



REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE

Wednesday, July 22, 2009 – 1:30 PM
South Florida Regional Transportation Authority Board Room
800 NW 33rd Street
Pompano Beach, Florida

Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. June 24, 2009 Meeting Notes
- III. Regional Freight Study/US 27 Rail Feasibility Study
- IV. I-95 Corridor Mobility Planning
- V. Regional Long Range Transportation Plan Update Status
 - A. LRTP Plan Status
 - B. Schedule Update
 - C. TRIP Funding
 - D. Transit Capacity Quality of Service
 - E. Modeling Update
 - F. LRTP/RLRTP Documentation
- VI. SEFTC Meeting – July 13, 2009
- VII. Other Business
- VIII. Next Meeting-September 16 (3rd Wednesday)
- IX. Adjournment



MEETING NOTES

Regional Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (RTTAC)

June 24, 2009

Date: June 30, 2009 Project #: 9338.16

To: Randy Whitfield, RTTAC Chair

From: Jessica Josselyn

The following is a summary of the RTTAC meeting held on June 24, 2009.

MEETING TIME AND LOCATION

SFRTA, 1:30 p.m.

MEETING ATTENDEES

1. Randy Whitfield, Palm Beach MPO, rwhitfie@pbcgov.com
2. Wilson Fernandez, Miami-Dade MPO, Wilson@miamidade.gov
3. Carlos Roa, Miami-Dade MPO, rcf@miamidade.gov
4. Ossama Al Aschkar, Broward MPO, oalaschkar@broward.org
5. Jose Clavell, FDOT District VI, jose.clavell@dot.state.fl.us
6. Shi-Chiang Li, FDOT District IV, shi-chiang.li@dot.state.fl.us
7. Steve Anderson, SFRTA, Andersons@sfrta.fl.gov
8. Eric Zahn, SFRTA, zahne@sfrta.fl.gov
9. Joseph Quinty, SFRTA, quintyj@sfrta.fl.gov
10. Bill Cross, SFRTA, crossw@sfrta.fl.gov
11. John Garcia, Miami-Dade Transit, jogarcia@miamidade.gov
12. Andrew Velasquez, Florida Turnpike, Andrew.velasquez@dot.state.fl.us
13. Arlene Davis, Port Everglades, ardavis@broward.org
14. Dan Glickman, Citizen, danglick@hotmail.com
15. Sung-Ryong Han, BCC, shan@bcceng.com
16. Jessica Josselyn, Kittelson & Associates, Inc., jjosselyn@kittelison.com

MEETING NOTES

Below is a summary of the key points discussed at the meeting. The comments have been organized by agenda topic. Underlined text highlights deadlines/schedule items.

I) Call to Order

Randy Whitfield called the meeting to order.

II) May 20, 2009 Meeting Notes

The May 20, 2009 meeting notes were approved by the RTTAC.

III) Regional Long Range Transportation Plan Update Status

a) LRTP Plan Status

Broward MPO (Status Given by Ossama Al Aschkar)

- o The needs assessment has been completed (highway and ped/bike)
- o Minor changes are currently being made to the transit assessment
- o The needs assessment will be presented to the MPO on July 9th
- o Revenue projection will be completed end of June/early July
- o The project evaluation criteria have been completed and will be applied to the project list in mid to end of July
- o The Cost Feasible Plan will be completed by mid-August and will be reviewed by the TCC at their August meeting
- o The Plan will be presented to the Board at the September Board meeting
- o Public workshops will be held September with the plan adoption in November

Questions:

- o Dan Glickman asked Ossama about the Mobility Hubs concept and that he share it with the group. Ossama described that there are three categories of Mobility Hubs focusing on land use attributes. The hubs will be part of the needs and cost feasible plans.
- o Wilson Fernandez asked if the hubs are part of a land use plan or do they represent physical structures. Ossama stated that the hubs are intended to promote urban infill but that the plan will identify physical amenities for the hubs.
- o Wilson Fernandez asked how the hub concept affects project costs. Ossama stated they haven't developed project costs yet, but it is anticipated that the hub concept will be funded through a public-private partnership process (like the Golden Glades interchange).
- o The group continued to discuss the concept. In general, it was recognized that the hubs may not be a cost feasible solution but this concept is consistent with the direction given by the County.

Miami-Dade MPO (Status Given by Carlos Roa)

- A concept draft cost feasible plan was approved on Monday, June 22nd
- Funding issues exist for the transit agency, so this portion is still being worked out
- Turnpike projections and projects are yet to be finalized as well; coordination with District 4 is needed
- The MPO is still grappling with TRIP allocations
- The MPO is updating the plan's E+C network to accommodate the recent TIP adoptions and stimulus projects
- The MPO will be holding public workshops once the Cost Feasible Plan is more finalized
- Adoption is anticipated for October 29th

Palm Beach MPO (Status Given by Randy Whitfield)

- The Needs Plan is being taken to the MPO Board
- The MPO is preparing a baseline Cost Feasible Plan and has identified three alternatives for testing
- The Cost Feasible Plan recommendations will be presented to the technical committees and taken to the MPO in July
- The revenue forecasts have been completed
- Through the LRTP update process and working with the transit agency, it was determined that funding for transit improvements is only available for existing conditions with a couple minor adjustments. Additional transit projects cannot be funded through the year 2035
- New funding sources are being looked into (i.e., transit tax)
- The Cost Feasible Plan will be presented to the public in September with the plan adoption anticipated for October

Questions:

- Dan Glickman asked Randy Whitfield if he heard correctly - that the transit system in 2035 will be like it is today. Randy replied that only some new routes and some increased route frequencies were cost feasible. He mentioned that in the Needs Plan, several projects were included, but that funding is the only issue.

- Randy mentioned the following projects were included as placeholders in his plan: FEC, Inland Port, US 27 rail, Tri-Rail Jupiter extension. This brought forward discussion regarding how each MPO should include the FEC in their plans. It was determined that the MPOs need to speak with DOT to determine how to handle the FEC projects in the plans so that they meet the Federal requirements. Carlos Roa mentioned that Miami-Dade has already been talking with

FHWA regarding this issue and that they told him to keep these projects in the Needs Plan as “illustrative” projects. Carlos is going to forward Randy the emails exchanged to-date between him and FHWA. Furthermore, Randy is going to draft a letter request to FHWA and obtain each MPOs approval before sending.

b) Schedule Update

Jessica Josselyn distributed the updated schedule and noted that the revenue projection deadlines are to be determined once the local revenue projections are completed and submitted to the regional consultant. She also noted that the prioritization process update will occur once the local MPOs submit their list of Cost Feasible Plan projects to the regional consultant.

Further into the meeting, Carlos Roa asked the status of the evacuation routes. Jessica stated that the evacuation routes are still inconsistent and that the group will need to make a final decision on whether or not to include State Road A1A as an evacuation route for all three counties.

Additionally, further into the meeting an attendee asked the status of the Freight Plan. Jessica stated that the Freight Plan is underway. The Regional Consultant is working with the individual MPOs as they move from their Needs to Cost Feasible Plans.

c) Regional and Local Revenue Forecasts

TRIP

- Carlos Roa stated he has been corresponding with Central Office (CO) regarding the TRIP funding concern. He stated that CO wants the TRIP funding to be set aside as “illustrative” and not real. CO felt TRIP should be treated like FHWA New Starts money
- Carlos will be forwarding to Randy the correspondence between Miami-Dade MPO and CO regarding this topic.
- Ossama Al Aschkar reminded the group that the bill still stands which states the TRIP funding allocations and that it shouldn't be deleted from the mix until the bill is removed.
- It is agreed that the TRIP allocation/methodology needs to be consistent for all three counties.
- Randy Whitfield will follow-up with Central Office regarding whether or not the region's plans should include this funding source.

Turnpike Funding Discussion

- A discussion was held regarding the Turnpike revenue projections per County Plan. Currently, the plans were not incorporating Turnpike projects consistently.
- Andrew Velasquez stated to the group that the Turnpike 10 year Finance Plan was submitted to each MPO. In that finance plan, the Turnpike has acknowledged that past the year 2018, additional projects cannot be funded. The Turnpike revenue will only be sufficient for maintenance, etc.
- Randy Whitfield stated that Palm Beach included the Turnpike information and included the Palmetto Park Road interchange (\$118M)
- Miami Dade didn't include anything past the current Turnpike Work Program, but will be estimating revenues from 2018-2035 to determine potential funding (approx. \$180M). With this forecast, the MPO is identifying widening projects outside the 10 year Turnpike Finance Plan. They have identified needs at the I-75 interchange and surrounding mainline but do not have enough funding. Two regionally significant projects were identified in Miami-Dade: I-75/HEFT interchange and the widening of the HEFT from I-75 to Turnpike Mainline
- Wilson Fernandez asked Ossama Al Aschkar if Broward MPO would be willing to include the Turnpike projects that they have identified in the Broward Cost Feasible Plan for regional consistency and funding needs. Ossama Al Aschkar agreed that a joint approach on the improvements is necessary. The two MPOs will work together on a final decision.
- Andrew Velasquez stated that the HEFT may still have 8 lanes up to NW 27th Avenue and that 8-lanes aren't necessary all the way to the mainline.
- Broward MPO took the Turnpike list as is and did not project additional funding or add additional projects.
- Additionally the issue of SW 10th Street was raised. It was discussed that in order for an interchange at that location to work, SW 10th Street must be widened.
- In general, it was stated that the MPOs can supplement the Turnpike Finance Plan beyond the 10 year horizon if they choose to do so (augment from 2018 to 2035). Carlos Roa will email the Turnpike forecasts from 2018-2035 to Randy Whitfield.

Questions:

- Carlos Roa asked how other MPOs are accounting for developer interchanges. It was stated that if the developer is committing funding to the project then the interchange has been included.

d) TQoS

Jessica Josselyn distributed to the group the updated Origin-Destination pair selection memo for comments. In general, the group was in agreement that the

revision is better than the first but that we should have more residential to employment areas versus activity center to activity center.

Randy Whitfield and Jessica Josselyn will be finalizing the selection of pairs and Kittelson will then conduct the quality of service analysis and submit a memorandum to the RTTAC.

e) Needs Plan Update

Jessica Josselyn referred the group to the Needs Plan Modeling Memo produced by Cambridge Systematics that was provided in the agenda package. Joe Quinty had concerns regarding the Tri-Rail numbers recognizing that the modeling is projecting lower ridership in 2035 than exists today. He wanted the MPOs to be aware of this projection. It was agreed that Joe Quinty, Rob Schiffer and Shi-Chiang Li will work on this issue as soon as possible.

f) Cost Feasible Plan Approach and Schedule

Jessica Josselyn reminded the three County LRTP Managers to send her their prioritization metrics/process when it becomes available.

g) Regional Documentation

Jessica Josselyn brought forward to the group the topic of Regional LRTP information included in the local LRTPs. Discussion was held but no formal agreement was reached. It was agreed that this topic will be included in the next RTTAC agenda.

V) Other Business

- Randy Whitfield noted to the group that the July 13th SEFTC meeting agenda will cover the following:
 - Smartcard
 - RL RTP
 - SR 7
 - FEC Coalition
 - I-595
 - Regional Rail
 - FEC
 - US 27
 - Regional Freight
 - Universal Fare Card
 - TRIP disappearance
- Arlene Davis made a notice to the group stating that a public hearing for the Fort Lauderdale Hollywood Airport Port – Airport people mover was being held at the airport starting at 6 pm June 24th.

VI) Next Meeting – July 22nd

The next RTTAC meeting has been moved to July 22nd. In addition, there is no August meeting scheduled. Ossama Al Aschkar from the Broward MPO noted that he will not be available for the July 22nd meeting.

VII) Adjournment