

THE STATE ROAD 7/US 441 COLLABORATIVE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

City of Margate
Neighborhood Policing Office
Margate, Florida
April 11, 2002
1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

WELCOME, AGENDA REVIEW

The meeting was called together by the Facilitator, Janice M. Fleischer, South Florida Regional Planning Council Institute for Community Collaboration. Vice Mayor Joseph Varsallone welcomed everyone to his City and expressed his pleasure with the progress of the Committee. The Facilitator then thanked the City of Coral Springs for hosting the meeting.

Steering Committee Members present:

Rebecca Grohall, Designee, Coral Springs
Commissioner Cindi Hutchison, Alternate, Ft. Lauderdale
Commissioner Hazelle Rogers, Alternate, Lauderdale Lakes
Commissioner Gary Frankel, Alternate, North Lauderdale
Sheila Rose, Designee, Coconut Creek
Vice Mayor Joseph Varsallone, Designee, Margate
Robert Meehan, Alternate, Margate
Commissioner Leanna Mirsky, Designee and Chair, Lauderhill
Rachel Bach, Alternate, Plantation
Mark Kutney, Alternate, Davie
Enrique Zelaya, Alternate, Broward County
David Dahlstrom, Alternate, SFRPC
James Ford, Alternate, FDOT

An updated list of Collaborative Steering Committee members can be found at www.sfrpc.com, then go to "The Institute", then "Projects", then "The State Road 7/U.S. 441 Collaborative".

Observers:

Heather Cuniff, Lauderhill
Michael Ronskavitz, BCT
Gerry Lucas, Margate
Stuart Litvin, Hollywood Business Council
Jeff Weidner, FDOT
J. Gary Rogers, Lauderdale Lakes
Renee Crichton, Lauderdale Lakes
Jeff Oris, Margate
Tommie Dawson, MPO

Ms. Fleischer reviewed the day's Objectives:

- To hear a presentation on Rapid Transit in the Corridor
- To talk about funding opportunities (TCSP and FDOT)
- To discuss bus shelters and maintenance agreements/attempt to finalize Collaborative decisions on these items
- To receive information to resolve "sunshine" issues for the TACs (Technical Advisory Committees)
- To discuss issues related to the proposed Local Activity Centers

Ms. Fleischer then reviewed the day's Agenda (Exhibit A). She reminded members that future meeting dates to complete Phase II of the Collaborative Plan were as follows:

May 2, 2002, City of Ft. Lauderdale

May 23, 2002, City of Lauderhill

June 13, 2002, Tentative, City of Lauderdale Lakes

BUS SHELTERS AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENTS- AN UPDATE AND DISCUSSION

The Agenda was rearranged to allow Jeff Weidner, Mobility Manager, Office of Modal Development, FDOT, to give an update on FDOT's policies with regard to bus shelters and maintenance agreements. Mr. Weidner indicated that any bus shelters built with FDOT funds would be linked to a maintenance agreement. Maintenance is defined as mowing the grass, keeping trash cleaned up and keeping the shelter free of graffiti. Further, if FDOT money is used to build and maintains the shelter there can be no advertising.

It was reported that the City of Coconut Creek had already signed an agreement with FDOT and that the City of Plantation had supplemented their FDOT funds to build "signature shelters" (having a particular character throughout the City).

The Facilitator indicated that a more detailed discussion regarding the Collaborative's policy on bus shelters would take place later in the meeting.

BUS RAPID TRANSIT PRESENTATION

Alan Danaher, Principal Engineer, Kittelson & Associates, then gave a presentation on bus rapid transit systems. (Exhibit B). He indicated that the State Road 7/U.S. 441 Corridor was one of two locations being considered for a system like this.

David Dahlstrom, SFRPC, indicated that a letter from the Collaborative to the Broward MPO in support of the State Road 7 alternative would be helpful in influencing a final decision.

The Members of the Steering Committee agreed unanimously to have a letter drafted to the Broward MPO on behalf of the Collaborative and signed by the Chair, Commissioner Leanna Mirsky. This letter would be finalized by the group at the May 2 meeting.

It was further suggested that the Broward MPO be encouraged to include the entire State Road 7 Corridor in this program.

TCSP FUNDING AND FDOT'S 2002 TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

David Dahlstrom reported that the following Member municipalities had written letters in support of the Transportation and Community and System Preservation Pilot Program (TCSP) funding:

Coral Springs
Fort Lauderdale
Hollywood
Lauderhill
Margate
Miramar
Plantation
Tamarac

Non-voting Members, the SFRPC and Broward County MPO, had submitted letters as well.

David Dahlstrom and Christina Miskis, SFRPC, then reported on FDOT's Transportation Enhancement Grant Program. All municipalities in Broward County had received information about this program early in March from the Broward MPO. Details about this program can be found at www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/te_final.htm. David and Christina explained that in addition to each municipality applying for these grants, the Collaborative could apply as well. Each entity can submit up to 4 applications with each project limited to \$500,000.00 per project. Projects can include sidewalk, trees, lighting, landscaping, bike paths, bus shelters and transportation museums among others.

David asked the group for permission to submit application(s) on behalf of the Collaborative through the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC). The group was unanimous in its consent. David and Christina will draft an application and have it submitted by the required deadline.

At this point the Members took a short break.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Upon returning from break, the Facilitator announced that no one had signed up for public comment.

MINIMUM DESIGN/MAINTENANCE STANDARDS FOR BUS SHELTERS

Members were then reminded they had agreed to discuss design aspects of the Corridor in connection with uniformity. In light of the potential availability of funds to assist in paying for these items, Members were asked to consider what aspects of bus shelter design might be the same corridor wide.

To initiate this conversation, the Facilitator first asked the question, "What do you expect from a bus shelter?" Answers from the group:

1. Weather protection
2. Information
 - a. Stops
 - b. Schedules

3. Design elements
 - a. Materials
 - b. The design itself
4. Lighting/Seating
5. Comfort
6. Decorative signage
7. Air circulation
8. Trash cans
9. Bike racks
10. Collaborative logo/a common element demonstrating there was a concerted effort to have uniformity along the corridor

Consensus was reached that the following six elements would be the “Minimum Design/Maintenance Standards” for the bus shelters on the Collaborative’s corridor. All bus shelter will have (at a minimum):

1. Weather protection
2. Lighting
3. Seating
4. Passive air circulation ensured in the design
5. Trash cans
6. A logo for the Collaborative

The group was debating the financial impacts of agreeing on bike racks when one member suggested that the Broward Bicycle Coordinator might have information on supplying racks at no cost. It was decided that Mark Horowitz, Broward Bicycle Coordinator, would be invited to give a presentation at the May 2 meeting.

It was further decided that information such as stops and schedules do not need to be included in bus shelter design. Specifics on the design of the shelters would be decided at a future meeting.

DESIGNEE REPORTS

No verbal reports were given due to lack of time, however, the Cities of Lauderdale Lakes and Lauderdale submitted reports. (Exhibits C and D)

LOCAL ACTIVITY CENTERS

The discussion on LACs was reserved for the next meeting.

CLOSING

The meeting was then adjourned.