

**MINUTES OF THE LEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD
Held on April 17, 2015**

The following members were present for the regular meeting of the Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization Board on April 17, 2015 at the City of Cape Coral Council Chambers, 1015 Cultural Park Boulevard, Cape Coral, Florida.

LEE COUNTY	Present		
COMMISSIONER FRANK MANN	X		
COMMISSIONER BRIAN HAMMAN	X		
COMMISSIONER LARRY KIKER	X		
COMMISSIONER CECIL PENDERGRASS	X		
COMMISSIONER JOHN E. MANNING	X		
CITY OF FORT MYERS		ALTERNATES:	Present
COUNCILMAN THOMAS LEONARDO	X	COUNCILMAN JOHNNY STREETS JR	X
MAYOR RANDY HENDERSON			
COUNCILMAN MIKE FLANDERS	X		
CITY OF CAPE CORAL			
MAYOR MARNI SAWICKI		COUNCILMAN RICHARD LEON	X
COUNCILMAN JOHN CARIOSCIA			
COUNCILMAN JIM BURCH	X		
COUNCILMAN RICK WILLIAMS	X		
TOWN OF FORT MYERS BEACH			
COUNCILMAN ALAN MANDEL	X	COUNCILWOMAN REXANN HOSAFROS	
CITY OF SANIBEL			
MAYOR KEVIN RUANE		VICE-MAYOR MICK DENHAM	X
CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS			
MAYOR BEN NELSON	X		
VICE-MAYOR STEPHEN MCINTOSH		COUNCILMAN MIKE GIBSON	

Also in attendance: Kelly Blume, Rosalie Berlin, Ben Walker (HNZB), Darla Letourneau, D' Juan Harris (FDOT), Ned Baier (Jacobs Engineering), Peter Cangialosi, Jim Varey, Persides Zambrano, Bruce Bedell, Steve Myers (Lee Tran), Leah Peidergrus, Dare Urich, and Gavin Jones.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes from the March 20th joint MPO meeting

Agenda Item #1 – Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Report

The CAC approved the TIP amendment, the Transit Bus Pull-out Study recommendations (as part of their vote they also recommended that LeeTran consider bus pads and shelters at the bus stops where the bus pull-outs will be designed/constructed once this project starts in FY 2018), the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan and the General Planning Consultant scope of services. The CAC also discussed the District One Equity Study, the draft apportionment study and the Long Range Plan which included the discussion of member and public initiated project alternatives for Ortiz Avenue from Lockett Road to SR 80 and Hanson Street from Veronica Shoemaker to Ortiz Avenue.

Agenda Item #2 – Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee Report

The BPCC heard presentations on the bicycle pedestrian law education/enforcement details being conducted around the County, the Safe Kids Strategic Plan and the status of Bike Ped priorities. The Committee also discussed the update of the Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan and talked about the status of the Office of Greenways and Trails submittals.

Agenda Item #3 – Public Comments will be taken at each Item

Public Hearing Item

Agenda Item #4 – Endorsement of the Proposed Amendment to the FY 2014/2015 through FY 2018/2019 Transportation Improvement Program to Extend the Project Limits of the San Carlos Boulevard PD&E Study (Presented by Don Scott)

This item requires a roll call vote of the MPO Board members and is for the approval of extending the project limits of the San Carlos Boulevard Project Development and Environment Study. The current limits are from Main Street to Summerlin Road which are being extended from Estero Boulevard to Summerlin Road consistent with the recommendations that came out of the planning work that was done last year. The extension of the limits will now include the analysis of the Times Square area and the intersection at the bottom of the bridge for possible improvements, such as studying a round-a-bout at that location. The TAC and CAC unanimously approved this item at their meetings.

New Business

Agenda Item #5 – Approval of the Cape Coral Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan Joint Participation Agreement (Presented by Don Scott)

This is a Board approval item of the Joint Participation Agreement with FDOT (and the resolution authorizing the Chair to sign the agreement) to undertake the Cape Coral Bike Route Study. The scope of the project was previously approved by the Committees and the Board back in November. The study includes identification of needed bicycle and pedestrian facilities in the City of Cape Coral to provide a safe network of facilities to meet the existing and future needs of the community.

Agenda Item #6 - Presentation of the Draft District One Equity Study (Presented by FDOT)

This is a presentation item by FDOT and their consultant on the collection and distribution of transportation funding in FDOT District One. The end result is that our rate of return is 71% for the 1995-2018 period of the study analysis. The rate of return fluctuates over time and for

instance, the previous equity study that was done in 2007 projected that our rate of return for the 2007-2011 time frame was projected to be 110% which was mainly due to a large amount of funding going to the Interstate at that time. Overall, FDOT District One does not do very well in comparison to other Districts (and Florida is also a donor state as well) which doesn't make our circumstances any better. On the positive side, the equity study does not include the distribution of federal stimulus funds, which the community did a great job going after and getting (over \$65 million), and we assume we will always go after discretionary funding to increase what we get back to this area but the trend is that we are a donor County, in a donor District in a donor State.

The main question we need to ask FDOT is, what should we be doing to increase our fair share to get closer to 100%? Some of the recommendations that were made in the study will not work for us (or an urban County for that matter), two that come to mind are maximizing your local gas tax (we are at the maximum allowed and this study shows some of the Counties that are getting a better percentage return do not have the maximum local option gas tax) or going after SCOP (Small County Outreach Program) funds which is only for rural counties.

Agenda Item #7 - Review and Approval of the Transit Bus Pull-Out Study Report (Presented by Ron Gogoi)

This is a Board approval item of the Transit Bus Pull-out Study that includes the conceptual design of twelve bus pullouts (with the addition of a few more that will be funded with TRIP funds in FY 2017/2018. The study included the analysis of potential bus pull-outs based on criteria that included dwell time, number of passengers using the stop, speed of the road traffic etc. The Consultant will be at the MPO Board meeting to go through the study process and present the results for the Board's consideration. The TAC and CAC approved the study and the recommendations, but the CAC also approved a recommendation that bus pads and shelters be considered at the recommended locations when the project moves forward in 2018.

Agenda Item #8- Review and Approval of the Draft Apportionment Plan to add the Village of Estero Representative (Presented by Don Scott)

This item is for Board input and approval prior to sending it to FDOT for their input and determination if the change is a major change approved by the Governor approval or a more minor change that can be approved by FDOT. If there are no changes to the apportionment plan beyond what was approved by the Board, once that is settled, each of the jurisdictions will be asked to approve the Interlocal agreement with the proposed change. The apportionment change needs to be approved by the member jurisdictions representing 75% of the population of the urbanized area and the City of Cape Coral (largest incorporated City). The end result is the County and the City of Cape Coral, at the very least, needs to approve as no other combinations will meet the requirements. Based on the population per member, staff took the draft through the Committee's and the Executive Committee for review and comment. At the Executive Committee, the City of Cape Coral member raised adding another member for the City of Cape Coral and we have included a table that indicates this change, as well as what we originally proposed for the Board's consideration. From the staff perspective, we are trying to make sure that the expansion of the members doesn't outgrow the number of members that can fit on the City of Cape Coral dais as it meets our public involvement requirements (we currently fit, it is video recorded, can be watched live online and is cheap).

Agenda Item #9-Appointment of Citizen At-Large Member to the Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee (Presented by Don Scott)

This is a Board approval of the addition of a citizen at large member to the Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee. The proposed member, Isobel Hitchcock, was referred by Darla Letourneau and resides in unincorporated Lee County.

Agenda Item #10 - Approval of the Minor Update to the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (Presented by Brian Raimondo)

This is a Board approval item for the minor update of the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP). The changes include updates to the population data, existing conditions, Transportation Disadvantaged trip data and changes to the references to the Medicaid program as this is now not part of the coordinated system. The minor update to the TDSP was approved by the Local Coordinating Board, the TAC and that CAC at their respective meetings.

Agenda Item #11-Approval of the Local Coordinating Board (LCB) Certification (Presented by Don Scott)

This is a Board approval item of the certification of the Local Coordinating Board membership with the proposed addition of Ms. Heidi Shoriak as a voting member representing the local medical community.

Agenda Item #12- Review and Approval of the General Planning Consultant Scope of Services (Presented by Don Scott)

This is a Board approval item of the scope of services for General Planning activities that the MPO will conduct over the next few years. The MPO uses a preselected group of consultants that will do certain tasks for the MPO that do not need to be advertised separately. This allows the MPO to save money and time on certain tasks. The General Planning Consultants are approved for a maximum term of three years (federal requirements). The current group of six consultant teams was approved back in 2012 and expires in August and as such we are now moving forward to advertise and select a new group of firms for the next three years (though depending on who puts in these may be some of the same firms). The TAC and CAC unanimously approved the attached scope of services and provided a volunteer member of each Committee to sit on the selection committee (consistent with our current procedures).

Agenda Item #13-Presentation and Update on the 2040 Long Range Plan Revenues (Presented by Don Scott)

This is presentation item by staff on the calculation of 2040 revenues and the comparison of 2040 revenues to where we were with the 2035 revenues. This item is to inform the Board on the decline of revenues and to make it clear that our Cost Feasible Plan will be less than last time due to declining revenues (to set the expectations at a reasonable level).

Other Business

Agenda Item #14 - Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

Agenda Item #15- Update on MPO Projects

Staff will give an update on the bicycle pedestrian crash data and the TIGER project.

Agenda Item #16- LeeTran Report

Agenda Item #17- FDOT Report

Agenda Item #18-Announcements

Agenda Item #19-Information and Distribution Items

ADJOURNMENT