

# MINUTES OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Held on February 7, 2013

The following members were present for the regular meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee on February 7, 2013 at the Lake Kennedy Senior Center, 400 Santa Barbara Blvd, Cape Coral, FL.

Matt Noble	Lee County Community Development
Andy Getch	Lee DOT
Carmen Monroy	LeeTran
Persides Zambrano	City of Cape Coral Public Works
Kitty Sayers	Cape Coral Mini Bus Service
Ben Bullert	City of Fort Myers Engineering
Josh Overmyer	Town of Fort Myers Beach
Ben Pople	City of Sanibel
John Gucciardo	City of Bonita Springs
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, Richard Shine and Johnny Limbaugh with FDOT; Carmen Monroy with LeeTran; Darla Letourneau with BikeWalkLee; and Don Scott, Meghan Marion, Ron Gogoi and Anna Bielawska of the Lee County MPO.

Chairperson Zambrano called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

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

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### Agenda Item #1 – Minutes from the January 3, 2013 TAC Meeting

**MOTION BY MS. MONROY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 3, 2013 TAC MEETING. SECONDED BY MR. GUCCIARDO. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

None.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Agenda Item #3 – Review and Approval of the Lee MPO/LeeTran Transit Planning Interlocal Agreement

Mr. Scott presented this item. This agreement outlines Lee MPO/LeeTran coordination activities and specifically addresses the use of the 5303 transit planning funds for the Committee's consideration.

Ms. Monroy mentioned that LeeTran staff worked cooperatively with MPO staff to make the agreement.

**MOTION BY MS. MONROY TO APPROVE THE LEE MPO/LEETRAN TRANSIT PLANNING INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT. SECONDED BY MR. NOBLE.**

Ms. Lantz asked if 80 % of the funding would go to LeeTran, and the other 20% to the MPO for LRTP (Long Range Transportation Plan) transit development portions. Mr. Scott said yes and also answered that some of the remaining current year funds will be used for the land use scenario study to enhance transit.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Agenda Item #4 – Review and Comment on the Transit Bus Pull Out Study Scope of Services**

Mr. Gogoi presented a PowerPoint on this item.

Chairperson Zambrano asked for clarification of the cost of the study. Mr. Gogoi answered that it is \$124,000.

Chairperson Zambrano also asked if this scope is for approval or just for comments. Mr. Scott answered that it will be approved sometime in the future.

Ms. Sayers inquired whether this study has been initiated for safety reasons. Ms. Monroy answered that the primary purpose of the study is for safety enhancement. The primary concern for LeeTran is the merging of buses in and out of traffic. Ms. Sayers also asked if the criteria would be applied in the areas where there have been significant crashes. Ms. Monroy responded that they will work collaboratively to create a filter that looks at areas with significant safety impacts.

Mr. Gogoi said that the criteria mentioned in the study are from FDOT District 1 and District 7. The crash patterns will have to be obtained from LeeTran. Ms. Monroy said that they have various amounts of crash data; it is just not in an easily accessible format at this time.

Mr. Limbaugh asked if the goal of the study would be to develop some sort of design standard that would be adopted by local jurisdictions. Ms. Monroy responded that this would probably be one of the recommendations at the end of the study.

Mr. Noble mentioned that this study is a change and a step forward for LeeTran, and he supports it. If this study is seen as a mobility fee or perhaps an impact fee, it could be eligible for credit. Mr. Scott asked if LeeTran receives an easement or a fee simple Right-of-Way. Ms. Monroy answered that it depends.

Mr. Getch commented on the placement of the signage proposed on the lower right hand corner. You will not be able to read it unless you are standing at the bus stop. Mr. Getch also recommended including looking at the impact of current and future land use in the study. Ms. Monroy agreed with Mr. Getch.

**Agenda Item #5 – Review and Comment on the Transit Bus Queue Study Scope of Services**

Mr. Gogoi presented a PowerPoint on this item.

Mr. Limbaugh encouraged coordination with the FDOT traffic operations in Bartow on the selected US 41 corridor. There are dollars available for signal type changes.

Ms. Monroy mentioned that this study is very conceptual; bus queues jumps have been known to work in other locations.

Mr. Noble asked LeeTran if they are moving forward with the Park and Ride Lot at Shell Factory. Ms. Monroy said yes. Mr. Noble suggested including north of SR 78 to Shell Factory in this study. Mr. Shine said that there is no Park and Ride funding available this fiscal year for District 1. There might be other options for funding.

Mr. Getch mentioned that the conceptual sketches do not show bike lanes. He also suggested bringing Task 6 of the study to the BPC for comments. Mr. Gogoi said there will be staff presentations in front of the TMOC and BPC.

**Agenda Item #6 – Approval of the Florida Department of Transportation being the Designated Recipient of FTA 5310 Funds**

Mr. Scott presented this item. The funding available for Lee County is \$263,000. One of the bigger issues throughout the application process was that if LeeTran became the designated recipient of this funding, anybody putting in for this funding would have to find an additional 10% local match. If FDOT was named the designated recipient then it would only require the 10% match.

The overall funding for 5310 is 80% federal, 10% state/cash, and 10% local.

Mr. Shine said that FDOT needs a formal designation declaration.

Chairperson Zambrano said that it is important to clarify before the MPO Board that FDOT and LeeTran worked together on this process.

Mr. Gogoi asked if this would require any approval by the governor. Mr. Shine that he has not heard for the need of gubernatorial approval.

**MOTION BY MS. MONROY TO APPROVE THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BEING THE DESIGNATED RECIPIENT OF FTA 5310 FUNDS. SECONDED BY MR. OVERMYER. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Agenda Item #7 – Approval of the 5310 Application**

Mr. Scott presented this item.

**MOTION BY MS. HUFF TO APPROVE THE 5310 APPLICATION. SECONDED BY MR. GETCH. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **Agenda Item #8 – Review of the I-75 Sketch Plan Segment Analysis**

Mr. Scott presented this item.

Mr. Limbaugh mentioned that the Expressway Authority has been completely dissolved.

Mr. Noble brought up that the segment from SR 78 to SR 80 is under construction for 6 lanes already.

Mr. Gogoi asked whether it is guaranteed that the 8 lane segments within Lee County will make it into the 2040 cost feasible plan. Mr. Limbaugh answered no.

### **Agenda Item #9 – Discussion on the Potential Regional TRIP Project Priorities**

Mr. Scott presented this item.

Chairperson Zambrano said that the county is working very hard on the Burnt Store Road Right-of-Way, which was awarded TRIP funding for FY 2015. There has been some legal issues with the Right-of-Way. She wanted to make sure that there is a holding place for this project on the list. Mr. Scott said it is already considered funded.

### **Agenda Item #10 – Discuss Possible Items for the Upcoming Joint Lee Collier Meetings**

Mr. Scott presented this item. The Lee Collier transit connection (LinC) funding will be discussed at the upcoming joint Lee/Collier TAC meeting. Ms. Monroy said that this is a very successful route and it is crucial to discuss future funding opportunities. Changes to the regional agreement between Lee and Collier MPOs will also be discussed and a Long Range Transportation Plan update for Old US 41 will be provided.

### **Other Business**

### **Agenda Item #11 – Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

None.

### **Agenda Item #12 – Member Comments**

Mr. Scott passed out a letter from Ms. Letourneau concerning banning texting while driving.

There will also be a special committee created to discuss recommendations for JARC and New Freedom funding. Mr. Scott asked Ms. Monroy if she would like a member of the TAC to sit on the committee. Ms. Monroy said that this would be advisable. Chairperson Zambrano suggested selecting a member of the CAC instead.

### **Agenda Item #13 – Determine if TAC Report is Necessary at MPO Board and Nominate a Presenter**

It was decided that no report is needed.

**Agenda Item #14 – LeeTran Report**

Ms. Monroy said that the groundbreaking ceremony for the new LeeTran facility will be on March 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Agenda Item #15 – FDOT Report**

Mr. Shine commended LeeTran on a positive experience he had on this morning's bus ride. He also said that there will be a transit job opening with FDOT District 1. More information is available on the Florida People First website.

**Agenda Item #16 – Announcements**

None.

**Agenda Item #17 – Topics for next meeting**

None.

**Agenda Item #18 – Information and Distribution Items**

Chairperson Zambrano said that there is a good article by Secretary Hattaway on the Greenbook. It has good tips for green development.

Mr. Scott also said that there is a financial guideline for the 2040 LRTP and also the MPOAC legislative priorities.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.