

MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION AND LEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Held on March 21, 2014

The following members were present for the Joint Board Meeting of the Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Collier MPO on March 21, 2014 at the Bonita Springs City Hall, Council Chambers, 9101 Bonita Beach Road, Bonita Springs, Florida.

Lee County MPO Board Members Present:

Commissioner John Manning	Lee County District 1
Commissioner Brian Hamman	Lee County District 4
Mayor Marni Sawicki	City of Cape Coral
Councilman Richard Leon	City of Cape Coral
Councilman Jim Burch	City of Cape Coral
Councilman John Carioscia	City of Cape Coral
Mayor Randy Henderson	City of Fort Myers
Councilman Thomas Leonardo	City of Fort Myers
Vice-Mayor Stephen McIntosh	City of Bonita Springs
Mayor Kevin Ruane	City of Sanibel
Councilman Mick Denham	City of Sanibel
Councilwoman Rexann Hosafros	Town of Fort Myers Beach

Collier MPO Board Members Present:

Commissioner Donna Fiala	Collier County District 1
Commissioner Georgia Hiller	Collier County District 2
Commissioner Thomas Henning	Collier County District 3
Commissioner Tim Nance	Collier County District 5
Councilwoman Dee Sulick	City of Naples
Councilman Sam Saad	City of Naples

Non-Voting Members Present:

Secretary Billy Hattaway, FDOT

Those also in attendance included: Ms. Laura Lockwood, Ms. Debbie Tower, Mr. Zac Burch, Mr. Vitor Suguri, Mr. Russ Muller and Ms. Suzanne Lex with FDOT; Mr. Andy Getch with Lee County Department of Transportation (DOT); Ms. Lucilla Ayer, Ms. Sue Faulkner, Ms. Lorraine Lantz and Ms. Kristin Campos with the Collier MPO; Mr. Scott Teach with the Collier County Attorney's Office; Mr. Don Scott, Mr. Ron Gogoi and Mr. Johnny Limbaugh and Mr. Derek Rooney with the Lee County MPO; Mr. Steve Myers and Mr. Wayne Gaither with LeeTran; Ms. Darla Letourneau with BikeWalkLee; Mr. Nick Casalanguida with Collier County Growth Management Division; Ms. Trinity Scott with the Collier County Alternative Transportation Modes (ATM) Department; Mr. Jeff Perry with Stantec Consulting; Ms. Persides Zambrano with the City of Cape Coral; Ms. Dayna Fendrick with Collier County PAC; Mr. Richard Dryer with Tindale-Oliver & Associates; Mr. Andy Powell with WCG; Ms. Kris VanLengen with Collier County Public Utilities; Mr. Mike Tisch and Mr. Mike Ryan with Atkins Engineering; Mr. Steve Avakian, Lee County BPC; Mr. John Kaiser, private citizen

Agenda Item 1- Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:04 a.m.

Ms. Campos of the Collier MPO called the roll for the Collier MPO Board and announced that a quorum was attained.

Councilwoman Sulick - present
Councilman Saad – present
Commissioner Fiala - present
Commissioner Henning - present
Commissioner Coyle - absent
Commissioner Hiller - present
Commissioner Nance - present
Councilman Kiester - absent
Mayor Hamilton - absent

Mr. Limbaugh of the Lee County MPO called the roll for the Lee County MPO Board and announced that a quorum was attained.

Commissioner Manning- present
Commissioner Hamman - present
Commissioner Kiker- absent
Commissioner Mann - absent
Commissioner Pendergrass- absent
Mayor Nelson- absent
Vice-Mayor McIntosh- present
Councilman Simmons- absent
Mayor Sawicki – present
Councilman Carioscia - present
Councilman Burch – present
Councilman Leon - present
Councilman Williams - absent
Mayor Henderson - present
Councilman Leonardo- present
Councilman Flanders- absent
Mayor Mandel - absent
Councilwoman Hosafros - present
Mayor Ruane - present
Councilman Denham- present

Agenda Item 2– Election of a Chairperson

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MANNING TO ELECT VICE-MAYOR MCINTOSH AS CHAIR. SECONDED BY MAYOR RUANE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item 3 - Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman McIntosh led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item 4 – Joint CAC Report

Mr. Don Scott, Lee MPO Executive Director reported on the following:

The Joint Lee/Collier CAC meeting was held on March 11th and a quorum was not attained. Mr. Scott reported that the Committee approved by consensus the following items:

- The TRIP Priorities – which added the construction phase of a segment of Burnt Store Road in Lee County above the previously ranked LeeTran Capital Expenditures project in FY2018/19 and added the construction phase of a segment of Airport-Pulling Road in Collier County as the only project in FY2019/20.

- The Joint Regional Bicycle/Pedestrian Map – which was amended to reflect the construction or programmed changes to pathways in both Lee and Collier County.
- The Joint Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Priorities – which ranked as #1 in the design and construction of a shared use path along US 41 from US 41 (Collier County) to Bonita Beach Road (Lee County) and #2, the PD&E Study of a pathway on Pine Island Road in Lee County.

Mr. Scott reported that the Committee discussed the Lee in Collier (LinC) transit route. He stated that the Committee was encouraged to hear that the route continues to have high ridership and thorough coordination between LeeTran, CAT and Bonita Springs. The LinC will continue to operate through FY2015.

Mr. Scott reported that the Committee received presentations on the 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plans (LRTP) from both Lee and Collier MPOs.

Agenda Item 5 – Joint TAC Report

Mr. Wayne Gaither, Lee TAC Chairman, reported on the following:

The Joint Lee/Collier TAC meeting was held on March 11th and a quorum was attained.

Mr. Gaither reported that the Joint Committee approved the following items:

- The TRIP Priorities – which added the construction phase of a segment of Burnt Store Road in Lee County above the previously ranked LeeTran Capital Expenditures project in FY2018/19 and added the construction phase of a segment of Airport-Pulling Road in Collier County as the only project in FY2019/20.
- The Joint Regional Bicycle/Pedestrian Map – which was amended to reflect the construction or programmed changes to pathways in both Lee and Collier County.
- The Joint Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Priorities – which ranked as #1 in the design and construction of a shared use path along US 41 from US 41 (Collier County) to Bonita Beach Road (Lee County) and #2, the PD&E Study of a pathway on Pine Island Road in Lee County.

Mr. Gaither announced that the Joint Committee discussed the Lee in Collier (LinC) transit route and stated that the Committee was encouraged to hear that the route continues to have high ridership and thorough coordination between LeeTran, CAT and Bonita Springs. Mr. Gaither reported that the LinC will continue to operate through FY2015.

Mr. Gaither reported that the Joint Committee received presentations on the 2040 LRTP's from both Lee and Collier MPOs.

Agenda Item 6 – Joint PAC Report

Ms. Dayna Fendrick, Collier PAC Chairwoman, reported on the following:

The Joint Lee BPCC/Collier PAC meeting was held on February 25th and a quorum was attained for Lee BPCC, however Collier PAC did not attain a quorum.

Ms. Fendrick reported that the Joint Committee approved by consensus the following items:

- The Joint Regional Bicycle/Pedestrian Map – which was amended to reflect the construction or programmed changes to the pathways in both Lee and Collier County.

- The Joint TAP Priorities – which ranked #1 as the design and construction of a shared use path along US 41 from US 41 (Collier County) to Bonita Beach Road (Lee County). #2 was the PD&E Study of the pathway on Pine Island Road in Lee County.

Ms. Fendrick reported that the Joint Committee received a presentation on the Cape Coral Bike-Ped Initiative. Cape Coral Bike-Ped is working on several strategic goals which include seeking grants in conjunction with the city of Cape Coral for infrastructure improvements, publicizing the routes through a website and elsewhere for the public to view, and initiating an Adopt-A-Route to help pay for route signs to clearly mark routes. There are two routes that have been signed so far by sponsors – the Aubuchon Route and the Chamber Route.

Ms. Fendrick stated that the Joint Committee received a presentation on the River of Grass Greenway (ROGG) project by Ms. Maureen Bonness with the Friends of the River of Grass Greenway. Ms. Bonness updated the Committee on the most recent planning efforts for the ROGG and it was explained that the PD&E for the ROGG-west in Collier County is on hold until the Feasibility Study and Master Plan for the overall project is complete.

Ms. Fendrick reported that the Joint Committee received a presentation on three parks/greenways in Collier County; Serenity Walk Park, Freedom Park and Gordon River Greenway. Ms. Ellie Krier of the Southwest Florida Land Preservation Trust presented the different opportunities for walking, biking, and kayaking at these three locations. Land for all three of these parks was acquired with Florida Communities Trust grants.

Ms. Fendrick stated that the Joint Committee received a presentation on the Vanderbilt Drive Greenway by Ms. Stacy Revay with Collier County Transportation Planning Department. Ms. Revay gave a brief presentation and history of the Vanderbilt Drive Greenway since 2008. County staff recommendations have been formulated following a great deal of public comments.

Agenda Item 7 – Approval of the Agenda

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MANNING TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SECONDED
MAYOR RUANE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Agenda Item 8 – Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

No public comment.

ACTION ITEMS

Agenda Item 9A – Review and Approval of the Joint TRIP Priorities

Mr. Scott introduced the item and stated that Lee and Collier MPOs have updated their list of joint TRIP priorities to include new projects. He reported that the construction phase for the widening from 4 to 6 lanes was added for Airport-Pulling Road from Vanderbilt Drive to Immokalee Road in FY2019/20. Mr. Scott reported that the construction phase of the Burnt Store Road, 4-laning from SR 78 to Tropicana Parkway, has been added for consideration of FY2018/19 TRIP funds. He explained that this project was originally funded with FY2014/2015 TRIP funds; however, the project was not production ready so the committed funds were allocated to the construction phase of another segment of Burnt Store Road from Diplomat Parkway to Van Buren Parkway.

Mr. Scott reported that the Joint TRIP priorities have been approved by the Joint TAC and Joint CAC.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MANNING TO APPROVE THE JOINT TRIP PRIORITIES. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HENNING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item 9B – Review and Approval of the Joint Regional Bicycle/Pedestrian Map

Mr. Scott presented the item and stated that staff from Lee and Collier MPOs have made some changes to the pathway component of the Collier-Lee Bi-County Regional Network which include changing the color coding of those pathways on the map where the status of the proposed pathways have changed from “Programmed” to “Existing” with the completion of construction, and from “Planned” to “Programmed” for those facilities where funds have now been committed for construction.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MANNING TO APPROVE THE JOINT REGIONAL BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN MAP. SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN SAAD. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item 9C – Review and Approval of the Joint Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Priorities

Mr. Scott introduced the item and stated that FDOT District has informed the MPOs that it would program regional pathways priorities from the District’s allocation of TAP funds during the development of this year’s Tentative Work Program. Mr. Scott explained that there are two candidate projects submitted for these funds from Lee and Collier Bi-County Area which include:

- \$1,662,229 for the design and construction of a 10-foot shared-use pathway on Old US 41 from US 41 (Collier County) to Bonita Beach Road (Lee County); and
- A \$520,000 PD&E Study for a pathway on Pine Island Road from Veterans Parkway to Stringfellow Road.

Ms. Campos announced that there was a registered speaker and introduced Ms. Darla Letourneau with BikeWalkLee.

Ms. Letourneau stated that BikeWalkLee encourages FDOT to attain funding for both of these priorities. She explained that both Joint TAP priorities address a gap in the bike/ped system and they both promote safety. Ms. Letourneau stated that these projects are advantageous for Lee and Collier County.

Ms. Letourneau discussed the importance of the second priority and stated that the PD&E Study for the pathway would connect Cape Coral and Pine Island Road. Ms. Letourneau stated that the city of Cape Coral is making great strides with the Cape Coral Bike-Ped initiative by creating a system of over 90 miles of interconnected cycling routes within Cape Coral.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HENNING TO APPROVE THE JOINT TAP PRIORITIES. SECONDED BY MAYOR RUANE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Agenda Item 10A – Project Planning and Programming Discussion by FDOT

Ms. Ayer introduced the item and explained that two related issues concerning Planning and Programming of major federally funded projects were raised at a recent Collier MPO Board meeting. Ms. Ayer stated that the first one deals with the question as to whether a PD&E Study of a project could be programmed if the project is not included in the Cost Feasible Plan (CFP)

of the MPO's LRTP. The second related issue is that sometimes a PD&E Study is programmed so far in advance of other subsequent phases, that it could become obsolete by the time the construction phase were to occur.

Secretary Hattaway gave a brief PowerPoint presentation on PD&E and Project Programming. He stated that if a PD&E phase for a project is not included in the CFP of the LRTP and FDOT advances a project on the Strategic Intermodal System (SIS), the MPO is requested to amend the LRTP accordingly in order to receive National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) approval. He explained that if FDOT programs an SIS project consistent with FDOT's priorities and that the LRTP does not reflect the same timing for the phases, a request to amend the LRTP would be necessary.

Secretary Hattaway explained that the objective of a PD&E Study is to perform necessary social, environmental and engineering assessments of a proposed transportation improvement, to support decisions concerning if and where a project should be built and to decide what the basic design concepts should be.

Secretary Hattaway stated that it is common for an MPO to include planning or PD&E phases in the LRTP in order to identify overall impacts and costs for a project and make decisions about how to effectively proceed with future phases.

Secretary Hattaway discussed the Acceptable Funding Scenarios for FHWA's NEPA Approval and stated that FHWA requires the next phase of a project to be included in the LRTP, Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) so a financial plan can be demonstrated for the entire project. He explained that in order for FHWA to sign a NEPA document, the expected funding for project implementation is full funding of PE (Design), ROW (Right-of-Way), and CON (Construction) for the entire project limits in the LRTP's CFP. Secretary Hattaway stated that if segmenting a project, FHWA will not approve a NEPA document if the only future phase funded in the LRTP's CFP is the Design of one segment.

Discussion ensued. Secretary Hattaway stated FDOT performs long-range estimates on projects and if FDOT is required to program the ROW phase for the project, before the PE phase is done, it is not known how much ROW will be needed because it is an estimate. He stated that the amount of ROW is not established until the project reaches 60% Design.

Councilman Burch asked if FDOT had a plan of action that the Joint MPO Board may discuss. Secretary Hattaway stated that there is a new Division Administrator on board and the departments Secretary of Operations is going to meet with the new Division Administrator and hopefully this will get resolved.

Commissioner Hiller stated that locally, the various jurisdictions would be adversely affected by these new requirements. Commissioner Hiller noted that if FDOT did decide to address the issues with Washington D.C., members of the Board would not be opposed to giving the agency support.

Agenda Item 10B –Update on the Lee and Collier Transit Connection (LinC) and the Service Development Grant which will expire in October 2014

Ms. Scott with Collier County ATM Department introduced the item and stated that LeeTran, Collier Area Transit (CAT), the City of Bonita Springs and the Lee MPO have been meeting to discuss the LinC Route, which connects Lee and Collier County transit systems, and to attempt to seek funding solutions to allow the route to continue in FY2015 and beyond.

Ms. Scott stated that a combination of agencies, including FDOT, the City of Bonita Springs, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Lee County have provided the funding to operate the route through FY2014, using a bus which is provided by CAT. She stated that the Service Development Grant, expiring at the end of FY2014, leaving a funding gap of approximately \$237,000.

Ms. Scott stated that a survey was developed to obtain information on the current users of the LinC system and their travel patterns. Ms. Scott stated that Mr. Myers with LeeTran would update the Joint MPO Board on the survey results.

Ms. Scott introduced Mr. Myers with LeeTran. Mr. Myers gave a brief PowerPoint presentation of the LinC Route and the survey results.

Mr. Myers stated that the LinC Route began service on October 6, 2011 with a 3-year Service Development Grant provided by FDOT. He noted that the bus on the LinC Route was provided by Collier County.

Mr. Myers stated that to compliment the LinC Route 600 (Coconut Pointe Mall to Immokalee Road), LinC Route 150 was realigned to an east-west route (Bonita Grande to Lovers Key in Bonita Springs). Mr. Myers explained that the LinC Route 600 is a 7-day service at every 90 minutes and the route connects with CAT on every trip.

Mr. Myers discussed the LinC Route 600 performance in the past 2 years which included:

- FY2011/12
 - LinC Route 600 had 95,895 unlinked trips;
 - The route carried 20.1 passengers per hour;
 - LeeTran System average is 20.5 passengers per hour
- FY2012/13
 - LinC Route 600 had 117,207 unlinked trips, a 22.2 % increase;
 - The route carried 24.6 passengers per hour; and
 - Lee Tran System average is 22.1 passengers per hour

Mr. Myers discussed the results of the passenger survey and stated that LeeTran received 546 valid responses.

Mr. Myers discussed LeeTran's future funding proposals which included:

- FDOT Service Development Grant expires at the end of FY2014 and cannot be extended.
- City of Bonita Springs anticipates its contribution of \$171,306 to be eliminated or diminished over time.
- Stakeholders (Lee County, Collier County and Bonita Springs) concur that LeeTran should continue to operate the route.

Mr. Myers discussed future funding proposals with the following information which included the following:

Total Annual Cost (Route 150 & LinC Route 600)	\$1,047,068
Less Fare Revenue	- \$163,955
Net Cost	\$883,113
Collier FTA Contribution	\$292,247
Collier FTA New Freedom	\$24,184
City of Bonita Springs	\$171,306

Lee County (current contribution)	\$395,376
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Commissioner Hiller questioned if Collier County's contribution was more than 25% more than \$292,247. Mr. Myers stated that Collier County's contribution is approximately \$370,000. Mr. Myers explained that Collier County's contribution of approximately \$70,000 is utilized for the capital portion.

Commissioner Hiller asked if \$883,113 was LeeTran's operating and administrative costs. Mr. Myers stated yes; that is correct.

Commissioner Hiller questioned if LeeTran had a capital plan. Mr. Myers stated that LeeTran has not created a capital plan for the reason that LeeTran has been focused on trying to solve the operational issue. Mr. Myers explained that the capital costs would be spent on bus shelters and other various improvements. Commissioner Hiller stated that it would be beneficial to review the capital component costs.

Discussion ensued. Councilman Leonardo asked how many passengers used LinC Route 600 in FY2012/13. Mr. Myers stated that in FY 2012/13, 117,207 used LinC Route 600. Councilman Leonardo explained that LeeTran is subsidizing each ride for \$7.55 in public funds.

Commissioner Hiller stated that if more citizens utilized the LinC Route 600, it would be a more efficient way for tax dollars to be provided. Commissioner Hiller noted that the issue with the route is there is not a level of service that is being provided that justifies the demand.

Mr. Myers stated that the performance analysis given does not include the ridership for Route 150. Mr. Myers noted that in FY2012/13, there were approximately 40,000 trips on Route 150.

Chairman McIntosh noted that Route 150 is a vital route for citizens and their employment in Bonita Springs; however, he cannot guarantee that the City of Bonita Springs can continue funding Route 150.

Commissioner Henning questioned if the trips for LinC Route 600 were local trips or if they were transfers. Mr. Myers stated that there are several trips travelling throughout the service area and many of the trips are originating in Bonita Springs.

Commissioner Henning questioned where LinC Route 600 is getting the most use and stated that the Board could reach an informed decision if they knew where the route is being utilized most. He explained that the Origin/Destination Map looks like riders are travelling between counties. Mr. Myers stated that 45% of the riders are making transfers and 45% are originating and terminating on the route.

Mayor Ruane stated that there are a few issues that need to be addressed, such as economic impact and indirect expenses. Mayor Ruane stated that if the Board had all the necessary data, then an informed decision could be made. Mr. Myers stated that on September 30, 2014, the Service Development Grant will run out and LeeTran would require a new authorization bill.

Councilwoman Sulick questioned what the route was for the Route 150. She further asked prior to the LinC system being instituted, what the ridership was for Route 150. Mr. Myers stated that Route 150 is an east-west route that runs from Bonita Grande to Lovers Key in Bonita Springs. Mr. Myers stated that Route 150 was a very successful route because it did have a different configuration in that it connected with Coconut Point Mall, before the LinC system was established. Mr. Myers stated that when Route 150 was connected with Coconut Point Mall, the route had approximately 8,000 to 9,000 riders a month.

Councilman Saad referenced the LinC Passenger Survey and stated that if 75% of the trips originated in Lee County and 18% originated in Collier County, how many trips terminated in Collier County.

The Board agreed that the questions asked by the Board members should be answered by LeeTran at the upcoming Joint MPO Board meeting.

Councilman Saad stated that he would like details about the ridership, financial impacts and the economic analysis. He noted that it is extremely important to know where the trips are originating from, where they are terminating and to assure that this is an economically sound program.

Commissioner Hiller asked what the fare price was for the customers of LeeTran. Mr. Myers stated that the fare price is \$1.25 for customers.

Commissioner Henning departed at 10:02 a.m.

Ms. Campos announced that there was a registered speaker and introduced Ms. Darla Letourneau with BikeWalkLee.

Ms. Letourneau stated that the LinC is a very important route and she encourages the Board to come up with a solution for the funding. She noted that economic development is vital and employees need transportation to get to work. Ms. Letourneau explained that it is not about money and subsidizing; it is about working together to come up with a resolution.

Agenda Item 10C – Update on the 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plans for Collier MPO and Lee County MPO

Mr. Scott presented an overview of Lee MPO's 2040 LRTP Activities in a PowerPoint presentation.

Mr. Scott stated that the Lee MPO has been working closely with the Executive Committee on the Revenue Estimates, and Analysis of Projects. He further stated that the district-wide traffic model produced by FDOT will be used to derive the 2040 LRTP Update for the Lee MPO. Mr. Scott explained that the Lee MPO is scoping the update of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan, CMS Element, Goods and Freight Element and Transit Element.

Mr. Scott stated that Lee MPO is working with Tindale-Oliver & Associates on capacity and trends of existing funding sources. He noted that the MPO has also been in discussions with FDOT in regards to Federal and State revenue sources.

Mr. Scott stated that the Lee MPO is involved with the Statewide Needs Plan Committee in analyzing Needs Plans in Florida and nationally to provide best practices. He stated that the Statewide Needs Plan Committee also provides recommendations and guidance to help gain consistency and to help improve the Needs Plan. Mr. Scott noted that the schedule will provide guidance documentation by the end of spring 2014.

Mr. Scott stated that by modeling and looking at different land use scenarios, the MPO will be able to see how decisions affect transportation. The MPO will then be able to look at the multiple scenarios created and select a preferred alternative which will be used in the 2040 LRTP Update.

Mr. Scott stated that the Lee MPO has begun a survey for Lee County to gather ideas on transportation investments, priorities and land use scenarios. He noted that the survey will be active through the beginning of April and the MPO is developing reports of the scenarios and the preliminary results would be presented at the May meeting.

Mr. Scott discussed the 2040 LRTP Update Elements which include:

- Bike and Pedestrian Element – the update of facilities, status of recommendations, new prioritization process, and update needs/cost feasible projects, incorporate bicycle/pedestrian safety action plan and deal with new policies.
- Transit Element – Development of needs closer to LeeTran's Vision Plan.
- Goods and Freight Element – Incorporate regional and statewide activities and update freight data based on FDOT and FHWA data.
- CMS Element – Include performance measure analysis

Ms. Ayer presented an overview on the LRTP for Collier MPO. Ms. Ayer stated that the Collier MPO Board held a Visioning Workshop in February 2014 to better understand the transportation and land use relationships. She stated that staff received guidance from the MPO Board concerning funding priorities and project selection criteria.

Ms. Ayer stated that based on a review of these efforts; there was a general consensus that opportunities for growth were identified by the Collier MPO Board in the following areas:

- The area of Immokalee;
- Tamiami Trail between San Marco Road and Collier Boulevard;
- The area of Ave Maria;
- The entire length of Collier Boulevard extending from Immokalee Road to Tamiami Trail; and
- Davis Boulevard/Tamiami Trail/Airport-Pulling Road Triangle.

Ms. Ayer explained that in the course of the mapping exercise, there were significant observations and comments made which included:

- In addition to the resident population, it is important to plan for the peak tourism season.
- There is a desire to diversify economy with high tech, medical, and other clean innovative industry.
- There is a need to improve the bicycle and walking environment.
- The City of Naples has a limit on building height, which limits the density of future development.
- There is a need to provide opportunities' for beach access.

Ms. Ayer stated that Board members were also engaged in an exercise to prioritize issues to be emphasized in the preparation of the 2040 LRTP. The highest priorities for emphasis were assigned to the following:

- Improving safety for autos, pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users;
- Improving traffic flow/reducing congestion;
- Promoting economic development;
- Preserving natural environment and conserving energy; and
- Improving sidewalks.

Ms. Ayer stated that for the final exercise, Board members were asked to indicate their investment priorities for the 2040 LRTP. The highest investment priorities in the 2040 LRTP were assigned to the following:

- Local streets;

- Major arterials;
- Bicycle and trail facilities;
- Interstate highways;
- Sidewalks; and
- Public transportation.

Ms. Ayer then introduced Mr. Casalanguida, Administrator with the Growth Management Division – Construction and Maintenance of Collier County. Mr. Casalanguida gave a brief overview of the Collier Boulevard Extension in a PowerPoint presentation.

Mr. Casalanguida discussed the upcoming project phases for Collier Boulevard which included:

- Collier Boulevard from Golden Gate Main Canal to Green Boulevard, ROW in FY14/15 – TRIP \$1.2 million;
- Collier Boulevard from Green Boulevard to Golden Gate Boulevard – CST in FY13/14 – TRIP \$6.8 million
- Immokalee Road Intersection Improvements – CST in FY14/15

Mr. Casalanguida stated that there is a Developer Contribution Agreement (DCA) with Parkland Associates for Collier Boulevard Extension. Mr. Casalanguida discussed the Logan Boulevard Extension to Bonita Beach Road and stated that Logan Boulevard would be constructed in two phases; the first phase would be from Immokalee Road to the southern entrance of the future Parkland's residential community. He stated that Phase 2 would be from the Parkland's entrance to Bonita Beach Road in Lee County.

Mr. Casalanguida stated that Collier Boulevard Extension was on Collier MPO's Needs portion of the 2035 LRTP however, Lee County did not have the CR 951 Extension on their plan. He noted that there is no other facility east of I-75 that links SR 82 and connects Lee and Collier County.

Councilman Burch stated that he believes that the Collier Boulevard Extension should be considered when updating the Needs Plan.

Discussion ensued regarding I-75. Mr. Scott stated that Lee MPO would need to understand what they are modeling before and analyze the volumes of I-75 before moving forward.

Councilman Leonardo stated that the Collier Boulevard Extension should be revisited.

Chairman McIntosh stated that the Collier Boulevard Extension was on the Needs Plan; however, the project was taken off due to the environmentalists and the grievances that there are environmentally sensitive areas off Collier Boulevard. He noted that pulling the project off of the Needs Plan simply stopped the work and the County never knew what the real environmental impact was.

Agenda Item 11 – Florida Department of Transportation Report

Secretary Hattaway discussed questions from the Board concerning federal funding. Secretary Hattaway stated that FDOT is going through a reauthorization of the current transportation bill, which was funded for two years and will expire in September. He explained that the last time there was an increase in the revenue base trust fund for gas tax was in 1993. Secretary Hattaway stated that the federal gas tax has remained unchanged for nearly two decades. He noted that the Revenue for Highway Trust Fund is derived from almost entirely federal gas taxes.

Discussion ensued. Commissioner Hiller stated that one of the most effective ways to lobby would be to contact the Florida Association of Cities and lobby as a state from a local level.

Councilman Leonardo stated that Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT) in Florida and throughout the nation will continue to decrease in the upcoming years. Councilman Leonardo stated that VMT has been one of the top five priorities at the MPOAC on how to deal with the future highway capacity needs and the decreasing revenues.

Agenda Item 12 – Transit Update

Ms. Scott presented an overview on the improvements within the CAT department. Ms. Scott stated that CAT is proposing route modifications to modify existing time points and routes to ensure efficiency. Ms. Scott explained that CAT staff is beginning to implement the recommendations of the Comprehensive Operational Analysis that was adopted by the MPO the Board of Collier County Commissioners.

Ms. Scott stated that the first proposal is to modify new Route 20 (Old Route 6) to add service to the beach. She explained that in FY2013, Route 6 produced 2% of the overall ridership and had the lowest total passengers per hour.

Ms. Scott stated that the second proposal is to add a new route, Route 26, which will start at Parkway Plaza on Coronado Parkway to Santa Barbara Boulevard, add service to Naples Boulevard, and add beach access to Clam Pass. She noted that Route 26 will maintain connections at Pine Ridge Road/Goodlette Frank Road.

Commissioner Hiller complimented Ms. Scott and stated that the initiatives were outstanding.

Councilman Saad departed at 10:44 a.m.

Agenda Item 13 – Members Comments

Commissioner Hiller thanked Secretary Hattaway for his outstanding work with the state.

Commissioner Hiller complimented Chairman McIntosh and noted that he had done a great job as Chairman.

Councilman Burch thanked the City of Bonita Springs for hosting the Joint MPO Board meeting.

Chairman McIntosh thanked all the citizens for their public involvement.

Agenda Item 14 – Information Items

There were no information items.

Agenda Item 15 – Adjournment of Meeting

Having no further business, the Joint Lee-Collier County MPO Board meeting adjourned at approximately 10:48 a.m.