

**TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS  
COMMITTEE**

1:00 p.m., August 8, 2018  
Fort Myers Regional Library, Room A  
1651 Lee Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901  
239-244-2220



**Meeting Minutes**

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**Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Jay Anderson at 1:05 p.m.

**Agenda Item #2 - Roll Call/Introductions**

The members introduced themselves. There was a quorum.

**Members Present**

Allan Makau	City of Fort Myers
Bill Floyd	Lee County EMS
Dan Moser	Lee County MPO BPCC
David Murphy	Lee County DOT
Doug Higgins	Lee County EMS
Greg Coggins	Lee County DOT
James Lear	Cape Coral Police Department
Jay Anderson	CTST
Levi McCollum	LeeTran
Lt. Dennis Petracca	Lee County Sheriff's Office
Tessa Heines	City of Cape Coral

Those in attendance also included: Ron Gogoi and Brian Raimondo with the Lee County MPO; Deven Long and Todd Seymour with David Plummer & Associates; Arnold Valdez with LeeTran; and Chene' Thompson with Pavese Law Firm.

**Agenda Item #3 - Public Comments on Items on the Agenda**

There were no public comments on items on the agenda.

**Agenda Item #4 - \*Approval of the April 11, 2018 Minutes**

**Mr. Levi McCollum made the motion to approve the minutes from the April 11, 2018 TMOC meeting. Lt. Dennis Petracca seconded the motion. There were no objections. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Agenda Item #5 - Commuter Services Activity Update**

Ms. Christine Diaz, the FDOT District One Commuter Assistance Service Program's (CAP) Outreach Coordinator, called in to provide a Power Point presentation on the commuter service activity update in Lee County. These activities generally include Transportation Demand Management practices currently being practiced by local governmental agencies and private companies. Ms. Diaz discussed registered commuters in Lee and Collier Counties, regional Try Transit Day in April, employer recipients awarded for promoting commuter services, and statewide mobility kickoff. Ms. Diaz asked if there were any questions. There were none. Mr. Gogoi and Vice-Chair Anderson thanked Ms. Diaz for her presentation.

**Agenda Item #6 - Virginia McGregor Roundabout Presentation**

Mr. Allan Makau, with the City of Fort Myers, introduced Mr. Deven Long and Mr. Todd Seymour, with David Plummer & Associates, to present this informational agenda item on the Virginia/McGregor Roundabout. They gave a Power Point presentation on the project. Their presentation included a brief history of the project to its current status in appeal, project design, signalized intersection crash statistics, traffic concerns in the project area,

misconceptions related to roundabouts, and benefits of roundabouts. They also discussed that there are over 70 roundabouts existing in Lee County, and the project area has been evaluated for a roundabout since 2002. They continued the presentation with a list of other projects in the area, traffic analysis for the Virginia McGregor area, level of service analysis, safety analysis, and a more in-depth review of the design. There was a brief discussion on the City of Fort Myers' exclusive funding of the project, using FDOT policy to evaluate options, and Lee County not being involved in the project. The presentation continued with slides on the roundabout design and conceptual slides on the future developments in the area. Mr. Dan Moser asked about the impact on the two nearby signals. The David Plummer team said that was addressed in the traffic analysis and timing adjustments would be made at the Edison Home crosswalk signal. The David Plummer team noted there would also be bottlenecks of the roadway in the area to reduce distance of pedestrian crossing. The Edison Avenue Realignment and City Walk projects were also mentioned. Mr. Gogoi suggested the committee endorse the roundabout project in an effort to assist the City of Fort Myers in achieving its approval. He mentioned the objections to roundabouts that some emergency responders have and asked the members of the committee that worked in emergency response situations if they had any questions or issues. Mr. Higgins noted there are some difficulties negotiating roundabouts in the larger vehicles but no more than a regular intersection with a light. Mr. Moser commented that there could be bottlenecks at intersections but roundabouts flow allowing emergency vehicles to get through. Vice Chair Anderson commented that the reduction in number and severity of crashes due to the roundabout would be a benefit. He had sent roundabout educational materials to the Estero and San Carlos Fire Chiefs when he learned they had opposed roundabouts in Estero. He said he also reached out to the Bonita Fire Chief. There was a brief discussion on the difference between smaller roundabouts in gated communities and the ones proposed or existing on county/city roads.

**Mr. Dan Moser made the motion to support the Virginia/McGregor roundabout. Mr. Levi McCollum seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion carried unanimously.**

#### **Agenda Item #7 - High Visibility Enforcement Grant Update**

Lieutenant Dennis Petracca with the Lee County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) presented an update on the FY 2017/18 High Visibility Enforcement (HVE) grant. He said this grant provided funds for overtime, education, and enforcement. He noted several of the locations that were focused on between January and May were based on crash data, citizen complaints, and personal experience. He said the locations included Pine Island Road between Old US 41 and US 41, Old US 41 from Powell Drive to East Mariana, US 41 from North Key to Pine Island Road, Palm Beach from Underwood to Prospect, US 41 from South Road to Andrea Lane, Abrams to Homestead in Lehigh Acres, and a portion of Old US 41 in Bonita Springs. Lt. Petracca said approximately 49 operations, each lasting about four hours, were conducted during this time. He gave more details regarding the operations including time of day conducted and number and types of citations given. He noted that all of the funds, \$55,000 in total, were spent. He also said LCSO resubmitted for \$50,000 - \$55,000 for the next cycle of the FY 2018/2019 HVE grants. He added that LCSO worked with Mr. Brian Raimondo on the locations for the new funding cycle. He said mid-block crossings of pedestrians and cars stopping on crosswalks were some of the violations cited during the last cycle, and the new cycle will focus more on enforcement.

Sergeant James Lear with the Cape Coral Police Department (CCPD) presented this update on their FY 2017/2018 HVE grant campaign. He said they spent all of their \$12,480, going over slightly with a final total of \$12,789, the difference of \$309 being made up by CCPD. He commented that each year the locations are more restricted. He explained they completed 24 operations consisting of education, written warnings, and citations. He said they are applying for the next grant cycle and may receive approximately \$17,000 in funds. He added there would only be three focus areas in the next cycle. He said there have been questions on the return for investment. He noted they will be more present for back to school. There was a brief discussion on choosing locations for the grant funding and requirements for receiving funds.

#### **Agenda Item #8 - Strategic Intermodal Systems Update**

Mr. Ron Gogoi first gave an update on the MPO priorities that had been submitted to FDOT. He called out the intersection improvement projects among the priorities including the ones on Colonial at Winkler, McGregor at Iona, and US 41 and Six Mile Cypress Parkway. He said the MPO and FDOT staff are coordinating in an effort to addressing these priorities during the development of the new Work Program. Mr. Gogoi then presented this informational agenda item as an update to the strategic intermodal systems (SIS). He said the Florida Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) is currently going through a policy update. He added having SIS facilities is important

as up to 75% of available state and federal transportation funds are spent on these facilities. He mentioned some of the SIS facilities in Lee County including I 75 and SR 82. He noted the policy update calls for structural designation and criteria changes that will have an impact on the Fort Myers downtown Rosa Parks Transit Center and the SR 82 SIS connector between Rosa parks Center and I 75. He said the Southwest International Airport and the Rosa Parks facility are both SIS facilities. He listed other SIS facilities including SR 80, the Caloosahatchee, and the Seminole Gulf Railway. Mr. Gogoi also provided an overview of the recently published 2045 SIS Plan and the Lee County projects proposed for implementation in the 2029 through 2045 time frame. He referenced the attachment to the agenda packet that included the District One projects in the Plan. The complete 2045 SIS plan can be downloaded from the MPO web site at <http://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/SISCFPLRFullBook.pdf>. He discussed the Cost Feasible Plan (CFP), noteworthy projects in Lee County, interim improvements at several I 75 interchanges, statewide funding distribution, and criteria updates. He noted that the criteria updates include the de-designation of Rosa Parks Transit Center and the Seminole Gulf Railway from Arcadia to Estero will no longer be an emerging SIS. There was a brief discussion on acquiring the Seminole Gulf corridor. Mr. Gogoi then explained the effort to preserve the status of the Rosa Parks Transit Center including co-locating with Megabus and reaching out to Amtrak to increase ridership numbers.

### **Agenda Item #9 - Report on the CTST Intersection Reviews**

Vice Chair Anderson said the reviews were cut back due to the summer weather. He noted there were several updates including completion of the turn lanes at Veronica Shoemaker and Colonial, FDOT's project on US 41 from Colonial to Gladiolus for turn lane bump outs, and a study of the turn lanes on the corridor between Brantley and College, and major signalization changes at Daniels and Cypress Lake. He asked the committee to submit any suggestions for site review. He noted Challenger/Winkler is a high priority site that they are working on. There was a brief discussion on the intersection and suggested improvements. Mr. Gogoi said he spoke with the FDOT Safety Office on the roundabout priorities of Challenger/Winkler and Gunnery/Buckingham. He noted that due to a lack of fatalities at the Challenger/Winkler intersection it doesn't qualify for funds. The committee discussed the prevalence of crashes in that area. A committee member asked about Gunnery/Buckingham. Mr. Gogoi said the project is on hold until Lee County completes design. There was a brief discussion on other projects in Lee County and purchasing right-of-way. Mr. David Murphy said the design funds for Gunnery/Buckingham exceed the amount given by FDOT. Mr. Gogoi asked the amount of the design shortfall. Mr. Murphy did not know. Vice-Chair Anderson suggested communication between agencies.

### **Agenda Item #10 - Agency Updates**

Mr. Raimondo gave the Streets Alive report emailed to him earlier in the week by Diana Giraldo. He said there was a Bike Ped Safety event on July 28, 2018 in Dunbar attended by about 1,500 people. He thanked those that contributed to the event.

Mr. Levi McCollum with LeeTran introduced Mr. Arnold Valdez, LeeTran's newest planner. A committee member asked about sidewalk construction and the impacts on ridership. Mr. McCollum said temporary stops are usually put up, but in extreme situations the stops are removed during construction. He added that the removed stops are posted on the website and on the app. Mr. McCollum said the ridership has remained solid for those routes.

The City of Fort Myers had nothing to report.

Mr. Gogoi asked about the incident management system. Mr. Coggins replied it is still not functional.

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

There were no public or member comments on items not on the agenda.

### **Agenda Item #12 - Announcements**

There were no announcements.

**Agenda Item #13 - Topics for next meeting**

There were no topics suggested for next meeting. Vice-Chair Anderson said if there were any topic suggestions, they could be emailed to Mr. Gogoi or Mr. Raimondo.

**Agenda Item #14 - Information and Distribution Items**

The information and distribution items included the adopted Lee MPO Priorities for 2018.

**A motion was made by Mr. Dan Moser to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Levi McCollum seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:59 p.m.**

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