

WALK ON #1

DOT

Lee County Board Of County Commissioners Agenda Item Summary

Blue Sheet No. 20060719

1. ACTION REQUESTED/PURPOSE:

Work with the Lee County MPO to view project information and identify potential project effects to community resources and consistency with the Lee Plan through the FDOT District One Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM) process.

2. WHAT ACTION ACCOMPLISHES: Provides a means for Lee County's involvement in FDOT's ETDM process.

3. MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATION: Work through the MPO to participate in the ETDM process.

4. Departmental Category:

5. Meeting Date: **05-30-2006**

6. Agenda:

7. Requirement/Purpose: (specify)

8. Request Initiated:

- Consent
- Administrative
- Appeals
- Public
- Walk-On

- Statute
- Ordinance
- Admin. Code
- Other

Commissioner Judah
 Department Transportation
 Division _____
 By: Scott M. Gilbertson
 Director

9. Background:

At the May 23rd BOCC meeting, the Board asked that staff bring back a walk-on agenda item related to possible County participation in FDOT's ETDM process. The ETDM process was established by FDOT as a way to allow the federal and state environmental resource agencies, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, and Native American tribal representatives an opportunity to review and comment on proposed transportation projects early, prior to the start of significant engineering work. Representatives of these different groups form an Environmental Technical Advisory Team for each FDOT district, whose role is to provide commentary on potential project effects to natural, cultural, and community resources. This is accomplished through the environmental screening tool, a web-based GIS and communications application, and is done at two separate stages, first when projects are included in the MPO's long range plan (Planning Screen) and second before projects are added to the State work program (Programming Screen). The projects that are reviewed through the ETDM process are those that are anticipated to use state or federal funding.

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

10. Review for Scheduling:

Department Director	Purchasing or Contracts	Human Resources	Other	County Attorney	Budget Services				County Manager/P.W. Director
					Analyst	Risk	Grants	Mgr.	
<i>Amilia L. Davies</i> S. Gilbertson Date 5-26-06					<i>RK 5/26</i>	<i>et 5/26/06</i>	<i>M 5/26/06</i>	<i>AKM 5/26</i>	<i>J. Lavender</i> Date 5-26-06

11. Commission Action:

- Approved *2-3 - Albin Hall, St.*
- Deferred *Attending, Direct*
- Denied *Environmental STAFF*
- Other *participate in ETDM process. J. Jones - only for Coconut Rd exchange.*

CO. ATTY.
FORWARDED TO:
County Admin
5-26-06
12:12 PM

RECEIVED BY
COUNTY ADMIN:
RK 5/26
12:00
COUNTY ADMIN
FORWARDED TO:
5/26/06
3:15 PM

9. Background: (CONTINUED)

Within urban areas, the MPOs have the responsibility to provide input on the effect of a proposed project on the community. The MPOs are encouraged to coordinate with the local governments and other interested parties to identify potential project effects to community resources and to discuss compatibility with local growth plans. There are no local governments that are separate signatories to the ETDM process Memorandum of Understanding, the focus is on including agencies that have statutory responsibility for issuing permits or conducting consultation under NEPA. The expectation is that local governments would work through the MPOs if they had particular concerns about a project. If the Board members need a level of comfort about what comments might be forthcoming from the Lee County MPO about a particular project within Lee County, staff suggests that they pursue MPO Board direction to have all MPO staff comments submitted to the MPO Board for approval prior to submittal to FDOT.

A detailed description of the ETDM process was provided in the May 19th MPO agenda package. Additional information on the ETDM process is available at <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/emo/ETDM.htm> and on the ETDM public web site at <http://etdmpub.fl.a-etat.org>.