

MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Held on April 13, 2016

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Traffic Management and Operations Committee was held on April 13, 2016 at the Fort Myers Regional Library, 1651 Lee Street, Fort Myers.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Bill Floyd	Lee County Emergency Management
Craig Chandler	City of Sanibel
Dan Moser	BPCC
Dallas Smart	Fort Myers PD
Gary Gasperini	Cape Coral Public Works
Jay Anderson	Lee County CTST
Jon Kulko	Cape Coral PD
Joseph Bowers	FHP
Marinko Gnjudic	Fort Myers Engineering
Roger Lloyd	Lee County School District
Stephen Jansen	Lee County DOT
Wayne Gaither	LeeTran

Those also in attendance included: Ron Gogoi and Brian Raimondo with the Lee County MPO; and Natalia Lercari and Trent Ebersole with McMahon Associates.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Agenda Item #1 – MINUTES FROM THE April, 2016 TMOC MEETING

MR. MOSER MOVED AND MR. ANDERSON SECONDED TO RECOMMEND APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 7, 2015 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 #3 – OVERVIEW OF CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROJECTS FOR FY 2022 SU FUNDS

Mr. Gogoi provided an overview of the congestion management projects that will be submitted to FDOT this summer as MPO priorities for Multimodal Box Enhancement Funds. The projects include the following:

- Colonial @ Six Mile Cypress Parkway: Design and construction of a third westbound left turn lane on Colonial Blvd to Southbound Six Mile Cypress Parkway.
- Colonial @ Fowler Avenue: Reconstruct the southern approach of the intersection to include two (2) left turn lanes (this is already existing), two through lanes (currently there is one through lane and one shared through and right), and two right turn lanes (currently there is one right) under a signal control. Design phase is already funded.
- \$150,000 for doing a Traffic Signal Retiming Study on state highways.

Agenda Item #4 – VERONICA SHOEMAKER BOULEVARD SPEED STUDY PRESENTATION

McMahon and Associates presented the results of a speed study of the Veronica Shoemaker Boulevard. The project limits were from Colonial Boulevard to Michigan Avenue. The study was completed at the end of last year.

Agenda Item #5– MARSH AVENUE/MICHIGAN INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS PRESENTATION

Mr. Ebersole with McMahon and Associates presented an analysis of the Marsh Avenue and Michigan Link intersection. He stated they studied all three intersections in the triangle and their study followed a study conducted by Weston Sampson at the intersection of Marsh Avenue and Michigan Link in 2011. The roadway characteristics, posted speed and evaluation criteria were discussed. Sight distance was evaluated on Michigan Avenue Link, Michigan Avenue, and Michigan Avenue Link and issues discussed. Some of the recommendations included: (1) at Michigan Avenue and Marsh: Realign high emphasis crosswalks, extend the sidewalk on the north side of Michigan Avenue to the crosswalk at intersection, and trim/remove tree on the southeast corner to improve sight distance (2) at Michigan Avenue Link and Marsh Avenue: Install “Hidden Drive” sign with permanent flashing beacon on Michigan Avenue Link east and west of Marsh Avenue, increase the posted speed limit to 35 mph on Michigan Avenue Link, install a high emphasis crosswalk across Michigan Avenue Link with a RRFB. A long term solution is to build a roundabout.

Agenda Item #6 – WINKLER AVENUE/PROVINCE PARK INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS PRESENTATION

McMahon and Associates presented the results of the Winkler Avenue and Province Park intersection analysis regarding existing traffic operations, safety conditions and the potential need for modifications. The analysis was completed in February of this year. There was a general discussion on installing special signs for people with hearing disabilities, children at play and blind persons. The City of Fort Myers would not deny a request from a disabled person to put a special sign but would not put anything in there on its own. Mr. Moser proposed a sign citing the white can law. So when motorists see a person with a seeing eye dog or a white cane they will stop just like stopping for a school bus. It was called out that those signs are not enforceable unless they are black and white.

Agenda Item #7 – REPORT ON CTST INTERSECTION REVIEWS

Mr. Jansen reported that the CTST conducted intersection reviews at McGregor/Iona and Colonial/Solomon and discussed observed problems and recommendations. There were no recommendations for the Colonial/Solomon intersection.

He also reported that FDOT has come up with projects based on previous CTST field reviews and recommendations. He cited Metro Parkway and Crystal as one example where FDOT is addressing issues.

Agenda Item #8 – STATUS UPDATE ON ATMS PHASE II

Mr. Jansen reported that the ATMS Phase II was currently under way. The consultant was developing an ITS Master Plan Update which included an inventory of existing traffic signals, alternative system analysis and cost estimates. Bluetooth sensors and communication fibers will be installed, and traffic signal upgrades will be carried out as part of this project.

Agenda Item #9 – ROUNDABOUT STUDY UPDATE

Mr. Gogoi reported that the Roundabout Project Steering Committee identified 5 projects for project development and implementation in the short term based on project viability and readiness. The 5 projects in order of their priority were:

1. Periwinkle Way/Causeway Blvd Roundabout
2. Winkler Ave/Challenger Blvd Roundabout
3. Buckingham Rd/Gunnery Rd Roundabout
4. McGregor Blvd/Colonial Blvd Roundabout
5. Michigan Ave/Marsh Ave Roundabout

The proposed roundabouts at Periwinkle/Causeway and Winkler/Challenger were picked by the committee for development of 30% design plans while the proposed roundabouts at Periwinkle/Causeway and McGregor/Colonial were picked for VISSIM simulation. The

TAC and CAC concurred with the Steering Committee recommendations at their April 7th meetings.

Mr. Karakos reported that the City of Fort Myers was considering roundabouts at the intersection of Hanson Street and Veronica Shoemaker Parkway, and Hanson Street and Ortiz Avenue as part of the Hanson Street Extension. Since Ortiz is a County road the City was coordinating with LCDOT to get their approval before they go before the City Council.

OLD BUSINESS

Agenda Item #10 –UPDATE ON THE COMMUTER SERVICES ACTIVITY IN LEE AND COLLIER COUNTIES

Ms. Diaz provided a quick update on commuter services activity in Lee and Collier County. She reported that there were 4,688 registered commuters in Lee County. Among these registered commuters, 69% drove alone, 16% carpooled, 6% vanpooled, 4% walked, 3% used public transit, and 2% rode their bikes. Of Collier County's 1,777 registered commuters, 61% drove alone, 10% carpooled, 1% vanpooled, 26% used public transit, and 2% rode their bikes.

Agenda Item #11 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPORTS ON TRAFFIC OPERATION RELATED PROJECTS

Mr. Gasperini reported that the City of Cape Coral was working with FDOT on a signal retiming study, and that resurfacing and sidewalk projects were under way.

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Item #12 – Public and Member Comments on Items not on the Agenda

None.

Agenda Item #13 – FDOT Report

None.

Agenda Item #14 – Announcements

None

Agenda Item #15 – Topics for next meeting

Mr. Gogoi stated topics

Agenda Item #16 – Information & Distribution Items

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.