

Community Oversight & Advisory Team (COAT) MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting 2- Thursday, December 17th at 6:00 pm

Attendees:

COAT Members

John Biggie	Dan Glickman	Tom Rabil
Lotus Boss	Betty Masi	Brian Rosen
Jennifer Bramley	Joan Maurice	Eric Torella
Gail Bulfin	Dave Mirantz	Evan Wolk
Todd Drosky	Rita Pickar	

Public Attendees

Commissioner Richard Rosenzweig
Anne Geggis
Nicole Giordano
Eric Godden
Burgess Hanson
Dodie Keith-Lazowick
Bernie Parness
Barry Warhoftig
Steve Williams

Staff

Broward MPO

Greg Stuart
Charlene Burke
Paul Calvaresi
James Cromar
Christopher Ryan
Anthea Thomas

Marlin Engineering

Sheri Coven
Jennifer Fierman
Nancy Ziegler

Meeting Summary

PRESENTATION

The meeting convened at 6:10 pm.

Greg Stuart opened the meeting and reviewed the two meeting objectives: to recognize and identify existing conditions along the SW 10th Street Corridor; and to introduce a variety of toolbox solutions and how they may be used along the corridor. Mr. Stuart reminded the COAT that the goal of this project was to come to a consensus on the future of the SW 10th Street Corridor, which he said was consistent with state and regional interests.

Sheri Coven reviewed the meeting agenda.

The COAT introduced themselves and who they represented.

Jennifer Fierman presented three options for future COAT meeting locations. COAT members preferred to have the remaining meetings at the Broward MPO offices. Jennifer noted that the Saturday workshop would still be at the North Regional Library.

Ms. Coven asked for consensus on the COAT Meeting 1 Summary. Some COAT members indicated that they had not reviewed it, so Ms. Coven said that consensus would be addressed at the next COAT meeting.

A COAT member discussed the Deerfield Beach pre-COAT meeting, which occurred earlier that week. COAT members mentioned that the Deerfield Beach residents felt there was a lack of information and wanted more documents relevant to the project. COAT members said that the only document available on the SW 10th Street website was the 2040 LRTP.

Mr. Stuart asked COAT members to be specific about what information they wanted.

In response, there was a request for information on adaptive signal technology along SW 10th Street. Mr. Stuart explained that adaptive signal controls are already in the 2035 and 2040 LRTPs and will be implemented countywide. He said these types of improvements will only solve the traffic congestion problems for three or four years and encouraged the COAT members to think long term. He also provided a more thorough explanation on adaptive signal control.

There was a discussion about the challenge of visualizing how the various options could be put together. There was a suggestion to look at small improvements that could have a big impact.

Other COAT members pointed out that small improvements do not address regional issues and that other cities and residents will be impacted by COAT recommendations.

Mr. Stuart encouraged the COAT members to focus on the goal to come up with recommendations for Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) so that more specific concepts could be developed.

The COAT discussed the potential construction impacts on businesses along SW 10th Street. COAT members discussed how something significant needs to happen along the corridor to address anticipated growth. One COAT member said there was a perceived problem with traffic and that it was only bad during rush hour.

Ms. Coven turned the COAT's attention to the Parking Lot items, noting that each item would be addressed to the COAT's satisfaction, with the possible exception of visualization/corridor simulation. Mr. Stuart explained that type of corridor visualization is the responsibility of FDOT and will occur once the COAT comes to consensus on recommendations. With this explanation, the COAT was asked if it was acceptable to clear the visualization item from the Parking Lot. The COAT agreed.

There was discussion about the environmental impacts on air and water quality from vehicles driving through a tunnel or depressed roadway, if this concept were recommended as a solution. It was also suggested that improvements to the entrance of I-95 near Military Trail could alleviate congestion.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Mr. Stuart discussed the history of Broward County and SW 10th Street and how it came to be the way it is today. Mr. Stuart mentioned future projects such as the widening of the Sawgrass Expressway, future toll projects, and I-95 Express into Palm Beach County in the context of whether making such improvements would simply bring more traffic to the corridor. The 2040 Interactive TIP was brought up on the screen to demonstrate which projects are already funded, and therefore not in the LRTP.

A COAT member asked if the widening of the Sawgrass Expressway would blend with improvements on SW 10th Street. Mr. Stuart indicated that this was the desire.

TOOLBOX SOLUTIONS

Ms. Coven and Mr. Stuart reviewed the toolbox solutions. These are engineering concepts that the COAT could potentially recommend for FDOT to apply to the SW 10th Street corridor. There was discussion about the cost of some of the options and what impact they might have on SW 10th Street. The discussion turned to economic development and how the road configuration could accommodate bike paths, sidewalks, and public space.

COAT members began discussing overpass and underpass configuration and right of way requirements to build them. Mr. Stuart indicated that once the COAT made its recommendations, FDOT could provide an engineering perspective with potential dimensions and sketches.

EXCERSISE

Staff provided posters of the toolbox concepts and aerial maps so COAT members could identify the specific toolbox concepts they wanted to keep in the toolbox or remove from consideration. The COAT members then indicated their preferences with red and green dot stickers (red = prefer to remove, green = prefer to incorporate). Some COAT members spent time marking up the aerial photos of the corridor with potential locations for the application of the concepts.

Mr. Stuart summarized the results of the exercise. The ranking indicated there was overwhelming dislike for overpasses, Turbo Lanes and Express Buses, while depressed roadways were well received. Mr. Stuart reiterated that staff would review and summarize the results of the group exercise in an effort to help the COAT begin to formulate recommendations and reach consensus.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Two members of the public in attendance offered public comments.

Bernard Parness discussed the Sawgrass Expressway and Turnpike configuration. He discussed the cost of some of the toolbox concepts and asked the COAT to consider how this project would impact businesses and residents.

Commissioner Rosenzweig talked about the need for having a long range vision. He discussed tunnels, financing, technology, and transit. He mentioned that without long term vision, there will be big, negative impacts on neighboring communities.

COAT ROUNDTABLE

Each COAT member provided final thoughts on the meeting, the process, and how they felt about their progress to date. Many commented on their satisfaction with the Toolbox exercise and the direction that the process was taking.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm