO ADOPT THE BI-COUNTY REGIONAL PATHWAYS MAP WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT AS THE PATHWAYS MASTER PLANS DEVELOP OVER TIME THE MAPS WOULD BE SUBJECT TO AMENDMENTS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #5B – Recommend Joint Regional Enhancement Priorities

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

Discussion ensued regarding the Joint Regional Enhancement Priorities. Mr. Hutchinson stated that the selection of US 41 was a good project and that it may have been easier to secure funding if the designation of a scenic highway was retained in Collier County. Ms. Caudill-Scott noted that Priority two (PD&E study along US 41 in Collier County from east of CR 92 to CR 29) cost estimate came in at \$800,000 and the cost estimate for Priority three (design phase for Old US 41 from US 41 in Collier County to Bonita Beach Rd. in Lee County) came in at \$300,000. The PD&E study for Priority four (SR 82 from Daniels Pkwy. in Lee County to SR 29 in Collier County) has not been approved and this is currently in the phase of receiving comments from FHWA.

Ms. Bonness noted that the Joint Pathways Advisory Committee did not have a quorum, but acting as a committee of a whole endorsed the River of Grass Greenway (ROGG). Mr. Loveland stated that he did not have any issues with the regional priorities and recommendations, but expressed to FDOT this was a terrible idea as there is only a limited amount of funding district wide and that a part is being peeled off for regional pathways. He stated that there are other needs that the funding could be used for. Mr. Hutchinson agreed with Mr. Loveland. Mr. Scott stated that as long as this is the process to get this funding that it was important to go after the funding and send a list to FDOT. Mr. Tindall stated that if a list was not submitted to FDOT, then the funding would go to another county. Mr. Hutchinson stated that number three should be number two, but he would go with the recommendation.

MOTION BY MR. HUTCHINSON AND SECONDED BY MR. ARCHIBALD TO ENDORSE THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PRIORITIES FOR FY 2014/15. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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 now funded with Economic Stimulus funds.

Discussion ensued regarding the Regional Priorities for SIS. Mr. Greene stated that he supported the sections of I-75 coming back on the list, but disagrees that the projects automatically go back to the top of the list, as the SR 951/SR 84 Interchange is failing and is a regional priority. Mr. Tindall stated that Collier County 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 and 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 project. Mr. Scott expressed that he was shocked that Collier County had a problem with I-75 going back to the top of the list. Mr. Loveland supported the projects going back to the top of the list and stated that from a level of service standpoint this was justified. Ms. Caudill-Scott stated that I-75 was important to everyone and presented an overview of the project and stated that the project should go back to the top of the list. Ms. Arnold asked for background information of the priority list. Mr. Tindall suggested providing more visual aids to show the old priority lists.

Ms. Caudill-Scott noted that number seven's (I-75 at Everglades Blvd.) next un-programmed phase needs to be changed back to PD&E study.

MOTION BY MR. HUTCHINSON AND SECONDED BY MS. ZAMBRANO TO SUPPORT THE REGIONAL PRIORITIES FOR SIS IN THE CURRENT ORDER UNEQUIVOCALLY AND TO ALLOW THE MPO STAFF DIRECTORS THE DISCRETION TO MODIFY THE AGENDA MATERIAL FOR THE JOINT MPO MEETING AND TO CHANGE THE NEXT UNFUNDED PHASE FOR NUMBER SEVEN TO PD&E STUDY.

Mr. Tindall asked for a roll call vote.

Mr. Greene suggested adding a caveat that the priority list stands with the prioritization that the both of the MPO Boards sign off on the prioritization with the additional information that will be presented to them.

Lee County MPO

Trinity Caudill-Scott	Yes representing FDOT.
David Hutchinson	Yes representing SWFRPC.
David Loveland	Yes.
Steve Myers	Yes.
Dawn Gordon	Yes.
Persides Zambrano	Yes.
John Patterson	Yes.
William Horner	Yes.
Rick Burris	Yes.

Collier MPO

Michael Greene	Nay.
Michelle Arnold	Yes.
Steve Olmstead	Yes.
Chuck Mohlke	Yes.
George Archibald	Yes.

MOTION CARRIED 13 TO 1.

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

Mr. Tindall presented an overview of the LRTP Goals and Objectives.

Discussion ensued regarding the LRTP Goals and Objectives and the following comments were made:

- Objective 1.4- add “other alternative modes of transportation” after “bicyclist;”
- Objective 1.5- change “Greyhound” to “interstate bus system;”
- Objective 1.11- add “safe” in front of “trucks;”
- Objective 2.9- take out “work with the Department of Homeland Security” and add “be” in front of “take” and change “take” to “taken;”
- Objective 5.3- change “Greyhound” to “interstate bus system;”
- Objective 5.5- take out “reserve” and add “encourage the reservation of future” and add an “s” after “way;”
- Add an Objective 7.5- identify land development patterns that reduce transportation needs and costs; and
- Objective 8.10- add in parenthesis “Collier chambers” after “Alliance.”

MOTION BY MR. ARCHIBALD AND SECONDED BY MR. LOVELAND TO APPROVE THE LRTP GOALS AND OBJECTIVES AND THE ABILITY FOR THE DIRECTORS TO WORDSMITH AS NEEDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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 LRTP. He asked the committee for updates on other studies they are aware of to add to the list prior to the Joint MPO Board meeting on October 16th.

Discussion ensued regarding other studies. Ms. Davis stated that transit has multiple studies (Transit Development Plan (TDP), Bus Rapid Transit) and should be included in the LRTP. Ms. Arnold reported that the 2009 Collier County TDP Update scope of services was approved by the Collier County Board of County Commissioners on September 29th and the major update will be completed by September 2010. Mr. Myers stated that the Lee County Major TDP was not due until September 2011. Ms. Davis stated that in order for the two counties’ TDPs to be consistent with due dates, the agencies would have to petition for a change which would take one year.

Mr. Loveland stated that the Del Prado and the Density Reduction Ground Recharge (south of SR 82 east of I-75) studies have been completed.

Ms. Caudill-Scott asked that SR 29 Immokalee Bypass be changed to "Loop Road."

Mr. Mohlke asked everyone to ask the MPO directors to have the school board members talk about school concurrency and the population projections which will dictate what warrants new school sites.

Mr. Greene mentioned incorporating the east of 951 study and noted that it has become a master mobility plan.

Ms. Davis stated that the results of the Heartlands Rural Mobility Study will be available as it is due by 2010 and there may be some relevant information in the study.

Chairman Mohlke asked that the committee receive the updated list electronically or bring back to the respective committees at their next meeting as a distribution item.

Agenda Item #7 – Florida Department of Transportation Report

Ms. Caudill-Scott stated that she did not have a report.

Ms. Davis announced that FDOT District One is conducting workshops next week (Bartow on September 29th and Fort Myers September 30th) for the Annual Transit Administration Section 5310 Elder and Disabilities Capital Equipment Grant funding. The department will also be announcing the 5311 Rural Transportation Operating Capital Grant and everyone can submit a grant without attending the workshop.

Agenda Item #8 – Transit Update

None.

Agenda Item #9 – Members' Comments

Mr. Mohlke presented an overview of emergency operations and hazardous mitigation. He encouraged the committee to talk to people from the emergency operations center to learn more about their respective preparedness plans and information from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Agenda Item #10 – Information Items

Mr. Scott presented an overview of carbon reduction funding analysis.

Agenda Item #11 – Adjournment of Joint TAC Meeting

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Having no further business, the Joint TAC meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:12 a.m.

MOTION BY MS. ZAMBRANO AND SECONDED BY MS. CAUDILL-SCOTT TO RECOMMEND ADJOURN. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.