

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

**Held on December 14, 2012**

The following members were present for the regular meeting of the Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization Board on December 14, 2012 at the City of Cape Coral Council Chambers, 1015 Cultural Park Boulevard, Cape Coral, Florida.

Commissioner Frank Mann	Lee County Commission, District 5
Commissioner Tammy Hall	Lee County Commission, District 4
Commissioner Larry Kiker	Lee County Commission, District 3
Commissioner Cecil Pendergrass	Lee County Commission, District 2
Commissioner John E. Manning	Lee County Commission, District 1
Councilman Thomas Leonardo	City of Fort Myers
Councilman Levon Simms	City of Fort Myers
Councilman Mike Flanders	City of Fort Myers
Councilperson Rena Erbrick	City of Cape Coral
Mayor John Sullivan	City of Cape Coral
Councilman John Carioscia	City of Cape Coral
Councilman Kevin McGrail	City of Cape Coral
Mayor Bob Raymond	Town of Fort Myers Beach
Mayor Kevin Ruane	City of Sanibel
Mayor Ben Nelson	City of Bonita Springs
Vice-Mayor Stephen McIntosh	City of Bonita Springs

Those also in attendance included: Johnny Limbaugh, Billy Hattaway, and Zac Burch with FDOT; Scott Coover with the Lee County Attorney's Office; Rosalie Berlin as citizen; Darla Letourneau with BikeWalkLee; Michael Griffin with Bluebird Taxi/Yellow Cab; Ravi Devaguptapu and Paresch Patel with FTE; David Loveland with Lee County DOT; Dan Rudge with LeeTran; Persides Zambrano with the City of Cape Coral; Daniel Calvert with the Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee; Juliet Iglesias with the LCPA; Josh Philpott with the Lee County Port Authority; and Don Scott, Ron Gogoi, Meghan Marion and Anna Bielawska of Lee County MPO.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chairman Sullivan.

Chairman Sullivan led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### Agenda Item #1 – Approval of Minutes from the November 16, 2012 MPO Meeting

**MOTION BY COUNCILMAN MCGRAIL TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 16, 2012 MPO BOARD MEETING. SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN FLANDERS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

Mr. Daniel Calvert of the Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee (BPCC) provided the report. He said that at the November 27 BPCC meeting, there was an update to the bike-ped safety action, a presentation on the “walk to school day”, and a review and discussion of the bike-ped master project plan priorities and baseline data. Mr. Calvert encouraged the MPO Board members to attend a presentation by the Tourism Director & Staff concerning the potential of ecotourism in the region at the next BPCC meeting held on December 18 at 10 a.m. at the Constitutional Complex in downtown Ft. Myers. Mr. Calvert also commented on the need for better coordination with FDOT regarding their 5 year Work Plan. Due to timing and coordination, the BPCC has not had the opportunity to make comments and recommendations to the MPO Board regarding the Work Plan. The FDOT 5 Year Work Program does not contain the top two transportation alternatives that were recommended by the BPCC at the joint meeting with the Collier Pathways Coalition – the Abel Canal Green Trail PD&E and the River of Grass Greenway Design.

## PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

### Agenda Item #3 – Adoption of the Amendment to the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) to Advance the Construction Funding for Business US 41 from Littleton Road to US 41 and the Design Funding for Metro Parkway from Daniels Parkway to Winkler Avenue to Current Year

Mr. Scott presented this item.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MANNING TO ADOPT THE AMENDMENT TO THE 2035 LONG TANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP) TO ADVANCE THE CONSTRUCTION FUNDING FOR BUSINESS US 41 FROM LITTLETON ROAD TO US 41 AND THE DESIGN FUNDING FOR METRO PARKWAY FROM DANIELS PARKWAY TO WINKLER AVENUE TO CURRENT YEAR. SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MCGRAIL.**

Chairman Sullivan opened the item up for public comments.

No comments were received so the public comments session was closed.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

**COMMISSIONER MANN – AYE  
COMMISSIONER HALL – AYE  
COMMISSIONER KIKER – AYE  
COMMISSIONER PENDERGRASS – AYE  
COMMISSIONER MANNING – AYE  
COUNCILMAN LEONARDO – AYE  
COUNCILMAN SIMMS - AYE  
CONCILMAN FLANDERS – AYE  
MAYOR SULLIVAN – AYE  
COUNCILMAN CARIOSCIA – AYE  
COUNCILMAN MCGRAIL – AYE  
MAYOR BOB RAYMOND – AYE  
MAYOR KEVIN RUANE – AYE  
COUNCILPERSON RENA ERBRICK – AYE**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Agenda Item #4 – Approval of Amendments to the FY 2012/13 – FY 2016/17  
Transportation Improvement Program to Advance the Construction Funding for  
Business US 41 from Littleton Road to US 41 and the Design Funding for Metro  
Parkway from Daniels Parkway to Winkler Avenue to Current Year**

Mr. Scott presented this item.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MANNING TO APPROVE THE  
AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 2012/13 – FY 2016/17 TRANSPORTATION  
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO ADVANCE THE CONSTRUCTION  
FUNDING FOR BUSINESS US 41 FROM LITTLETON ROAD TO US 41  
AND THE DESIGN FUNDING FOR METRO PARKWAY FROM DANIELS  
PARKWAY TO WINKLER AVENUE TO CURRENT YEAR. SECONDED  
BY COUNCILMAN MCGRAIL.**

Chairman Sullivan opened the item up for public comments.

No comments were received so the public comments session was closed.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

**COMMISSIONER MANN – AYE  
COMMISSIONER HALL – AYE  
COMMISSIONER KIKER – AYE  
COMMISSIONER PENDERGRASS – AYE  
COMMISSIONER MANNING – AYE**

**COUNCILMAN LEONARDO – AYE  
COUINCILMAN SIMMS - AYE  
CONCILMAN FLANDERS – AYE  
MAYOR SULLIVAN – AYE  
COUNCILMAN CARIOSCIA – AYE  
COUNCILMAN MCGRAIL – AYE  
MAYOR BOB RAYMOND – AYE  
MAYOR KEVIN RUANE – AYE  
COUNCILPERSON RENA ERBRICK – AYE**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Agenda Item #5 – Public Comments on New Business Items**

Ms. Darla Letourneau of BikeWalkLee made comments regarding the FDOT Work Program. She said that this is the first Work Program that BikeWalkLee has seen since the passage of MAP-21, and there are many impacts concerning Lee County, as well as lots of questions raised. Ms. Letourneau said that she hopes FDOT will work with the Board and staff to make changes before the Work Program is finalized. She said that \$9.2 million was requested for 25 standalone bike-ped projects, and only 13 were funded. She also mentioned that it was disappointing to see that none of the recreational trails projects were funded, specifically the Abel Canal Green Trail and the River of Grass Greenway. BikeWalkLee is pleased with the funding for City of Cape Coral sidewalks.

Mayor Nelson and Vice-Mayor McIntosh arrived at 1:38 a.m.

Ms. Letourneau asked that the Board consider the recommendations of the CAC and TAC committees and not endorse approval until the Abel Canal Green Trail, the River of Grass Greenway, and the San Carlos Trolley Study are added.

Mr. Scott that FDOT will address the issues that were brought up today.

### **Agenda Item #6 – Review and Endorsement of FDOT’s FY 2013/14 – FY 2017/18 Tentative Work Program**

Mr. Johnny Limbaugh of FDOT presented a PowerPoint on this item.

FDOT Secretary Billy Hattaway addressed some of the concerns regarding the bicycle pedestrian projects.

Councilman Flanders asked whether the 2014 Trolley Study \$1.2 million can be put to actually funding the operation of the trolley as opposed to just the study. Mr. Limbaugh responded that the trolley is already operational. This is to create the dedicated trolley lane; it’s more than just the study.

Chairman Sullivan asked if adding the San Carlos Trolley Study and the two regional enhancements projects, Abel Canal and River of Grass, will jeopardize money coming to Cape Coral for sidewalks. Mr. Limbaugh answered that the trolley study is already in the program because there were funds available. He said it would be appropriate to add the Abel Canal with other MPO sidewalk priority projects when the list comes out in June.

Mayor Raymond mentioned the need for a long range study on San Carlos Blvd that looks at the next 15-20 years.

Mayor Nelson complimented FDOT on the presentation and thanked them for their hard work.

Mr. Scott provided an updated staff report. Mr. Limbaugh responded that they will be able to replace SU funds in the future year. He also mentioned that the River of Grass Greenway Project needs are being addressed by FDOT through different programs.

**MOTION BY MAYOR NELSON TO ENDORSE FDOT'S FY 2013/14 – FY 2017/18 TENTATIVE WORK PROGRAM. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MANNING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Agenda Item #7 – Review and Approval of the Smoothed Federal Urban Area Boundary Map**

Mr. Ravi Devaguptapu of Florida Transportation Engineering (FTE) presented a PowerPoint on this item.

Councilman Leonardo asked why this process is necessary. Mr. Devaguptapu answered that it is related to federal funding.

**MOTION BY MAYOR NELSON TO APPROVE THE SMOOTHED FEDERAL URBAN AREA BOUNDARY MAP. SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MCGRAIL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Agenda Item #8 – Review and Approval of the Request for Proposal for the Lee County Community Transportation Coordinator**

Mr. Scott presented this item.

**MOTION BY COUNCILMAN MCGRAIL TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR THE LEE COUNTY COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR WITH THE LCB CHANGES TO CHANGE THE SCORING PERCENTAGES AND MAKE IT A FIVE YEAR**

**CONTRACT. SECONDED BY MAYOR NELSON. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Agenda Item #9 – Endorsement of LeeTran’s USC 5310 Grant Application for Operating and Capital Assistance**

Mr. Scott presented this item.

Councilman Leonardo mentioned that the letterhead needs to be updated.

**MOTION BY COUNCILMAN LEONARDO TO ENDORSE LEETRAN’S USC 5310 GRANT APPLICATION FOR OPERATING AND CAPITAL ASSISTANCE. SECONDED BY MAYOR RUANE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Agenda Item #10 – Election of 2013 Officers**

Mr. Scott presented this item.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HALL TO NOMINATE MAYOR RUANE AS THE CHAIR/TREASURER AND MAYOR NELSON AS THE VICE-CHAIR. SECONDED BY MAYOR RAYMOND. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Agenda Item #11 – Election of 2013 MPOAC Representatives**

Mr. Scott presented this item.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HALL TO NOMINATE COUNCILMAN LEONARDO AS THE 2013 MPOAC REPRESENTATIVE. SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MCGRAIL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HALL TO NOMINATE MAYOR RAYMOND AS THE ALTERNATE 2013 MPOAC REPRESENTATIVE. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MANN. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Agenda Item #12 – Approval of BPCC Appointments**

Mr. Scott presented this item.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HALL TO APPROVE BPC  
APPOINTMENTS. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MANNING.  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Agenda Item #13 – Presentation on the I-75 Airport Direct Connect Project**

Mr. Limbaugh presented a PowerPoint on this item.

Councilman Flanders said that the enhancements look good. He asked whether this is being designed so that Treeline Ave can easily go from a 4 lane to 6 lane in the long run. Mr. Limbaugh said that Treeline Ave is designed so it can go to a 6 lane in the future. The overpass is designed to only be a 4 lane.

Councilman Leonardo stated that this addition to the airport should enhance the opportunity to become an intermodal transportation center to help increase international trade. Other states and cities like Savannah, Georgia are taking advantage of international trade. Mr. Limbaugh answered that the state is on board with increasing international trade. All of the Disney trade that was coming into Savannah is now coming into the port of Jacksonville.

Councilman Simms asked what happened with the Englewood Deep Sea Port. Mr. Limbaugh answered that the phosphate moved out of that area.

Chairman Sullivan asked if there will be any mass transit going from the airport to Ft. Myers and Cape Coral. Mr. Limbaugh said that LeeTran has a route that goes there today. Chairman Sullivan said he was thinking more of a light rail system. Mr. Limbaugh said that there are currently no rail lines that go out there and would have to be developed. Mr. Scott said that the MPO rail feasibility study will try to look at accessing the airport.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Agenda Item #14 – Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

None.

**Agenda Item #15 – LeeTran Report**

Mr. Daniel Rudge of LeeTran provided the report. There has been a 7 % increase in ridership from November 2011 to November 2012. The new downtown trolley route on the long route from Waterside Park to Edison Estates has carried over 4,000 passengers, and the smaller downtown circulator has carried over 1,250 passengers.

Councilman Leonardo asked what kind of fuel new LeeTran buses will use. Mr. Rudge answered diesel hybrids.

### **Agenda Item #16 – FDOT Report**

Mayor Nelson asked that Vice-Mayor McIntosh be considered for Vice-Chair instead of him.

**COMMISSIONER HALL REMOVED HER PREVIOUS NOMINATION AND MADE THE MOTION TO NOMINATE VICE-MAYOR MCINTOSH AS VICE-CHAIR. SECONDED BY MAYOR NELSON. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

None.

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

Mr. Scott said there will be a UPWP amendment, Transit Agreement 5303, and Strategic Highway Safety Plan.

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

Councilman Leonardo thanked MPO staff for all of their hard work in the past year. He also asked the Chairman to recognize the dedication of Rosalie Berlin in attending the MPO Board meetings.

Commissioner Mann mentioned that the minutes misspelled Rosalie Berlin's name.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MANN TO AMEND THE MINUTES. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HALL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.