

MINUTES OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Held on December 6, 2012

The following members were present for the regular meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee on December 6, 2012 at the Lee County Tax Collector's Office, 2480 Thompson Street, Fort Myers, FL.

Matt Noble	Lee County Community Development
Mike Tisch	Lee DOT
Josh Philpott	Lee County Port Authority
Daniel Rudge	LeeTran
Dawn Huff	Lee County School Board
Persides Zambrano	City of Cape Coral Public Works
Swara Farheen	City of Fort Myers Engineering
Walter Fluegel	Town of Fort Myers Beach
Ben Pople	City of Sanibel Planning Department
Lorraine Lantz	Collier County MPO
Margaret Wuerstle	Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council
Bob Herrington	Charlotte County Punta Gorda MPO

Those also in attendance included: Russ Muller and Johnny Limbaugh with FDOT; Bill Spikowski with Spikowski Planning Associates; Wayne Gaither with LeeTran; Darla Letourneau with BikeWalkLee; Steve Brodtkin with CCBC; Paresh Patel and Ravi Devaguptapu with FTE; Gary Harrell with Charlotte County Punta Gorda MPO; and Don Scott, Meghan Marion, Ron Gogoi and Anna Bielawska of the Lee County MPO.

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m. by Chairman Fluegel.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Agenda Item #1 – Minutes from the November 1, 2012 TAC Meeting

MOTION BY MR. RUDGE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 1, 2012 TAC MEETING. SECONDED BY MR. TISCH. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

Mr. Scott suggested taking public comments after the presentations. Chairman Fluegel asked if that is fine with the speakers.

NEW BUSINESS

Agenda Item #3 – Review and Endorsement of FDOT’s FY 2013/2014 – FY 2017/2018 Tentative Work Program

Mr. Limbaugh of FDOT presented a PowerPoint on this item. He said this is a very tentative draft work program. Mr. Limbaugh mentioned that there have been some challenges this year switching from the old funding categories over to MAP-21.

Ms. Letourneau of BikeWalkLee had some comments on this presentation. She mentioned that the two regional bicycle pedestrian projects with Collier County, Abel Canal and River of Grass, were not funded. Ms. Letourneau said that there has been a lot of emphasis on regional projects by FDOT in the past, but there is no funding now. Overall, BikeWalkLee is concerned by the State’s lack of commitment to fund recreational trails. The second thing Ms. Letourneau spoke about was the lack of funding for the San Carlos Trolley Lane Study, which is a part of the MPO’s high priority improvement projects in the Fort Myers Beach and Estero Blvd area.

Mr. Scott responded that they recommend not approving the tentative work program unless

- 1) The San Carlos Trolley Lane Study Program is included and funding left in the Work Program Operational Improvements/Multi-Modal Enhancement Box (\$1,257,977 in FY 2015) is used to fund it, and
- 2) SU dollars in the future year for SR 82 are reimbursed if possible.

Ms. Letourneau asked if she could recommend that the MPO’s resolution of disapproval include the previously mentioned regional enhancement bike-ped projects. Mr. Scott answered that it is up to the committee and the board. Mr. Johnny Limbaugh said that FDOT is funding the San Carlos Lane Trolley Study in 2015 with the \$1.25 million dollars that is in the MPO box.

Ms. Zambrano thanked FDOT for their support of the Cape Coral sidewalk program. She said the Chiquita project will be ready for production by FY 2014.

Mr. Limbaugh mentioned that FDOT is very much committed to the bicycle-pedestrian and trails programs. Some of these projects have been funded with new Transportation Alternative funds. Overall, the Transportation Alternative funding was smaller than anticipated for enhancement type projects. He also said that the MPO has a good recommendation that they support the work program, but they would like some changes included in it before the final draft comes out.

Ms. Zambrano pointed that the MPO recommendation to the work program is not in the TAC packet. Ms. Marion said it went out with the MPO Board agenda packets.

Mr. Rudge pointed out that public comments on the MAP-21 process should be made as a group so FDOT can hear some of the concerns.

Mr. Limbaugh said that after the public hearings a cleaner version of the work program will be sent out with adjustments made based on comments from the different jurisdictions.

Mr. Limbaugh said that the appropriate thing to do is if you like the approach to the work program to give a recommendation subject to the changes that were previously discussed by Mr. Scott.

Mr. Rudge asked whether any of the two projects discussed by Ms. Letourneau are on any priority list. Mr. Scott said they were on a regional enhancement priority list that was done jointly with Collier County.

MOTION BY MR. RUDGE TO ACCEPT THE STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION AND NOT ENDORSE APPROVAL UNTIL ALL OF THE PROPOSED CHANGES ARE MADE:

- 1) THE SAN CARLOS TROLLEY LANE STUDY PROGRAM IS INCLUDED AND FUNDING LEFT IN THE WORK PROGRAM OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS/MULTI-MODAL ENHANCEMENT BOX (\$1,257,977 in FY 2015) IS USED TO FUND IT.**
- 2) SU DOLLARS IN THE FUTURE YEAR FOR SR 82 ARE REIMBURSED**
- 3) THE FUNDING FOR THE LEE COUNTY PORTION OF THE ABEL CANAL AND RIVER OF GRASS RECREATIONAL PROJECTS IS INCORPORATED.**
- 4) MOVE THE FUNDING YEAR FOR BUSINESS 41 FROM LITTLETON RD TO US 41 & SR 79 FROM DANIELS PKWY TO WINKLER AVE FOR THE WIDENING DESIGN PROJECTS TO FY 2012/2013.**

MS. ZAMBRANO MADE A MODIFICATION TO THE MOTION TO CHANGE THE LANGUAGE TO "ENDORSE WITH THE FOLLOWING ADJUSTMENTS TO INCLUDE" INSTEAD OF NOT ENDORSE APPROVAL. MR. RUDGE ACCEPTED THE CHANGE TO THE MOTION.

SECONDED BY MS. ZAMBRANO. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #4 – Recommend MPO Approval of an Amendment to the Long Range Transportation Plan to Advance the Construction Funding for Bus 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 MR. RUDGE TO RECOMMEND MPO APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN TO ADVANCE THE CONSTRUCTION FUNDING FOR BUS 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 MR. NOBLE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #5 – Recommend MPO Approval of Amendments to the FY 2012/2013 – FY 2016/2017 Transportation Improvement Program to Advance the Construction Funding for BUS US 41 from Littleton Rd to US 41 and the Design Funding from Metro Pkwy to Winkler Ave to Current Year

Mr. Scott presented this item.

MOTION BY MR. RUDGE TO RECOMMEND MPO APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 2012/2013 – FY 2016-2017 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO ADVANCE THE CONSTRUCTION FUNDING FOR BUS US 41 FROM LITTLETON RD TO US 41 AND THE DESIGN FUNDING FOR METRO PKWY TO WINKLER AVE INTO THE CURRENT YEAR. SECONDED BY CHAIRMAN FLUEGEL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #6 – Review and Approval of the Smoothed Federal Urban Area Boundary Map

Mr. Gogoi thanked the City of Sanibel, City of Cape Coral, and Lee County for working with the MPO staff and the consultant to make the changes.

Mr. Devaguptapu with Florida Transportation Engineering made a presentation on this item.

Ms. Lantz commented on Inset 12 in the Bonita area. Collier MPO is concerned that they were not shown the same map at their presentation. The difference is the urbanized Naples-Bonita area of the MPO.

Mr. Steve Brodtkin of the Concerned Citizens of Bayshore Community had a public comment on this item. The community is concerned that a big chunk of Bayshore, which is open land, is showing within an urban boundary. It made the community question the process. Mr. Scott that area was included because there is some development occurring there, but not where you have 1,000 people/sq. mile.

MOTION BY MR. NOBLE TO APPROVE THE SMOOTHED FEDERAL URBAN AREA BOUNDARY MAP.

Mr. Pople suggested including some of the changes made based on today's comments.

SECONDED BY MR. RUDGE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #7 – Review and Approval of the Request for Proposal for the Lee County Community Transportation Coordinator (CCTC)

Mr. Scott presented this item. Mr. Rudge asked if this has been looked at by the LCB yet. Mr. Scott said this is going before the LCB in a week.

MOTION BY MS. HUFF TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR THE LEE COUNTY COMMUNITY

TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR. SECONDED BY MS. WUERSTLE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #8 – Endorsement of LeeTran’s USC 5310 Grant Application for Operating and Capital Assistance

Mr. Rudge presented this item. The grant has to be submitted to FDOT by January 11 with an MPO Board recommendation.

MOTION BY MR. RUDGE TO ENDORSE LEETRAN’S USC 5310 GRANT APPLICATION FOR OPERATING AND CAPITAL ASSISTANCE. SECONDED BY MR. TISCH. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #9 – Presentation on the I-75 Airport Direct Connect Project

Mr. Limbaugh presented a PowerPoint on this item.

Other Business

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

None.

Agenda Item #11 – LeeTran Report

Mr. Rudge said that the October 2011 vs. October 2012 ridership numbers were up by 24%.

Agenda Item #12 – Port Authority Report

Mr. Philpott of the Lee County Port Authority provided the report. He said that the airport is trying to expand more into the Latin American market. Traffic is down year over year, but there has been a considerable jump in the month to month traffic numbers. There will be a public hearing on the noise study in January and the study is posted on their website.

Agenda Item #13 – FDOT Report

None.

Agenda Item #14 – Announcements

None.

Agenda Item #15 – Topics for next meeting

Mr. Scott said that there will be some UPWP amendments because PL funding is decreasing for next year.

Agenda Item #16 – Information & Distribution Items

Ms. Marion asked to check the roster to make sure everybody's alternate is correct.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

