

# MINUTES OF THE CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Held on May 2, 2013

The following members were present for the regular meeting of the Citizen's Advisory Committee on May 2, 2013 at the City of Cape Coral Annex/Public Works Building, 815 Nicholas Parkway East, Cape Coral, FL.

Margaret Banyan	Lee County District 1
Carie Call	Lee County District 1
Bill Williams	Lee County District 2
Albert O'Donnell	Lee County District 3
Marion Briggs	Lee County District 4
Rick Anglickis	Lee County District 5
James Boesch	Lee County District 5
Phillip Boller	City of Cape Coral
David Urich	City of Fort Myers
Daniel Wagner	City of Bonita Brings
John Pohland	Town of Fort Myers Beach
Linda Carter	At-Large- Transportation Disadvantaged

Those also in attendance included: Carmen Monroy with LeeTran; Russ Muller and Lawrence Massey with FDOT; Don Scott, Meghan Marion, Ron Gogoi and Anna Bielawska of the Lee County MPO.

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Ms. Marion called the roll and announced that a quorum was present.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### Agenda Item #1 – Minutes from the April 4, 2013 CAC Meeting

**MOTION BY MS. CARTER TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 4, 2013 CAC MEETING. SECONDED BY MR. BOESCH. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### Agenda Item #2 – Public Comments on Items on the Agenda

None.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Agenda Item #3 – Review and Approval of the Amendments to the Long Range Transportation Plan

Mr. Scott presented this item. These are the proposed amendments to the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan based on recent project funding and status changes identified in FDOT's Tentative Work Program, Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) projects and to match recent amendments made by the Collier MPO on Old US 41.

**MOTION BY MR BOESCH TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENTS TO THE LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN. SECONDED BY MR. O'DONNELL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Agenda Item #4 – Review and Approval of the Transportation Improvement Program**

Mr. Scott presented this item.

**MOTION BY MR. BOESCH TO APPROVE THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM. SECONDED BY MS. CALL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Anglickis took over as chair of the meeting.

**Agenda Item #5 – Review and Approval of the Amendments to the Unified Planning Work Plan**

Mr. Scott presented this item.

**MOTION BY MR. WILLIAMS TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENTS TO THE UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PLAN. SECONDED BY MR. POHLAND.**

Ms. Carter asked why Mayor Sullivan has to sign the UPWP. Mr. Scott said Mayor Ruane has to actually sign it as he is the current chairman of the MPO Board.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Agenda Item #6 – Review of the Proposed Connection to SR 78**

Mr. Urich made a presentation on this item. He said he is concerned about the proposed Del Prado Blvd extension. The extension goes along land that used to belong to 2020 Conservation and the Prairie Pines Preserve. Mr. Urich said he came up with an alternative for the extension which utilizes an already existing Bayshore Interchange. The possible alternative by-pass is marked in red on the map provided in the agenda packet. Mr. Urich asked the MPO staff to study and find out how much an alternative to the proposed Del Prado extension would actually cost.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Carter offered an easier suggestion using a cloverleaf exit off of Slater Rd. She said it would be easier and cheaper to modify that exit. Mr. Urich responded said that are some problems with this recommendation especially concerning spacing criteria between interchanges. Mr. Scott mentioned that you also have to look at what happens there from a traffic standpoint as well as parcels that would be affected.

Mr. O'Donnell asked about the difference in cost between a 4 mile road going through low cost land in comparison to doing an interchange. Mr. Scott responded that a minimal interchange is around \$25 million. A one mile section of 2 lane 4 mile road without Right-of-Way costs about \$8-\$10 million.

Chairman Anglickis asked what Mr. Scott would suggest as a going forward item. Mr. Scott answered that he recommends addressing this issue in the Long Range Transportation Plan update. Chairman Anglickis asked if this can be included in the model. Mr. Scott answered that yes, we could run an alternative like we do with other scenarios.

Ms. Banyan asked what the actual need is and if modeling is appropriate. Mr. Urich answered that in the past it was said that the Right-of-Way would be free going through 2020 land. He said it is immoral to assume that 2020 preservation land should be used for roadway construction.

There was a discussion about where the roadway originally came from, Mr. Scott clarified that Cape Coral is the largest area between Tampa and Miami but does not have good access to the interstate system. The thought process behind FIHS connections, when they were developed, was to have access from major roads to urbanized areas. The City of Cape Coral wants better access in this area.

There was more discussion about interchanges and the last one that was built, Mr. Scott said that the last interchange that was built in the region was on Golden Gate Parkway down in Collier. This project cost about \$23-\$24 million.

As a member of the 2020 committee, Ms. Call thanked Mr. Urich for bringing this issue forward.

Mr. Urich concluded his presentation by saying that the proposed alternative is something he feels make sense. If this happens, it will be in 30 years and will cost around a \$10 million versus a \$50 million interchange.

Chairman Anglickis requested to have MPO staff bring back analysis.

**MOTION BY MR. URICH TO INSTRUCT STAFF TO RUN AN ALTERNATIVE STUDY WITH THE PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION WHEN UPDATING THE LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN. SECONDED BY MR. WAGNER. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### **Agenda Item #7 – Review and Comment on the Draft SIS Cost Feasible Plan**

Mr. Scott presented this item. Comments on the Draft SIS Cost Feasible Plan from the various committees are due by May 30, 2013. Mr. Scott also went through the current comments received.

Mr. O'Donnell asked why Collier County received more funding. Mr. Scott answered that the Lee County portion of I-75 has already been completed.

Mr. Massey said that Corkscrew Road and Daniels Pkwy did not make the cut. He also said that FDOT is thinking about implementing a managed lane concept down south to Bonita Beach Rd. Some areas, like Sarasota, build ultimate interchanges and this makes managed lanes not possible.

Mr. O'Donnell requested a clarification of a definition of a managed lane. Mr. Massey answered that it is a toll special use lane that will be two lanes in each direction. Mr. Massey also mentioned that in the interim FDOT is looking at other fixes, and as traffic becomes worse managed lanes may be implemented.

Mr. Boesch said that it looks like the managed lane program arises when you are running out of money.

Mr. Scott said that one of the things FDOT is currently looking at is how to plan managed lanes, and how they will end up being modeled in the LRTP.

Ms. Carter asked about Project 1258, SR 82 from Homestead Road to the Hendry county line, and why the construction there is so fragmented. Mr. Scott answered that this is due to financial constraints.

Ms. Banyan emphasized the lack of multimodal alternatives on this list. The 2060 Florida Transportation Plan is supposed to initiate a new era in transportation. Ms. Banyan said that there is a need to communicate some of these concerns to the MPO. She also asked what the process is for passing on these concerns.

Mr. Massey said that there was not a multimodal component to the cost feasible plan. He also said that if they receive enough comments from the MPOs concerning this issue, it may be addressed in the next minor update.

Mr. O'Donnell emphasized that the freight lane is a big part of multimodal. He also asked for more explanations concerning managed lanes.

Mr. Massey said that the managed lanes will definitely be tolled and there will be public-private partnerships as well as SIS funds. Mr. Massey said that there are many options on the table including freight only lanes.

Mr. O'Donnell asked why there is not enough data concerning freight lanes. Mr. Massey said that there are only a couple of freight only lanes in the country.

Mr. Banyan said that the 2060 Florida Transportation Plan should be a lens for planning that FDOT should utilize.

Chairman Anglickis said that staff will bring comments forward.

Ms. Call said that she agrees with Ms. Banyan. There need to be alternative solutions rather than building more lanes.

Mr. Williams said that he is disappointed that several priorities that could be in Lee County are removed from the list and is not comfortable commenting favorably concerning this.

Mr. Scott mentioned that there is a need to work with FDOT to identify interim improvements on these interchanges but realizing that it will not be a \$90 million dollar interchange.

Mr. Williams said that in the past citizens that these interchanges were feasible, but now they are off the plan.

**Agenda Item #8 – Review and Comment on the Draft Transportation Improvement Program for FY 2013/2014 through FY 2017/2018**

Mr. Scott presented this item.

Chariman Anglickis requested some comments on this item.

**Agenda Item #9 – Provide Input on the Proposed Draft Priority List**

Mr. Scott presented this item. Some questions staff had included:

- Fowler Ave (#6) – Listed as a PE but will be determined depending on what comes out of that project; Right-Of-Way Question
- Roundabout Discussion is at the moment a priority; there needs to be a feasibility study to determine whether this can go onto the next phase.
- SR 78/Bayshore – There are Right-of-Way issues and a PD&E has to be completed.
- Metro Pkwy – The design is out right now; The possibility of a median will be determined beside sidewalks and bike lanes.

**MOTION BY MR. O'DONNELL TO MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO DROP PRIORITY #10 FROM THE LIST. SECONDED BY MS. CARTER. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Other Business**

**Agenda Item #10 – Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

None.

**Agenda Item #11 – LeeTran Report**

None.

**Agenda Item #12 – FDOT Report**

None.

**Agenda Item #13 – Announcements**

Ms. Banyan announced that the Bike/Ped Plan event for TICE community will be on May 9<sup>th</sup> at TICE Elementary at 8 a.m.

Mr. Scott said that FDOT is doing a Press Conference Rollout of the Safety Program at that event at 10:30 a.m.

**Agenda Item #14 – Topics for next meeting**

Mr. Scott said that priorities will be discussed as well as the final Transportation Improvement Program.

**Agenda Item #15 – Information and Distribution Items**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 4:13 p.m.