

MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Held on December 9, 2015

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Traffic Management and Operations Committee was held on December 9, 2015 at the Fort Myers Regional Library, 1651 Lee Street, Fort Myers.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Bill Floyd	Lee County Emergency Management
Craig Chandler	City of Sanibel
Chad Hartzell	City of Cape Coral
Dan Moser	BPCC
Dallas Smart	Fort Myers PD
Jay Anderson	Lee County CTST
Joseph Bowers	FHP
Marinko Gnjidic	Fort Myers Engineering
Stephen Jansen	Lee County DOT

Those also in attendance included: Ron Gogoi and Brian Raimondo with the Lee County MPO; and Kevin Ingle with FDOT; and Ned Baier with Jacobs.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Agenda Item #1 – MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 7, 2015 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 – ENDORSEMENT OF THE 2040 TRANSPORTATION PLAN EXECUTIVE SUMMARY FOR MPO ADOPTION

Mr. Ned Baier with Jacobs gave a presentation of the 2040 Transportation Plan. He provided an overview of the Long Range Transportation Plan Executive Summary, the Needs and Cost Feasible project lists, the Bicycle Pedestrian element of the Plan and some of the more recent revisions based on input received at the November MPO Board meeting.

MR. MOSER MOVED AND MR. ANDERSON SECONDED THAT THE 2040 TRANSPORTATION PLAN EXECUTIVE SUMMARY BE ENDORSED FOR MPO ADOPTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #3 – REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE FORT MYERS BEACH LIGHTING STUDY

Mr. Gogoi presented the final draft of a scope of services for a lighting study for the Town of Fort Myers Beach. He reported that the scope was finalized following discussions with the Town and County staff, input from the TAC and the CAC at their November 5th meetings and input from the BPC from its November 24th meeting. The project, funded with MPO Planning (PL) dollars, would address pedestrian safety at crosswalks along the Estero Boulevard Corridor by evaluating existing lighting levels and recommending a sea turtle friendly lighting plan. The lighting plan would consider both embedded and pedestrian level lighting. Discussion on dark sky lighting costs ensued.

MR. ANDERSON MOVED AND MR. CHANDLER SECONDED THAT THE SCOPE BE RECOMMENDED FOR MPO APPROVAL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #4 –STATUS REPORT ON LEE COUNTY SAFETY PROJECTS

FDOT provided an update on several projects. A resurfacing project is programmed on US 41 from Alico Road to Daniels Parkway in FY 2017. However, the resurfacing of 41 at its intersection with Gladiolus Road and Six Mile Cypress Parkway will be undertaken in FY 2018 in conjunction with the intersection improvements programmed at that location. Design plans for the intersection improvements will be completed in June 2016 and the project manager is Nick Leon. Crosswalk improvements at the intersection will be completed in the next 6 months.

Discussion ensued on the Safety and the Bus Queue Jump projects programmed at the intersection of US 41 and College in FY 2018 and FY 2021 respectively. Mr. Gogoi expressed concern about the different implementation schedule for the two projects especially when the queue jump involved capital improvements to accommodate a bus lane on the southbound approach between the right turn lane and through lane to offset heavy right turns. His concern was the second project would require tearing up the pavement at places where improvements would be implemented as part of the safety project. At the very least, the design for the bus queue jump and the safety project should be done together so as to minimize the impacts. Mr. L.K. Nandam with FDOT District One advised MPO staff to coordinate with Mr. D’Juan Harris, FDOT’s MPO liaison to the Lee MPO, to set up a meeting with Traffic Operations to discuss the two projects.

Mr. Nandam reported that FDOT had completed a concept plan with the existing 6 lane configuration for the road safety improvements and resurfacing on US 41 from Winkler Avenue to SR 82. Safety improvements include medians, mid-block crossings, Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons at the mid-block crossings, and street lighting

upgrades. FDOT was getting ready to present the conceptual drawings to the City Council, to the MPO committees, and at a public meeting (prior to developing the design plans) but the City has now requested the state to conduct a road diet analysis on US 41. FDOT has put a hold on the movement of the scheduled activities and has focused its attention on the road diet analysis. The analysis is expected to be completed in 2 months. The analysis will determine the recommended path forward. If the road diet to 4 lanes is feasible, FDOT will have to figure out whether they should pursue the safety improvements with a 6 lane configuration and come back and do the 4 lane configuration later. Or forget the 6 lane configuration and do a road diet with the safety improvements. If the analysis comes back with road diet as being not feasible, the project will go ahead as earlier planned. The analysis will also take into account any vehicle maneuverability impacts relating to U turns as seen on Palm Beach Boulevard. On the street lighting upgrades FDOT reported that FPL would continue to maintain the street lights.

Mr. Nandam also provided a background on the origin of the programmed safety project at the intersection of Santa Barbara Boulevard and SE 8th Street. He stated that it was one of the locations that resulted from a statewide analysis of high crash locations conducted by FDOT Central Office.

Agenda Item #5– REPORT ON CTST INTERSECTION REVIEWS

There were no intersection reviews conducted by CTST to report.

Agenda Item #6 – STATUS ON THE LEE MPO ROUNDABOUT STUDY AND CRASH ANALYSIS RESULTS

Mr. Gogoi provided a status update of the Lee MPO Roundabout Study. He discussed the results of the crash analysis and the initial screening review analysis at all 18 intersections. To a question by Mr. Moser, Chair Jansen replied that the Times Square location is not one of the intersections in the MPO Roundabout Study, but that it is part of the Grand Resort Development proposal in Fort Myers Beach. Mr. Gogoi proceeded to show some slides of the Grand Resort conceptual plan and the proposed roundabout at the intersection of San Carlos Blvd and 5th Street.

OLD BUSINESS

Agenda Item #7 –UPDATE ON THE COMMUTER SERVICES ACTIVITY IN LEE AND COLLIER COUNTIES

None.

Agenda Item #8 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPORTS ON TRAFFIC OPERATION RELATED PROJECTS

Mr. Gnjudic reported that the McGregor resurfacing and drainage project north of Colonial would commence in spring or fall of 2016. Chair Jansen reported that the ATMS Phase II project had kicked off, and that FDOT would provide Lee County \$275,000 to fix the communication glitches of the Caloosahatchee River IMS. The paperwork was being developed and as soon as they were signed by the BOCC, fixes to the DMS and cameras would commence in spring of 2016. He also reported that LCDOT staff had been directed by county administration to run safety messages in the DMS signs.

Agenda Item #9 – STATUS OF THE MPO TRAFFIC OPERATION RELATED PROJECTS

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Item #10 – Public and Member Comments on Items not on the Agenda

None.

Agenda Item #11 – FDOT Report

None.

Agenda Item #12 – Announcements

Mr. Gogoi informed the committee that there are \$7 million available statewide per year for Safe Route to School infrastructure projects for FYs 2018 through 2020. Lee County School District will be able to submit all the unfunded bike ped projects (that they had submitted in 2015 through the MPO priority process) for SRTS funds.

Agenda Item #13 – Topics for next meeting

Chair Jansen suggested CM projects for funding in FDOT's new gaming cycle as one of the topics for the next TMOC meeting.

Agenda Item #14 – Information & Distribution Items

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.