

MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Held on March 11, 2015

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Traffic Management and Operations Committee was held on March 11, 2015 at the SW Florida Regional Planning Council offices.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dan Moser	BPCC
Gary Gasperini	City of Cape Coral
Lt. Jay Rodriguez	Fort Myers PD
Jim Bjostad	Lee County Division of Public Safety
Marinko Gnjudic	City of Fort Myers
Roger Lloyd	Lee County School District
Sarah Plumer	LeeTran
Wayne Gaither	LeeTran
Steve Jansen	Lee County DOT

Those also in attendance included: Ron Gogoi and Brian Raimondo with the Lee County MPO; Don Cashdollar with FDOT; Nick Danu and Saeed Kazemi with the City of Fort Myers; Steven Devose with Florida Highway Patrol; Jay Scott with Volkert, Inc. Janet Cook with ComVia Corporation

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Agenda Item #1 – MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 3, 2014 TMOC MEETING

MR. GASPERINI MOVED AND MR. GNJIDIC SECONDED TO RECOMMEND APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 3, 2014 TMOC MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #2 – ELECTION OF OFFICERS

MOTION BY MR. MOSER TO RETAIN CURRENT OFFICERS FOR THE NEW CALENDER YEAR. SECONDED BY Mr. GAITHER. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #6 - SIMULATION VIDEO OF THE DIVERGING DIAMOND INTERCHANGE PROJECT AT UNIVERSITY PARKWAY PROJECT

Mr. Gogoi reported that FDOT is considering various traffic flow treatments on Colonial Boulevard including a Continuous Flow Intersection at the intersection of Colonial Boulevard and Six Mile Cypress Parkway, a Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) at the Interstate 75 interchange at Colonial, and a Superstreet at the intersection of Colonial and the Forum intersection. He presented conceptual drawings of each of the treatments and reported that all 3 treatments will be implemented together in order to address traffic congestion at the Interstate 75 ramps and on Colonial Boulevard. The design is currently under way. Funds have not been identified for construction. He also played a simulation video of a DDI at the University Parkway Interchange in Sarasota to explain how the DDI works.

Mr. Saeed Kazemi, City of Fort Myers Public Works Director, asked that he be put on record to reflect that this was the first time that he came to know about the DDI. He asked that FDOT make a presentation to City staff so that he could advise the City Council accordingly, before presentations are made to the MPO Board.

Agenda Item #8 - UPDATE ON THE COMMUTER SERVICES ACTIVITY IN LEE AND COLLIER COUNTIES

Ms. Christine Diaz, FDOT District One Commuter Assistance Service Program's (CAP) Outreach Coordinator provided an update on the commuter service activities in Lee County. She reported on commuter services campaigns undertaken in Lee County, partner commuter statistics, employers meeting national standard of excellence in commuter benefits.

Agenda Item #3 – APPROVAL OF PRELIMINARY CONGESTION MANAGEMENT AND TRANSIT PRIORITIES

Mr. Gogoi gave an overview of the preliminary congestion management priorities. He stated that the traffic operations and transit projects in the congestion management priority list will be competing with bike ped projects for the Lee MPO's Multimodal Enhancement Box funds. Staff will be bringing the final and complete list of priorities including the bike ped projects for approval at a later meeting.

MOTION BY MR. MOSER TO APPROVE THE PRELIMINARY CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES. SECONDED BY MR. GAITHER. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Gogoi then gave an overview of the preliminary federal and state fund priorities. Mr. Moser questioned the reason behind not providing the type of improvement proposed for the Fowler project from Metro Fowler to SR 82. Mr. Gogoi stated that the MPO and its committees have been insisting on a study to determine the type of improvements moving forward, but FDOT have not defined a project nor funded a project. Staff was recently made aware that FDOT had done a study internally that ruled out a two way improvement, and that FDOT has not informed staff of any specific action moving forward. Mr. Moser

asked that the record state that he was leaving the TMOC meeting in protest against FDOT's inactions.

No motion was made for approval of the preliminary federal and state fund priorities.

Agenda Item #4 –UPDATED SAFE KID STRATEGIC PLAN

Sally Kreuzscher, Safe Kids Coordinator, provided an update on the Lee Memorial Health System's Safe Kids Strategic Plan which is currently going through an update. The mission of Safe Kids is to reduce leading causes of preventable injuries and death to children in Southwest Florida. Goals include reducing motor vehicle injuries in Lee and Collier Counties and reducing bike/ped injuries.

Agenda Item #5 – REPORT ON CTST INTERSECTION REVIEWS

Chair Steve Jansen provided a report on the intersection reviews that the Lee County Community Traffic Safety Team (CTST) conducted since March this year.

Agenda Item #7 - UPDATE ON THE BUS PULLOUT AND BUS QUEUE JUMP STUDIES

Mr. Gogoi provided an update on the MPO's Bus Pullout and Bus Queue Jump Studies. The Bus Queue Jump Study was completed and a draft final report was approved at the February 20th MPO Board meeting. The MPO also approved a staff recommendation to submit a project application this year for implementation funding of preferential bus treatments. This includes a bus queue jump at the intersection of US 41 and College Parkway, an additional left turn bus phase at the intersection of US 41 and Big Pine Way, and a Traffic Signal Priority at 12 intersections on US 41 from Daniels Parkway to Colonial Boulevard.

OLD BUSINESS

Agenda Item # 6 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPORTS ON TRAFFIC OPERATIONS RELATED PROJECTS

None.

Agenda Item # 10 – STATUS OF THE MPO TRAFFIC OPERATION RELATED PROJECTS

Ms. Vay Scott with Volkert Inc. and Ms. Janet Cook with Comvia Corporation provided updates on the Lee County ATMS Phase I project and the communication repairs of the Caloosahatchee Bridge Incident Management System.

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Item #11 – Public and Member Comments on Items not on the Agenda

None.

Agenda Item #12 – FDOT Report

None.

Agenda Item #13 – Announcements

None.

Agenda Item #14 – Topics for next meeting

None.

Agenda Item #15 – Information & Distribution Items

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.