

**MINUTES OF THE LEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
BOARD**

**Held on May 16, 2014**

The following members were present for the regular meeting of the Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization Board on May 16, 2014 at the City of Cape Coral Council Chambers, 1015 Cultural Park Boulevard, Cape Coral, Florida.

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Limbaugh called the roll and announced that a quorum was present.

### **Agenda Item #1 – Citizen’s Advisory Committee Report**

David Urich gave the CAC report, he no longer supports moving up the Littleton Road Extension that was brought up by him and voted and approved by the CAC. From researching the project, he has found that it has some problems with the new section from Old US 41 over to Slater.

### **Agenda Item #2 –Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee Report**

Don Scott provided an overview of the last BPCC meeting that included a presentation on a GIS crash analysis tool used in Ohio, a presentation on the Estero Boulevard project from Lee County, a presentation by the Lee County School District Bike Ped Safety Education Program and the results of the safety working group looking at Bike/Ped crash locations and causes.

### **Agenda Item #3 – Public Comments on New Business Items**

#### **Public hearings**

### **Agenda Item #4 – Review and Approval of the Amendments to the Long Range Transportation Plan**

Don Scott opened the public hearing. This is a public hearing and is open for public comments and the Board approval will need to be done by a roll call vote. The amendments to the Long Range Plan are being done to address schedule changes on the project lists along with making changes to the State/Federal funding list to add Burnt Store Road from Van Buren to the Charlotte County line for possible Project development and Environment funding, the Big Carlos Bridge Replacement to possibly get a portion of the construction funding that is needed and the I-75/Corkscrew Road Interchange Improvements to help move that project forward when the current FDOT study at that location is completed. The TAC unanimously approved the proposed changes but the CAC added additional proposed changes (highlighted on the project lists) that include the deletion of the Incident Management Systems Bridges ITS project (which the staff does agree with) and the moving up of the Littleton Road Design and Right-of-Way project phases by five years, that the staff does not agree with. Staff does not agree with this change, due to the fact that this is not a high priority at this time and as we discussed at the Executive Committee, we are not getting as much revenue as was originally identified in the Long Range Plan.

Vice Chair Leonardo ask for public comment on the item and there were three speakers. David Urich spoke under public comments on the Littleton corridor and some of the issues and that he didn't support building it east of Old US 41 at this point. He then asked about addressing some of the issues with signage. Mr. David Loveland with Lee County got up and spoke about the Littleton corridor and previous discussions about the project. Saeed Kazemi with the City of Fort Myers got up to respond to the signage request for Evans Avenue and stated we would coordinate with the State on that.

Ms. Arlene Tivan spoke about the Littleton Road corridor and Ms. Lark Campisano spoke in support of David Urich's options and keeping new roads out of the preserve.

The Board discussed the alternatives and Mr. Scott discussed the TAC recommendation in relation to the CAC recommendation and stated that if the Board approves the TAC version it doesn't include moving up the Littleton project or deleting the Bridge ITS project. Mr. Urich provided some additional clarification on the CAC recommendation and his recommendation.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MANNING TO APPROVE THE TAC RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS TO THE LRTP SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BURCH. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Agenda Item #5 – Adoption of the FY 14/15 and FY 15/16 Unified Planning Work Program**

Councilman Leonardo opened the public hearing item. We will need to open the public hearing to get public comments and the Board approval will be by a roll call vote. The Unified Planning Work Program in the packet has been revised to address the comments that we have received and the TAC and CAC unanimously approved this item.

Vice Chair Leonardo ask for public comment on the item. No public comments.

**MOTION BY MAYOR NELSON TO ADOPT THE UPWP. SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BURCH. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Agenda Item #6 – Endorsement of the Minor Update to the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan**

Don Scott presented the minor update to the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. The changes that have been made include updating the Local Coordinating Board (LCB) membership, updating the population figures, updating the LeeTran route information and updating the Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC – Goodwheels provides the Transportation Disadvantaged trips) service standards and evaluation criteria. The LCB, TAC and CAC unanimously approved this item.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MANNING TO APPROVE THE UPDATED TDSP. SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BURCH. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Agenda Item #7 – Review and Approval of a Revised Joint Lee and Collier TRIP Priorities List**

Mr. Scott presented the Item and it also requires approval by the Collier MPO at their next meeting. The Chair sent an e-mail requesting they add it to their agenda and they have agreed. We are proposing the updates to the Joint TRIP priority list to add the Estero Boulevard project to make it eligible for TRIP funding as there may be some opportunity for funding in this upcoming fiscal year starting July 1<sup>st</sup>. The TAC voted 11 to 1 to approve and the CAC approved this item unanimously.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MANNING TO APPROVE THE JOINT TRIP LIST. SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BURCH. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Agenda Item #8 - Federal Highway Administration Certification Presentation**

Mr. Scott introduced Mr. Carl Mikyska with the Federal Highway Administration who gave an overview of the MPO certification requirements and process. Mr. Mikyska also said that they would take comments through June 16<sup>th</sup> and provided his contact information. Mr. Mikyska then asked if there were any comments and or questions that the Board may have. Mr. Jim Burch brought up the federal trust fund and wanted to make the point that they need to take action to resolve the funding running out.

**Agenda Item #9 – Presentation and Update on the Land Use Scenario Project**

Mr. Bill Spikowski started the presentation on the land use scenario project, starting with the background on the project and then Ned Baier with Jacobs provided the results of the public engagement activities where we got over 1,200 completed surveys and over 1,000 comments. There were questions raised about the statistical significance of the survey and the response was that this was a good way to collect responses compared with just having a public meeting where forty people might show up but it is not meet statistical requirements for each of the areas in the County. Next month they will present the preferred land use alternative for the Board's consideration.

**Agenda Item #10 – Discussion on the Changes to the Transportation Disadvantaged Program due to Medicaid Program Changes**

Mr. Scott introduced Tom Nolan who gave an overview of the changes that will be occurring in the TD program and at Goodwheels as a result of the Medicaid program changes and the reduction in funding.

**Agenda Item #11 – Review of the Draft FY 2014/2015 through FY 2018/2019 Transportation Improvement Program**

Johnny Limbaugh Presented the MPO's Interactive TIP web site showing the how the projects can be searched and how to get reports.

No action on the item as this will come back for approval next month.

**Agenda Item #12 – MPOAC Meeting Update**

Don Scott and Jim Burch provided an update from the April MPOAC meeting. He stated that much of the meeting discussion centered on the transportation trust fund that will run out of money in August and the Transportation bill that will expire in September.

No action on the item Informational only.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Agenda Item #13 – Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

No public comments.

#### **Agenda Item #14 – Update on the TIGER Grant**

Don Scott gave the report on the current TIGER grant activities that includes receiving the approval of the environmental determination on May 12<sup>th</sup>, the selection of the Construction Engineering Inspection firms on May 27, 2014 and the status of the grant agreement. Mr. Scott also talked about the Bicycle Pedestrian Safety Action plan tasks that include upcoming road safety audits and the discussion about mapping six years of bicycle pedestrian crash data to help us determine where we are going to focus our efforts.

Ms. Darla Letourneau reported that today was the bike to work day and that next week is the ride of silence. Ms. Letourneau also spoke about the upcoming dangerous by design report and the results of their activities on bicycle pedestrian related legislation and the results.

#### **Agenda Item #15 – LeeTran Report**

Mr. Steve Myers with LeeTran provided an update on the LeeTran headquarters facility and said that the construction is on time and on budget. He also talked about the purchase agreement for the Park & Ride site at Summerlin Square and Pine Ridge. Mr. Myers also talked about the ridership stabilizing at about a 1% decrease from last year.

#### **Agenda Item #16 – FDOT Report**

Mr. Billy Hattaway gave the FDOT report and provided a legislative update on the bills passed. He also noted that there will be state money for statewide trails and that there will be more information on that coming up. Mr. Hattaway also talked about the federal transportation bill expiring and that there has not been much progress. He stated that FDOT, in preparation for the trust fund and federal bill issues, have built up some funds for a six month time period to maintain the existing projects if there are issues moving forward with the bill. Mr. Hattaway also like to give a report on the bike activities at an upcoming meeting. Mr. Hattaway then asked about getting direction from the Board on US 41 and Bonita beach road. He stated that FDOT is willing to shut down the study if that is what the Board desires. The MPO Board members then went into a discussion about the study and moving forward with it to have an understanding of the possible solutions.

#### **Agenda Item #17 – Announcements**

None.

#### **Agenda Item #18 – Topics for next meeting**

Mr. Scott noted that the Board will be approving the Transportation Improvement Program, making a recommendation on the land use scenario project and approval of the transportation priorities.

**Agenda Item #19 – Information and Distribution Items**

Mr. Scott stated that he included FDOT's road watch in the agenda and that it gives information on the current status of projects.

**ADJOURNMENT**