



June 12, 2014

Board Members
Lee County MPO

BikeWalkLee is a coalition to complete the streets in Lee County and works for a balanced multi-modal transportation system and sustainable community. BikeWalkLee has supported the on-going efforts to incorporate land use scenario analyses into new modelling techniques and the LRTP 2040. Three such scenarios have been developed and will come before the Board on June 20th for a vote. BikeWalkLee joins the MPO consulting team of Jacobs Engineering Group, the Conservancy of Southwest Florida, and the Bayshore Community, the TAC and CAC in endorsing Scenario C.

This vote represents the successful culmination of nearly four years of planned and focused work since the December 2010 adoption of Resolutions # 2010-12 and 2010-13 by the MPO Board, wherein staff was directed “to develop an integrated prioritization directed towards a more balanced multi-modal transportation system that has the capacity to move people and goods in a cost-efficient and effective way.”

Further, these resolutions direct that updates be based on studies including the Lee County Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) and the MPO’s Rail Feasibility Study and “utilize new modeling techniques that will provide scenario analysis and options and will utilize innovative public participation techniques...and incorporate performance measures that will measure and track progress toward goals.”

Of greatest importance, Scenario C most closely embodies the stated goals of the two original Resolutions in that it significantly reduces VMT, beginning the necessary reordering of transportation planning in accordance with a much restricted funding future. With shrinking federal funding it is imperative that we thoughtfully realign our planned transportation spending to do much more with less by proactively addressing all of our future needs.

Reducing VMTs relieves congestion while providing the greatest access for the most people to transit, shopping and jobs. With its focus on a “balanced multi-modal transportation system”, moving people and goods instead of automobiles, it maximizes the potential of existing infrastructure while supporting the greatest potential return on public and private investment in Transit Oriented Development (TOD). As well, Scenario C can help Lee County face its unique

additional challenge of providing for the future transportation needs of a large elderly population expecting to age in place.

An almost unprecedented amount of public and stakeholder input has been incorporated in these analyses. The scenarios reflect with varying success the community values as clearly expressed in the three year EAR development process, the MPO's consulting team's fifteen individual meetings with local staff consultants and advocates and over 1,200 responses from an online survey. Such extensively broad input can give us confidence that the information presented is both an accurate and up-to-date reflection of public will.

Scenario C also aligns closely with the values expressed in the EAR by Lee citizens. It protects coastal and rural areas and excels on every indicator parameter; encouraging more livable, safe, walkable streets, community connectivity, access to public transportation, compact development, and greater variety of available housing with revitalization of existing neighborhoods. It supports the principles and implementation of complete streets as adopted by County policy, offers us much more for less expense and moves us from last century patterns of growth to meet the demands of a new generation.

Finally, Scenario C offers the greatest potential for inter and intra city/county connectivity. This will assure the greatest equity for Lee County citizens in terms of accessibility regardless of age, ability or automobile ownership. And by increasing regional appeal Scenario C will make our area far more competitive in keeping and attracting a younger, educated workforce, outside business investment, and state and federal mass transit funding.

For these reasons BikeWalkLee fully endorses Land Use Scenario C as the preferred option for inclusion in the LRTP 2040 and FDOT modeling. We ask that Board members consider the broad base of support for this particular choice and adopt Scenario C in its June 20th vote.

Sincerely,

/s/

Ann Pierce

on behalf of BikeWalkLee

As adopted by MPO Board on 12/8/10

Resolution # 2010-12

A RESOLUTION OF THE LEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION: POLICY STATEMENT ON A BALANCED MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

WHEREAS, in December 2010, the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) will complete the 2035 Long Range Transportation (LRTP) plan, and

WHEREAS, the LRTP demonstrates that funding for transportation improvements are severely limited in the upcoming 25-year time horizon, and

WHEREAS, the MPO desires a world-class, balanced, and multimodal transportation system that has the capacity to move people and goods in a cost-efficient and effective way.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the *Lee County Metropolitan Organization* that the MPO will maximize the use of existing transportation facilities and explore opportunities for improved connectivity before adding new facilities to the MPO's Plans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that to facilitate the shift to a more balanced multi-modal transportation system, the MPO board directs its staff and committees to develop an integrated prioritization approach. The MPO further directs its staff and committees to develop a priority list of projects to submit to the Florida Department of Transportation on an annual basis beginning in June 2011. This list shall include at a minimum, public transit, roads, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, congestion management, safety, and traffic operations projects.

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED this 8th day of December 2010.

LEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Commissioner Ray Judah, MPO Chairman

Donald Scott, Lee County MPO Director

As adopted by MPO Board on 12/8/10

Resolution# 2010- 13

A RESOLUTION OF THE LEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION: POLICY ON MAJOR LRTP UPDATE

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) will complete its 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan in December 2010, and

WHEREAS, the MPO board, staff, and committees recognize the need for additional analyses to be conducted that will accurately represent Lee County's transportation needs in the 25-year timeframe, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the *Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization* that the MPO Board intends to develop a major update and revision to the 2035 LRTP by the conclusion of the 2012 calendar year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the MPO Board directs its staff and committees to update the LRTP based on data from the United States 2010 Census, the Lee County Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) and related amendments, the Lee County Transit Division's updated 10-year plan, the MPO's Rail Feasibility Study and incorporation of any other studies on transit and rail transportation, and the final report of the Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands Program (ATPPL) study.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2035 LRTP update will utilize new modeling techniques that will provide scenario analysis and options and will utilize innovative public participation techniques.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2035 LRTP update will incorporate performance measures that will measure and track progress toward goals.

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED this 8th day of December 2010.

LEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Commissioner Ray Judah, MPO Chairman

Donald Scott, Lee County MPO Director