



JOINT COLLIER AND LEE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Florida Department of Transportation Southwest Area Office/SWIFT SunGuide Center
10041 Daniels Parkway
Fort Myers, FL 33913

October 5, 2017

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Ms. Anne McLaughlin, Collier MPO Executive Director, called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. Lee and Collier Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) called their roles and confirmed that neither had a quorum present. Votes were taken however, to ascertain consensus amongst the members present on items.

Lee TAC Members Present

Andy Getch, Lee County Department of Community Development
Derek Faulkner, Lee County Port Authority
Gladys Gonzalez, Lee County School Board Transportation District
Matt Noble, Town of Fort Myers Beach
Garry Harrell, Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO
Lakshmi Gurram, Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO Alternate
Wayne Gaither, LeeTran
Levi McCollum, LeeTran Alternate
Craig Chandler, City of Sanibel
Carl Karakos, City of Fort Myers Engineering

Collier TAC Members Present

Lorraine Lantz, Collier County Transportation Planning
Michelle Arnold, Collier County Public Transit and Neighborhood Enhancement Division (PTNE)
Nichole Gwinnett, Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council

MPO Staff Present

Don Scott, Lee MPO
Calandra Barraco, Lee MPO
Anne McLaughlin, Collier MPO
Eric Ortman, Collier MPO
Gabrielle Gonzalez, Collier MPO

FDOT Members Present

D’Juan Harris
Victoria Peters

Others Present

Ben Doan, GHD Engineering
Johnny Limbaugh, Wright Construction
Matthew Liveringhouse, Collier County PTNE
Cassandra Aviles, Intern for Lee County Community Development
Tess Macmorris, Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council
Hunter Abel, LeeTran

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Anne McLaughlin led the pledge of allegiance.

3. Election of a Chairperson

Michelle Arnold (Collier TAC): I nominate Andy Getch (Lee TAC) as Chair.

Lorraine Lantz (Collier TAC): I second the motion.

UNANIMOUS CONSENSUS.

4. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

5. Approval of Agenda

Michelle Arnold (Collier TAC): I move to approve the agenda.

Matt Noble (Lee TAC): I second the motion.

UNANIMOUS CONSENSUS.

6. Action Items

A. Endorsement of the Revised Regional Non-Motorized Transportation Network & Joint Resolution

Don Scott, Lee MPO Executive Director, stated that this was brought before the Joint Boards last October however, there was not a quorum therefore they could not take up a vote on the item. He added that Collier MPO eventually took it through separately with some changes made. There have now been additional changes since the original vote, and Mr. Scott stated that it now needs both Boards to act on it.

Anne McLaughlin stated that the changes to the Collier MPO voted to remove the previously proposed River of Grass Greenway (ROGG) alignment on US-41. Additionally, the Collier Pathways Advisory Committee (PAC) had suggested adding a portion of SR29 where it intersects with SR82

however, the Board decided not to endorse as there had not been adequate public involvement/discussion on this yet. Also, the PAC recommended moving the segment north of Radio Road to the Livingston corridor and that was approved and adjusted on the map.

Eric Ortman, Collier MPO Senior Planner, stated that the Rookery Bay inset was debated and it was now part of the map. He added that the PAC had already approved the map without the Gordon River Inset.

There was discussion amongst committee and staff members. Lorraine Lantz stated that another iteration could have a segment through Immokalee off of SR29 between Oil Well Rd and SR29, which is currently part of a PDE study being done by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), adding that perhaps the MPO could coordinate with FDOT for that segment. Ms. McLaughlin stated that she'd take this recommendation before the Joint Boards.

Michelle Arnold (Collier TAC): I move to approve the map with consideration to exploring the portion of SR29 between Oil Well and back to SR 29.

Wayne Gaither (Lee TAC): I second the motion.

UNANIMOUS CONSENSUS.

B. Endorsement of Updated Lee-Collier Interlocal Agreement 2009

Don Scott stated the changes in strikethrough-underline were provided by Collier MPO and those highlighted were provided by Lee MPO. He briefly went through the changes which included taking out the FDOT from the quorum requirement, changing the Lee MPO address, and other small changes.

Andy Getch (Lee TAC) asked if the annual joint meeting requirement could be changed as both sides frequently did not have a quorum present. Mr. Scott stated that he'd like to change the language to an as needed basis. Ms. McLaughlin agreed that this was a good idea and would put this forward before the Joint Boards.

Wayne Gaither (Lee TAC): I make a motion to endorse the updated interlocal agreement with the addition of the meeting requirement changed to as needed.

Matt Noble (Lee TAC): I second the motion.

UNANIMOUS CONSENSUS.

7. Reports and Presentations

A. Presentation on Automated Connected Vehicle Technology

Don Scott, Lee MPO Executive Director, gave a Power Point presentation on this topic. The presentation covered levels of autonomous vehicles, the difference between autonomous, connected, and automated connected vehicles, and potential cost savings projections of switching to fully autonomous vehicles. The Power Point can be made available to anyone who requests it.

Michelle Arnold asked how would this really address congestion? Don Scott replied that from a modeling standpoint they were looking at a 30% increase in capacity, mainly based on vehicles being closer together.

Don Scott added that we had many things to consider before getting to a fully autonomous state, noting that some level of autonomous vehicle presence was projected by 2045. He added that there are some that are already projecting some roads aren't needed because autonomous vehicles are coming, his concern is the 20-year interim between now and then. He also talked about the projections related to more vehicle models converting to electric or hybrid and how this conversion will affect the future funding, and for the LRTP the amount of revenues projected for the infrastructure needs.

Michelle Arnold asked how this would be dealt with in the long-range planning process in order to prepare for the projection of autonomous vehicles. Don Scott explained that FDOT will be coming up with an absorption rate and new revenue projections. As the Regional model is developed, the amount of absorption will be tested in the model runs and presented to the MPOs for use in developing their long-range plans.

Discussion amongst committee members and staff went on for about 30 minutes. Members expressed their concerns with funding issues, emergency issues, and whether autonomous vehicles would come as quickly as predicted. They also discussed concerns with capacity.

B. Update and Discussion on MPO Safety Performance Measures

Eric Ortman gave a background on this topic stating that in February of 2018 the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) would be requiring MPOs to adopt performance measures and targets. He added that FDOT would be releasing their targets sometime this fall and the MPOs had the option to adopt FDOT's targets or come up with their own. Mr. Ortman also stated that MPOs would be required to include performance measures in the next iterations of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Mr. Ortman presented a Power Point with line charts containing data Collier MPO had used to come up with their own targets, in preparation for what FDOT would put forward. He explained that depending on what crash data set was used the trend was either upward or downward. Mr. Ortman stated that Collier MPO felt comfortable adopting a 5% fatality reduction from the increasing trend.

Discussion ensued amongst committee members and staff regarding this topic. Don Scott expressed concern with addressing how individual projects in the TIP or LRTP meet the safety targets. Anne McLaughlin stated that the MPOs have no control over continued growth and enforcement or legislative decisions, making it difficult to have much control over crash rates. She added that FDOT had yet to present anything to the MPOs and that performance measures and targets need to be adopted by February 2018.

There was further discussion concerning this topic. Members discussed crash data, causative factors of crashes, and how this would affect future planning processes.

C. Discussion on Priority and Opportunity Trails Map

Don Scott stated that the Rail corridor had been taken off of the Priority Trails Map and that they would like to see that added back on. Mr. Scott informed the committee that he had previously sent out a flyer with the dates, times, and locations of public meetings where the public could express their concerns on the map and suggested that members go out to one of those meetings and leave comments. He also stated that the deadline for comments was December 15th.

Eric Ortman stated that Collier MPO was following the Board's direction to remove the ROGG.

D. Regional Transit Update

Michelle Arnold (Collier Area Transit) introduced Matthew Liveringhouse, the new transit manager in Collier County. She went on to discuss the experiences with Hurricane Irma stating that Collier's Public Transit and Neighborhood Enhancement (PTNE) department was heavily involved in pre and post evacuation trips. She added that PTNE provided free trips to evacuation centers and provided trips to and from medical appointments to evacuees. Ms. Arnold also stated that staff picked up nurses from airports and coordinated heavily with LeeTran. Ms. Arnold stated that the beach route would be starting in December, running over the weekends through April, and serving the Vanderbilt Beaches. She added that the route would connect with LeeTran. Ms. Arnold also stated that PTNE was working on improvements for a transfer location in Immokalee.

Wayne Gaither (Lee Tran) stated that they are hoping to have the new park and ride facility, located on Summerlin/Pine Ridge Road, open before the end of 2017. He stated that the Ride LeeTran application was now up and running and allows passengers to check schedules and bus routes. He added that there were kiosks located in high traffic locations which were designed to allow interaction with transit riding public to gather information about trips. Mr. Gaither stated that Hurricane Irma was also a big impact for their area, adding that they implemented an evacuation plan beginning Wednesday October 7th through the 9th at about 3 p.m. He stated that they too suspended fares and worked with the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to pick up those that were transit dependent. Mr. Gaither stated that LeeTran was down Sunday and Monday due to the storm but went back to work on Monday, with limited capabilities. Full service was regained Monday October 18th. Mr. Gaither added that their August data showed a downward trend of 3.8% and it looked like they'd be down for the entire year.

Michelle Arnold stated that Collier PTNE also had an application available and are waiting to release it with mobile ticketing that is currently under RFP.

8. Florida Department of Transportation Report

D'Juan Harris, Lee MPO FDOT Liaison, stated that FDOT was still on track to roll out the e-public hearing for the draft Work Program for FY 2019-2023. He stated that the e-public hearing would begin on October 16th and run through the 20th. Mr. Harris added that liaisons would be at various locations for in person public participation. He also stated that the Complete Streets Workshops (now called Context Classification) were rescheduled due to Hurricane Irma, the new date for the Bartow workshop was November 6th from 1-5 p.m. He asked that members email Deb Chesna and RSVP for the workshop as a courtesy.

Victoria Peters, Collier MPO FDOT Liaison, stated that she'd be in person at the CAT transfer station and farmers market at the Collier County Government Center on October 20th from 12 – 2:30 p.m.

9. Member Comments

None.

10. Information Items

No information comments.

11. Adjournment

The Joint Lee/Collier TAC meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:17 a.m. At this point Lee MPO moved forward with their own TAC agenda.

Agenda Item #12 - Call to Order Lee TAC Only Meeting

Mr. Andy Getch called the Lee Only TAC meeting to order at 11:18 a.m. There was a quorum.

A. Amendments to the FY 2017/2018 through FY 2021/2022 Transportation Improvement Program.

Mr. Levi McCollum made the motion to approve the Amendments to the FY 2017/2018 through FY 2021/2022 Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Matt Noble seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion carried unanimously.

B. Review and Approval of the TAC Bylaw Amendments.

Ms. Anne McLaughlin made the motion to approve the update of the TAC Bylaws. Mr. Carl Karakos seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion carried unanimously.

C. Review and Approval of the Proposed UPWP Amendments.

Ms. Anne McLaughlin made the motion to approve the proposed UPWP Amendments. Mr. Levi McCollum seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #13 - Adjournment of Lee TAC Only Meeting

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Andy Getch at 11:22 a.m.

All meetings of the Joint Lee County and Collier County MPO TAC are open to the public and citizen input is encouraged. Any person wishing to speak on any scheduled item may do so upon recognition by the Chairperson. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting should contact **Ms. Calandra Barraco at the Lee County MPO** at (239) 330-2243; or **Ms. Anne McLaughlin at the Collier County MPO** at (239) 252-8192, 48 hours prior to the meeting; if you are hearing or speech impaired, call (800) 955-8770 Voice (800) 955-8771 TDD. Or, e-mail cbarraco@leempo.com or AnneMcLaughlin@colliergov.net. The MPO's planning process is conducted in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Related Statutes. Any person or beneficiary who believes that within the MPO's planning process they have been discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, or familial status may file a complaint with either the Lee County MPO Title VI Coordinator Calandra Barraco at (239) 330-2243 or by writing Ms. Barraco at P.O. Box 150045, Cape Coral, Florida 33915-0045 or the Collier MPO Title VI Specialist Ms. Anne McLaughlin at (239) 252-8192 or by writing Ms. McLaughlin at 2885 South Horseshoe Dr., Naples, Florida 34104.