

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT COLLIER & LEE COUNTY MPO  
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Held on October 3, 2013**

The following members were present for the joint meeting of the Collier & Lee County MPO Citizens Advisory Committee on October 3, 2013 at the Estero Community Park & Recreation Center, 9200 Corkscrew Palms Boulevard, 103A, Estero, Florida 33928.

**Collier TAC**

Fred Thomas	District V
Josh Ricon	Representative of Minorities
Wayne Sherman	District IV
Karen Homiak	District I
Patty Huff	At Large

**Lee TAC**

Rick Anglickis	District 5
Ted Tryka	City of Bonita Springs
Dave Urich	City of Fort Myers
Marion Briggs	District 4
Bill Williams	District 3
John Pohland	Town of Fort Myers Beach

Those also in attendance included: Russ Muller and Lawrence Massey with FDOT; Lorraine Lantz with Collier MPO; Don Scott, Ron Gogoi, Johnny Limbaugh with Lee County MPO. Trinity Scott Collier ATM, Anna Bielawska LeeTran

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Lantz called the roll for the Collier CAC and announced that a quorum was present.

Mr. Limbaugh called the roll for the Lee County CAC and announced that a quorum was not present.

Mr. Anglickis was elected as chairperson of the October 3, 2013 Joint Lee and Collier Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 1:34 p.m. by Mr. Anglickis.

**Agenda Item #3 – Public Comments**

None

**Agenda Item #4 – Approval of Agenda**

Fred Thomas asked about the cancellation of a FDOT meeting in Immokalee regarding SR 29, Lorraine Lantz committed to getting back to Mr. Thomas with information.

Bill Williams asked that a resolution supporting a change in the Truck haul route be added to the agenda. The item will be discussed under item 6f.

**The agenda was approved with no objection.**

**Because there was not a quorum the committee agreed to move forward as a committee of the whole.**

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Agenda Item #5A – Review and Approve TRIP Funding Change in Collier**

Mr. Scott presented the item, Due to funding changes and priorities; Collier County Transportation is requesting that the \$1,236,285 million in TRIP funding that is currently programmed for a portion of the right-of-way phase for the Collier Boulevard Golden Gate Main Canal to Green Boulevard project be moved and added to the TRIP funds that are being used for the construction phase of the Collier Boulevard from Green Boulevard to Golden Gate Boulevard project.

**MOTION BY MS. KAREN HOMIAK TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED CHANGES SECONDED BY MR. FRED THOMAS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

### **Agenda Item #6A – Discussion on the Future Funding Opportunities for the Lee Collier (LinC) Transit Connection**

Mr. Scott introduced this item. Mr. Scott asked LeeTran to provide an update of what has happened since the last meeting. He also asked LeeTran to discuss the current funding needs and the future funding opportunities for the Lee Collier transit connection, also known as LinC.

Mr. Scott stated that LeeTran service route costs them per year is around \$400,000 annually.

Mr. Thomas asked if increased ridership would cover the cost of maintaining the route. He suggested adding a route to Immokalee to generate new revenue. Ms. Scott with Collier Transit explained that the cost per operational hour would around \$90 for Collier County and \$103 per revenue hour for Lee County. An additional transit route will not generate additional funds to pay for the short fall. Bill Williams suggested that an economic benefit analysis be completed to show the benefit of the route. Mr. Sherman asked about the possibility of federal grants to cover the route, Collier staff explained that there is still a local match required and that is the issue we are trying to overcome on the LinC route. The committee supported keeping the route and recommended both counties continue to work together.

### **Agenda Item #6B – Update on the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plans for Collier MPO and Lee County MPO**

Ms. Lantz presented an overview, the Collier MPO is considering conducting a Visioning Workshop to look at the County and discuss how the MPO Board anticipates the area to grow. This workshop may look at the existing highway, transit and bicycle/pedestrian facilities and the level of financial resources available for them in the future. Ms. Lantz also went into some of the other LRTP activities including Collier providing data to FDOT for the development of the District wide model. She also stated that Collier will be issuing task to their general planning consultants for the various elements of the plan development.

Mr. Scott presented a power point this item. The Lee County MPO has begun a land use scenario project that will be looking at land use alternatives that would help reduce vehicle trips, trip lengths and increase the viability of transit options. The MPO is projecting the completion of this project by next June, and the end result will be an approved 2040 land use scenario that can then be used for the 2040 land use projections in the LRTP travel model. (Presentation attached)

The committee discussed the need to have a high level of coordination and recommended joint committee meetings throughout the plan update. Both MPO staffs committed to looking into the schedule and bringing back a recommendation of when those would occur.

#### **Agenda Item #6C – Presentation on the Adopted Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Plan**

Mr. Massey presented an overview of the development and funding of the SIS work program.

Bill Williams asked about improvements at Corkscrew interchange, Mr. Massey stated that the Department is studying the needed improvements and they have scheduled traffic counts in that area to determine what type of interim project could be developed. Ms. Patty Huff asked for an update on SR 951/I-75 improvements. The improvements will be going on for several more years. She had concerns about signage during construction. Staff will check to see if anything can be done to make it easier for drivers find their way.

#### **Agenda Item #6D Review and Input on the SIS Evaluation Criteria for Joint MPO prioritization**

Mr. Gogoi presented the proposed criteria, which was developed to be a multimodal evaluation for prioritization. The committee discussed the need to test current projects to see how the criteria results compare to the current SIS criteria. Ron committed to continue the testing and bringing the results back to the TAC and CACs

#### **Agenda Item #6E Discussion on the Old US 41 from US 41 to Bonita Beach Road Project Coordination**

Mr. Scott presented the item. The two MPO's have amended their Long Range Plans to include the reconstruction of Old US 41 between US41 in Collier County to Bonita Beach Road in Lee County. Back in June, the two MPO's (separate action by both MPO's) included the prioritization of the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) phase in each of our Federal/State priority lists. Also, the City of Bonita Springs is considering moving forward with paved shoulders on Old US 41 south of Bonita Beach Road down to the County line (in response to safety issues) and is seeking to coordinate these efforts. It was the consensus to see what happens with the PD&E study to determine if we should move forward with the paved shoulder project as a safety project given the time it will take to complete the large scale project.

#### **Agenda Item #6F – Discussion on the Corkscrew Road Truck Routing Plan**

Mr. Scott presented this item. This is a very dynamic issue as the information is changing daily as the two counties continue to meet and discuss the issue. Mr. Scott explained

that the Lee County School District provided school bus information that showed that very high numbers of school buses use Corkscrew and that the increased trucks are a major safety concern. The committee discussed several options for using alternate routes including any farm roads that may be available to keep trucks off county roads. The committee unanimously agreed to support the Lee County BCC's resolution to look at alternative routes and to use the Alico option and directed staff to send a letter to both commission's stating their support.

## **Other Business**

### **Agenda Item #7 – Florida Department of Transportation Report**

Mr. Muller presented an update on the District wide model.

### **Agenda Item #8 – Transit Update**

Ms. Scott of CAT provided an overview of the new Collier County Transit Transfer Facility. There has already been 47,000 boarding's since the opening in March. She said that there has been a continuous increase in ridership over the last three years on Collier's fixed route. There were over 1.2 million riders last year.

Ms. Bielawska of LeeTran provided the report for Lee County Transit. She said that LeeTran had just completed the budget development process and several route will see an increase in headways as a result of decreased funding. At the same time LeeTran also has seen an increase in ridership. There are now over 4 million Trips through Sept 23<sup>rd</sup>, for the year.

### **Agenda Item #9 – Members' Comments**

None.

### **Agenda Item #10 – Information Items**

None

## **ADJOURNMENT**