

# METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD

9:00 a.m., Friday, September 16, 2016  
City of Cape Coral Council Chambers  
1015 Cultural Park Boulevard  
Cape Coral, Florida 33990  
239-244-2220



## Meeting Summary DRAFT

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**Meeting Called to Order** – Councilman Rick Williams, Vice-Chair

**Pledge of Allegiance** – Councilman Rick Williams, Vice-Chair

**Roll Called** – Calandra Barraco, Lee County MPO; roll was called, quorum met

1 Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Report – Albert O'Donnell, CAC member

Mr. O'Donnell gave a presentation, with handouts, on the CAC's SR82 bicycle path recommendation which entails, in the very least, painting the lanes with no redesign. Ideally they would like separated bicycle lanes. He pointed out the negative aspect of a redesign which would result in delays of project. He also commented on the continuous flow intersection (CFI) and the problem cyclists may have making the left turn across three lanes of vehicular traffic.

Questions –

Councilman Jim Burch asked what the specific CAC recommendation was. Mr. O'Donnell responded that they recommended to take the bicycle lanes out completely but they will settle for painted lanes in the existing design.

Councilwoman Tracey Gore asked how the BPCCC felt about the SR82 design and was told it would be discussed in the next agenda item.

2 Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee Report – Jennifer Hagen, BPCCC member

Jennifer Hagen gave a presentation report on the BPCCC meeting. She stated that the BPCCC disagrees with the CAC recommendation to redesign or change the current project plans. The BPCCC announced their unanimous support for the current design. There is equal use of roadways granted to cyclists in the Florida Statutes. The plan is consistent with the MPO Master Plan and Complete Streets. It is context sensitive to the rural setting. A redesign could delay the widening at least five to seven years.

Questions –

Peter O'Flinn, Vice Mayor of Bonita Springs asked how the new FDOT lanes were enhanced and what are the dimensions of the lanes. The FDOT guidelines are set at six and a half feet for this type of roadway. This question will be further answered in Agenda Item #7 on the SR82 widening project.

3 Public Comments on Consent Agenda Items – Councilman Rick Williams, Vice-Chair

No Comments, closed

4 Consent Agenda – Councilman Rick Williams, Vice-Chair

- A. Approval of the Local Coordinating Board Appointments
- B. Endorsement of the Aviation Priorities

Both items were approved unanimously with a motion to approve by Commissioner Manning and seconded by Councilman Flanders.

5 Public Comments will be Taken at Each Item

## Public Hearing Item

- 6 ^\*Approval of FY 2016/17 through FY 2020/21 Transportation Improvement Program Roll Forward Amendments - Johnny Limbaugh, Lee County MPO

The MPO Board Roll was called again. The Roll Forward Amendments were approved unanimously with a motion from Commissioner Manning and a second from Councilman Burch.

## New Business

- 7 Presentation on the SR 82 Widening Projects in Lee County – FDOT

D’Juan Harris (FDOT) introduced the SR82 widening project team of Rick Lilyquist (FDOT), Ray Porter (FDOT), and Ray Lee (Dewberry).

Ray Lee with Dewberry and Ray Porter with the FDOT provided a presentation on the four SR82 project segments in Lee County. The current schedule for the four segments is listed below:

- Segment 1 – 425841-1, SR 82 from Lee Boulevard 4.6 miles eastward to Shawnee Road (just east of Daniels/Gunnery) – Construction is programmed for this fiscal year (widening from 2 to 6 lanes). Project consists of widening the existing two-lane rural roadway to a six-lane divided roadway. A typical section has three, 12-foot travel lanes in each direction separated by a thirty foot raised median. There will be six-and-a-half-foot buffered bike lanes in each direction as well as a five-foot sidewalk on the north side of the roadway. It also includes a two-legged Continuous Flow Intersection (CFI) at Gunnery and Daniels (short explanation video), the first of its kind in Florida, with a posted speed of 55 mph. The CFI will have mast arms and strain pole signal types. It will also have a 10-foot shared use path on the south side. There will be three sets of signalized intersections. Ten-foot-wide special emphasis crosswalks will be provided for pedestrians on all four legs of the intersection and six-and-a-half-foot bicycle lanes will be provided for the cyclists. A 1,250 feet long, 22 feet high light beige, ashlar stone texture noise barrier will be built at the Village of Stoneybrook. Traffic will be maintained during construction and this project will be completed in four main construction phases. The first phase will be to construct two new westbound lanes while maintaining traffic on existing SR82. The second phase is a shift of traffic onto the newly constructed westbound lanes, remove the existing pavement, and construct the new eastbound lanes. The third phase is to shift the eastbound traffic onto the new eastbound lanes, dividing the traffic, and constructing the median. The last phase is final signing, pavement markings, and friction course. They do anticipate short term lane closures and detours from Meadow Road and the side streets but no lane closures allowed on SR82 during the peak traffic hours of 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Nightly lane closures from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. at Daniels and Gunnery to construct the CFI. They will be using detour routes on Gateway Boulevard for Daniels and Lee Boulevard for Gunnery Road. Design and right of way are ongoing. The construction is funded for fiscal year 2016/2017 with an estimated cost of \$56.7 million. The project schedule began with PD&E studies in early 2006 with approval by the FHWA in October 2009. Design started in early 2011 and is nearly complete. Construction is slated to begin in spring of 2017. There will be a joint public meeting with the adjacent project to the east on Thursday, September 22, 2016 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the New Life Assembly of God Church located on Leonard Boulevard in Lehigh Acres. (Ray Lee)
- Segment 2 – 425841-2, SR 82 from Shawnee Road about 3.5 miles east to Alabama Road – Construction is not programmed in the five-year work program but is planned for FY 2021/2022 in the SIS Cost Feasible Plan. It consists of widening from the existing 2 lane rural roadway to a 6 lane divided roadway with a shared use path on one side and roadway lighting throughout

the entire corridor. The typical section is exactly the same as the first project including posted speed, shared use path, cycling lanes, and sidewalk. A deep muck pocket was discovered just east of Shawnee Road. It will be mitigated in two phases as part of the 425841-1 project in a combination of muck removal and soil surcharging constructed in two phases with one half of the roadway done at a time. The maintenance of traffic is exactly the same as 425841-1 project with general construction completed in four phases and an estimated cost of \$23 million. The joint public meeting on Thursday, September 22, 2016 will also discuss this segment. (Ray Lee)

- Segment 3 – 425841-3, SR 82 from Alabama Road to Homestead Road, about 3.6 miles – Right-of-way is programmed for this fiscal year and construction is programmed for FY 2017/2018 (widening existing 2 lane roadway to a 4 lane roadway), expandable to 6 lanes in long-range future by adding one lane in the median in each direction. It will have a 10-foot shared use path on south side, five-foot sidewalk on north side, six-and-a-half-foot buffered bike lanes in each direction, roadway lighting, and posted speed 55 mph. Maintenance of traffic is the same as Segment 1 and 2. It will be constructed in three phases. Phase 1 will be constructing the new westbound lanes while maintaining traffic on existing lanes. Phase 2 will be a shift of traffic to newly constructed westbound lanes and removal of pavement from SR82 existing lanes. Phase 3 will be final signing and pavement marking. There will be no peak hour lane closures. Design and right of way are ongoing. Construction is estimated at a cost of \$39.6 million with a completion date of March 2018. There will be a joint 425841-3, -4 meeting on October 4, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at the Veteran's Park Recreational Center Gymnasium in Lehigh Acres. (Ray Porter)
- Segment 4 – 425841-4, SR 82 from Homestead Road to the Hendry County line, about 4.6 miles – Construction is programmed for FY 2017/2018. It will consist of widening from existing 2 lane roadway to a 4 lane divided roadway. It is expandable in the long range to 6 lanes. It has same 10-foot shared use path on the south side and roadway lighting. There will be seven-foot buffered bicycle lanes and a five-foot sidewalk on the north side. It has a posted speed of 60 mph. Maintenance of traffic will be identical to that in 425841-3. There will be three phases of construction. Phase 1 will be to construct the new westbound lanes using existing lanes for traffic. Phase 2 will be to shift the traffic from the existing SR82 lanes to the newly constructed lanes and construct the new eastbound lanes. Phase 3 will be final signing, pavement marking, and friction course. There will be only minor side street detours and no peak lane closures. Design is ongoing. The estimated cost is \$18 million. There will be a joint public meeting with the 425841-3 project on October 4, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at the Veteran's Park Recreational Center in Lehigh Acres. (Ray Porter)

#### Questions and Discussion –

Commissioner Mann asked who the users are in a shared path. The users of the shared path can include cyclists, pedestrians, rollerbladers, and skateboarders.

Commissioner Mann asked why the ten-foot shared use path and the sidewalk are on the sides that they are on. Don Scott with the Lee County MPO responded with a longer history including a slide show. Mr. Scott explained that Collier County did a feasibility study to put it in the right of way. There are shorter trips walking on the north side and frontage roads parallel the facility.

Commissioner Pendergrass explained that the placement of the path and sidewalk were due to connectivity with the intersection at Daniels and Gunnery.

Councilwoman Tracey Gore asked what a mast arm was. She was told it is a metal pole that holds up the signals at intersections. Another type of signal is called a strain pole and it contains wires that stretch across.

Councilman Forbes asked if FDOT had stats on size of bike paths as a function of speed limits. Mr. Lilyquist with FDOT stated there was a study of buffered bike lane versus bike lane without buffering done and he would get that information to the Board.

Commissioner Pendergrass stated that the project would be a great asset.

Councilman Flanders supports the endorsement of the BPC. He asked where the closest example of a functioning CFI was and what the added initial cost and operating cost would be for the CFI. Mr. Lee with Dewberry restated this is the first of its kind in Florida. He pointed out that there are several videos on YouTube and examples in Utah and Louisiana. The initial cost is cheaper than the alternative overpass.

Councilman Flanders is concerned there would traffic stacking in the left lane and he is cautious about signals and their operating costs. Mr. Lee stated that all signals are controlled off one box so cost is reduced. Councilman Flanders voiced concern over the effect a storm may have on this type of traffic system.

Councilman Forbes asked about adding rumble strips for bike lanes. Mr. Lee said they would consider the possibility.

Councilman Burch asked if the road was limited access and Mr. Scott responded that it is controlled access. Councilman Burch also asked how they would control bikes without signals. Mr. Scott responded that the bikes act like pedestrians in the CFI and would cross with the lights. Bicycle boxes are also being looked at. Councilman Burch stated he was here as an alternated and had a lot of questions. Another question he had was if there was no buffering prior to this. Mr. Lilyquist with FDOT explained that the FDOT standards have changed from four to five-foot bike lanes to buffered bike lanes. Buffering is two white stripes painted on the road and there is no physical wall. They are looking into what is the safest for cyclists. Councilman Burch said he would support the project for economic reasons but also asked if this design would support the future growth or if it would have to be ripped up again in ten years. Mr. Scott stated that the four lane model will support growth projected into 2040.

Vice-Chair Williams reminded everyone this was only a presentation item.

Councilwoman Gore asked if the project total included storm management plans and it does include drainage and retention.

Councilwoman Stout stated that she is a proponent of roundabouts and it's exciting that Lee County will be the first to have a CFI. She feels this is a better option than flyovers.

Mr. Scott stated it was also a safety issue.

Vice Mayor O'Flinn stated that there are some places in the world that have dedicated off road bike lanes but in this country bikers are allowed on the road. He feels FDOT has enhanced protection for bikers.

Vice-Chair Williams appreciates the CAC. He feels the SR82 project should be continued on course.

Councilman Burch stated it was a difficult situation and possibly CAC could meet and compromise based on FDOT standards.

There was no public comment.

## 8 Presentation of the Transit Development Plan – Laura Everitt, Tindale Oliver for LeeTran

Laura Everitt from Tindale Oliver and Associates gave a presentation on the LeeTran Transit Development Plan (TDP). The assessment process and the research done was explained. The TDP document will be available on the LeeTran website for review at <http://www.leegov.com/leetran/tdp>. The State of Florida Public Transit Block Grant Program requires public transit service providers to develop and adopt a 10-year comprehensive planning document in accordance with Rule Chapter 14-73, Florida Administrative Code.

Major updates are required every 5 years with annual progress reports during the interim years. LeeTran has drafted the 2016 Major Update to its Transit Development Plan for 2017 – 2026. This plan sets forth an improvement plan for transit service in Lee County, which is consistent with local plans and the Lee County's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Long Range Transportation Plan and will serve as the guiding document for the MPO's Transportation Improvement Program as well as the FDOT's Five-Year Work Program covering public transit projects in Lee County.

The Transit Development Plan was developed with input from various stakeholders and interviews with elected officials representing the County and all municipalities. Public participation workshops were conducted and public comment was solicited through various means. The plan was vetted through the Review Committee, which was comprised of representatives from County Departments as well as local stakeholders.

The TDP document contains ten primary sections reviewing existing services, the operating environment, future conditions, transit needs, and proposed improvements to meet those needs. A financial plan is also included in the TDP, identifying the costs of existing and proposed services and resources necessary to fund the transit ten-year plan. All identified plan improvements beyond those currently funded with existing federal, state, and/or local sources are proposed to move forward only when an adequate funding mechanism can be secured.

### Questions and Comments –

There was one public comment. Ann Pierce with the CAC suggested the two express routes that are planned should be moved in to the current 10-year plan.

Councilman Flanders asked why LeeTran would add routes or extend hours before they increased the frequency of the routes. Steve Myers, LeeTran Transit Director, said that LeeTran is aligned with the importance of frequency improvements. Councilman Flanders also supports getting the funding switched from the General Fund and into a Transit Authority Tax base.

Councilwoman Gore asked if the new plan will cover the need to subsidize the current LeeTran system. Mr. Myers stated that no transit system covers all of its costs through rider fees. The goal of the plan is to increase ridership. Councilwoman Gore also asked what the smaller transportation units proposed for Fort Myers Beach would be. Mr. Myers stated they aren't currently in the plan but would probably be tram systems.

9 +Discuss Potential Agenda Items for the Upcoming Joint Lee/Collier and Lee/Charlotte-Punta Gorda MPO Board Meetings - Don Scott, Lee County MPO

Mr. Scott asked the Board to discuss possible agenda items for the October Joint Lee-Collier MPO meeting and the November Joint Lee-Charlotte MPO meeting. Listed below are the items that have been identified to date for each meeting:

Collier MPO:

- Review of regional map and TRIP priority resolutions for Joint MPO Board approval
- Review and approval of the updated Regional Non-motorized Transportation map

Charlotte-Punt Gorda MPO:

- Status of Burnt Store Road Corridor Improvements
- Babcock Webb Trail Corridor Extension
- Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods
- SUN Trail
- Joint Regional Map and TRIP priority resolutions

The Board had no further recommendations.

**Other Business**

10 Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda – Councilman Rick Williams, Vice-Chair

No public comments

11 LeeTran Report – Steve Myers states no further report beyond TDP presentation

12 TD Report – Alan Mandel, CEO Good Wheels

Mr. Mandel explained some of the programs Good Wheels provided including transporting Charter school students to after school programs and transporting riders on Medicaid trips. He also stated they would have 70 vehicles. By September 30, 2016, end of their Fiscal Year, Good Wheels will break even due to a capital funding match from local governments.

13 FDOT Report - Laura Herrscher

No report. Laura Herrscher introduced Bessie Reina.

14 Announcements – Councilman Rick Williams, Vice-Chair

No announcements.

One public comment on bicycle lanes and types, from Ann Pierce, CAC member, with slide show on these types of bicycle lanes including shared lane, conventional lane, green lane, separated lane, buffered lane, and protected lane. Her comment was that the Board should think about prioritization.

15 Information and Distribution Items, handouts from Albert O'Donnell on SR82 widening

**Meeting Adjourned**

^Roll Call Vote    \*Action Items    +May Require Action

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