

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Fort Myers Collaboratory

2031 Jackson Street,

Fort Myers, FL 33901

10:00 a.m.



AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call/Introductions
3. Public Comments on Items on the Agenda
4. Approval of January 11, 2023 Meeting Minutes
5. SR 78 (Bayshore Rd) Median Modification Presentation (Christopher Speese)
6. SR 865 (San Carlos Boulevard) Median Modification Presentation (Christopher Speese)
7. SR 739 (Metro Parkway) CFI Updates (Christopher Speese)
8. Road Ranger Camera Presentation (Tom Arsenault)
9. Report on Multimodal Fund Proposals (Ron Gogoi)
10. Report on Transportation Bills in the 2023 Florida Legislative Session (Ron Gogoi)
11. Local Agency/FDOT/MPO Updates
12. Public and Member Comments on Items not on the agenda
13. Announcements
14. Topics for next meeting
15. Information and Distribution Items

Adjournment

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Wednesday, January 11, 2023

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10:00 a.m.



Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order

Chair Jay Anderson called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m.

Agenda Item #2 - Roll Call/Introductions

The committee members introduced themselves. Roll was recorded by MPO staff. There was a quorum.

Members Present

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Bill Floyd | Lee County Emergency Management |
| Carl Karakos | City of Fort Myers |
| David Rivera | Lee County Schools |
| David Willems | Village of Estero |
| Dennis Petracca | Lee County Sheriff's Office |
| Ian Sikonia | Lee County Port Authority |
| James Lear | Cape Coral Police Department |
| Jason Freeman | Town of Fort Myers Beach |
| Jay Anderson | Community Traffic Safety Team |
| Jillian Scholler | Lee County Department of Transportation |
| Kristi Neroni | Fort Myers Police Department |
| Mike Cook | Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District |
| Sean Kingston | Collier MPO |
| Teresa Lewis | Lee County MPO Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee |
| Victoria Poleski | Lee County Department of Transportation, Tolls |

Others in attendance included: Ron Gogoi and Brian Raimondo with the Lee County MPO; Andy Getch with McCormick Taylor; Trent Ebersole with McMahon; Zachary Tapp and Victoria Peters with FDOT.

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 September 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Mike Cook made the motion to approve the September 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes. Mr. Bill Floyd seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

In order to allow additional time for FDOT to arrive, Chair Anderson agreed to delay Agenda Item #5 and skip to Agenda Item #6.

Agenda Item #6 - Level 2 Traffic Signal Damage Assessment Overview

Ms. Jillian Scholler with LCDOT provided an overview of Level 2 Hurricane Ian Traffic Signal Damage Assessment, repair costs, and repair cost share between the County and the individual municipalities. She provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on recovery phases and related data. The presentation can be viewed here: [Traffic Signal Assessment](#) The committee discussed City of Fort Myers signals, number of signals in other jurisdictions, signal timing issues in the county, influx of visitors after hurricane, increased traffic counts, traffic in Lehigh. In order to allow additional time for FDOT to arrive, Chair Anderson agreed to delay Agenda Item #5 and Agenda Item #7 FDOT items and move to Agenda Item #8 and #9.

Agenda Item #8 - Challenger Blvd Extension and Winkler Avenue Access Management Improvements

Mr. Carl Karakos presented the proposed Challenger Boulevard extension. He discussed the project limits, typical sections, and proposed frontage roads along Colonial that will serve adjoining parcels and feed traffic into the proposed extension and the Winkler Avenue Access Management improvements. He also discussed the concept plans of two new Lee Memorial Hospitals that will be served by the proposed extension. His presentation can be found here: [Challenger/Winkler Improvements](#).

Agenda Item #9 - Edison Home Crosswalk and Traffic Signal Improvements

Mr. Karakos provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Edison Home Crosswalk and Traffic Signal Improvements. His presentation included slides with information on crosswalk location map, letter from Edison Home staff, historic preservation application, comments made at Historic Preservation Commission meeting, Edison Home perceived issues and needs, traffic calming study, crash investigation, traffic calming devices, engineering's plan, seasonal safety risk of aggressive driving, evaluation of in-pavement flashing warning lights, traffic cameras, City of Fort Myers land development code, Historic Preservation Certificate of Review, latest crosswalk design with pavers and cameras, and upcoming Historic Preservation meeting. His presentation can be viewed here: [Edison Home Improvements](#) The committee discussed low number of crashes/incidents in Edison Home area, involvement of City Council/City Manager/City Attorney, jurisdiction of roadway, issues with use/maintenance of cameras, speed tables, maintaining character of area, use of state-of-the-art equipment, use of lights to reflect Edison Home history, hours of Edison home, possible use of more traditional traffic signal, residents'/committee member use every day and not noticing issues, queuing issues for crossing street, hiring additional officers for enforcement, rumble strips use, speed feedback strips, issues with passing in turn lane, possible use of tree that overhangs instead of palm tree, displacement of palm tree issues, safety concerns, and Historic Preservation Committee jurisdiction.

Agenda Item #5 - Draft Tentative Work Program

Ms. Victoria Peters with FDOT gave an overview on the District 1 Draft Tentative Work Program (DTWP) covering fiscal years 2024 through 2028 that was released on December 1st. The DTWP for Lee County and the summary of changes were attached to the agenda packet and [posted on the MPO website](#). Mr. Gogoi then showed slides identifying the projects from the Federal and State Funded Priority list, TA and SU Multimodal Priority list and Carbon Reduction Priority list that were funded in the DTWP. He also showed a table of the projects in the DTWP that received Carbon Reduction funds and the fund balance in each fiscal year. He also discussed a MPO memo on a call for proposals for the new funding cycle that he had earlier transmitted to all the local governments. The slides can be viewed here: [Draft Work Program](#).

Agenda Item #7 - Business 41/SR 739 Corridor Improvements

Ms. Victoria Peters with FDOT introduced Mr. Zachary Tapp, the project manager with Atkins, who provided a presentation on the Business 41/SR 739 Corridor Improvements. The PowerPoint presentation can be accessed here: [SR 739 Improvements](#). Committee discussed a suggestion from Ms. Teresa Lewis to replace the existing sidewalk with a shared use path, and providing better protection to cyclists by providing a barrier separating the proposed bicycle lanes from the motor vehicle lanes. It was pointed out that right of way was constrained, and that construction of shared use paths would be very expensive. Speeding issue on this roadway corridor and proposed landscaping in the median was also discussed.

Agenda Item #10 - Local Agency/FDOT/MPO Updates

Ms. Victoria Peters with FDOT mentioned upcoming grant training workshops, SIS update workshop, and SR 31 from SR 80 to SR 78 public meeting. Mr. Raimondo commented on the Safe Kids Day event and crash car demonstration at various locations/high school in Lee County.

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

There were no public 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 the next meeting.

Agenda Item #14 - Information and Distribution Items

Mr. Gogoi spoke about a new grant opportunity called US Environmental Justice Government to Government Program. Eligible applicants are local governments in partnership with a Community Based Organizations. The slides can be found here: [Environmental Justice Grant](#) The committee discussed possible topics for the upcoming Bicycle Pedestrian Committee meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:10 p.m.

An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed at: [TMOG Audio January 11, 2023](#)

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SR 78 MEDIAN MODIFICATION PRESENTATION

DISCUSSION ITEM:

The design phase for the SR 78 (Bayshore Road) Median modification project from Evalena Lane to New Post Road is currently under way. Construction is funded in FY 2024.

The PM for this project, Christopher Speese, will be in attendance at the March 8th TMOC meeting to give a presentation on the proposed median notifications and take input from the committee. An in person public meeting on this project will be held the following day at 5:00 pm at the North Fort Myers Park and Recreation Center, 2000 North Recreation Park Way. See meeting **attachment**.

SR 78 from Evalena Lane to New Post Road

Financial Project ID No.: 447875-1



February 2023

PUBLIC MEETING

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District One, invites you to the State Road (SR) 78 from Evalena Lane to New Post Road Public Meeting **on Thursday, March 9, 2023**. The in-person open house will begin at 5:00 p.m. The virtual meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. For your convenience, FDOT is providing three ways to participate:

- 1. Virtual Option:** Attend virtually from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. from a computer, tablet, or mobile device. You can register in advance at fdot.cc/SR78-Evalena-to-New-Post. Once registered, attendees will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting online. Please note, Internet Explorer cannot be used to register or attend this webinar.
- 2. In-Person Option:** Attend in-person from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the **North Fort Myers Park and Recreation Center, 2000 North Recreation Park Way, North Fort Myers, Florida**. Attendees who are not feeling well should not attend the in-person meeting.
- 3. Website:** View the materials online at swfroads.com/project/447875-1.

All meeting materials will be available online by March 2, 2023. You do not have to attend a live event in order to submit a comment. Comments can be submitted at the live meeting, through the website, or through the contact information provided on the other side of this notification. While comments about the project are accepted at any time, please send your comments by March 20, 2023, to be included in the formal public meeting record.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

FDOT, District One, is proposing improvements on SR 78 in North Fort Myers, Lee County. The project limits are from Evalena Lane to New Post Road. The purpose of this project is to provide access management improvements along SR 78 with the intent of enhancing traffic flow and reducing crashes.

The project includes converting the existing two-way left-turn lanes along SR 78 to full median and directional turn lanes. Additional improvements include installation of new signage and pavement markings.



This public meeting is being held to present information about the proposed design and gather public input. FDOT will accept written comments during and after the meeting.

Register to Attend Virtually

Scan the QR Code shown here to register, and you will receive a confirmation email containing information about how to join the public meeting online.



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Florida Department of Transportation
Southwest Area Office
Attention: Chris Speese
10041 Daniels Parkway
Fort Myers, FL 33913

CONTACT US

We encourage you to participate in the SR 78 from Evalena Lane to New Post Road Public Meeting. If you have questions or comments regarding the project, please contact FDOT Project Manager, Chris Speese.



Chris Speese
Florida Department of Transportation
Southwest Area Office
10041 Daniels Parkway, Fort Myers, FL, 33913



Direct: (239) 225-1973



Email: Christopher.Speese@dot.state.fl.us



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SR 865 MEDIAN MODIFICATION PRESENTATION

DISCUSSION ITEM:

The design phase for the SR 865 (San Carlos Boulevard) Median modification project from Linda Loma Drive to Kelly Road is currently under way. Construction is funded in FY 2024.

The PM for this project, Christopher Speese, will attend the March 8th TMOOC meeting to give a presentation on the proposed median modifications and take input from the committee. A public meeting on this project is anticipated to occur on March 30th.

SR 739 (METRO PARKWAY) CFI UPDATES

DISCUSSION ITEM:

The design phase for the Metro Parkway (SR 739) widening from four to six lanes from south of Daniels Parkway to north of Winkler Avenue is under way. The project also calls for Continuous Flow Intersections (CFI) at the Daniels Parkway/Metro Parkway intersection and the Colonial Boulevard/Metro Parkway intersection. The construction phase is currently funded only for the CFI at the intersection of Daniels Parkway and Metro Parkway.

Christopher Speese, the PM for this project, will provide an update on the project at the March 8th TMOOC meeting.

ROAD RANGER CAMERAS

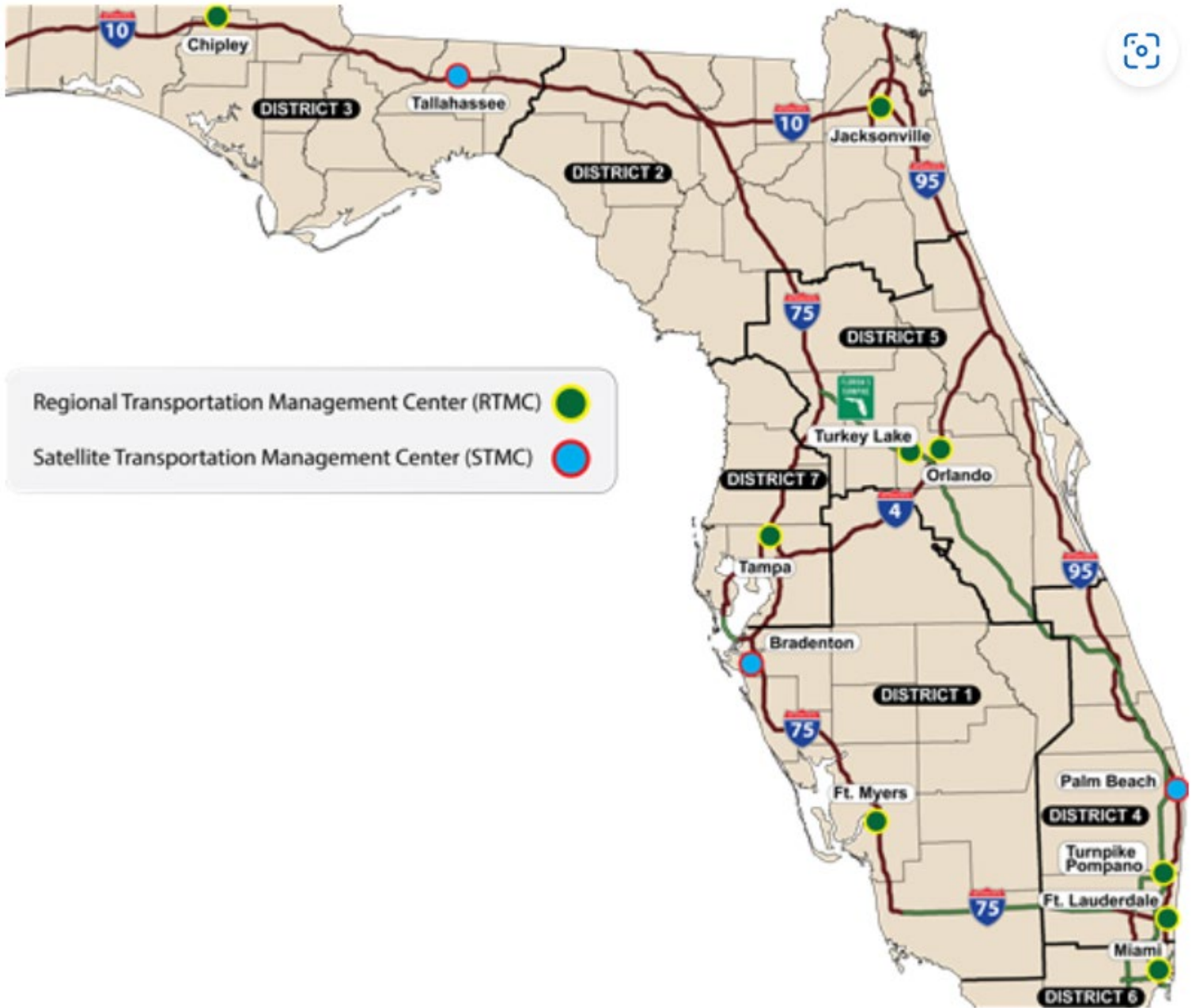
DISCUSSION ITEM

Tom Arsenault, FDOT D1 TIM Coordinator, will be discussing how they are adding video cameras to the Road Ranger Trucks. The cameras on the trucks will allow video feeds for FDOT and first responders when there is an incident on I-75. As they will be installed on the Road Ranger truck, the TMC Operator can position the camera in the best possible view of the scene. This will be a new addition to Florida's Regional Transportation Management Centers (RTMC).

Florida's RTMCs are the nerve centers for disseminating information to the traveling public. FDOT has taken a leadership role in the deployment of ITS infrastructures throughout the state, including RTMCs in major metropolitan areas. The **attached** map identifies all the RTMC in Florida while the links below provide information of the RTMCs by each FDOT district.

RTMC Locations by FDOT District

- [District 1](#)
- [District 2](#)
- [District 3](#)
- [District 4](#)
- [District 5](#)
- [District 6](#)
- [District 7](#)
- [Florida Turnpike Enterprise](#)



In Agenda Item

REPORT ON THE MULTIMODAL FUND PROPOSALS

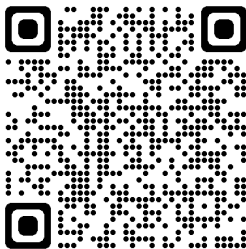
DISCUSSION ITEM

At the March 8th TMOOC meeting, staff will discuss the MPO notice of proposals for TA, SU, and Carbon Reduction Program Multimodal funds for projects from local governments. Staff will also report and discuss the unfunded project phases from the last funding cycle, new proposals that are being submitted by local governments including the MPO's own proposals on state highways, all in response to this notice. Staff is using this discussion as an opportunity to have the projects vetted and to receive input from the committee. The notice can be opened here: <https://leempo.com/news/call-for-new-multimodal-projects-in-2023-is-now-open/>

REPORT ON THE TRANSPORTATION BILLS IN THE 2023 FLORIDA LEGISLATIVE SESSION

DISCUSSION ITEM:

Among the bills that have been filed in the 2023 Florida Legislative Session is Senate Bill (SB) 106. The Bill proposes changes to existing state statutes that will result in expansion of Florida's SUN Trail Network to facilitate public access to Florida Wildlife Corridor, conservation areas, and conservation easements, increase the annual allocation of SUN Trail funds to \$50 million annually, provide a onetime appropriation of \$200 million in FY 2024 to plan, design and construct SUN Trail projects, etc. The changes will become effective 7/1/2023 if the bill passes both chambers and is signed by the Governor. The QR code to view the bill in its entirety is below and a legislative analysis of the bill is **attached**. Staff will present the highlights of the bill and bill status for committee discussion at the March 8th TMOc meeting.



Staff will also report on other transportation bills of interest to the committee including **HB 0597** on Operation of Electric Bicycles and Motorized Scooters, **HB 0657** on Enforcement of School Zone Speed limits, **HB 0741** on Photographic Enforcement of School Bus Safety, and **SB 0544** on Aggressive Careless Driving. Staff will also report on Appropriations Project Request by local governments in Lee County.