

Meeting Summary
SWFRPC Technical Stakeholders Committee
Regional Component of LeeTran VCLI Grant Project
May 7, 2014

Attendees:

Ann Arnall	Lee County Human Services
Wayne Gaither	LeeTran Planning Department
Jerry Conway	Commander Disabled American Veterans
Linda Hafner	United Way 211
Deborah Reardon	CareerSource Southwest Florida
Kathryn Sayers	Cape Coral Mini Bus

Staff

Margaret Wuerstle	SWFRPC
Jennifer Pellechio	SWFRPC

Agenda Item #1: Welcome and Introductions

Meeting called to order by Jennifer Pellechio at 3:05 pm; attendees introduced themselves.

Agenda Item #2: Overall Project Update from LeeTran Perspective, Mr. Wayne Gaither

Mr. Gaither provided an overview of the project, and explained the roles of LeeTran and the SWFRPC.

Agenda Item #3: Planning Efforts for Regional Coordination Study - Ms. Margaret Wuerstle

Ms. Pellechio explained

Agenda Item #4: Draft Plan Comments

Project is trying to:

- Consolidate resources for veterans and their families.
- Expand opportunities for veterans and their families.

Potential changes to United Way two-on-one program.

Planning to identifying opportunities for regional, coordinated transportation access for veterans. Identify gaps in service, particularly between service providers.

Reviewed SW Florida Veterans Transportation Study, in anticipation of May 15th rollout date which will start the public comment period. SWFRPC have received and incorporated some comments already, and are seeking committee input regarding improving the plan. The plan was reviewed page-by-page by the committee, with SWFRPC taking notes/making changes.

Discussed gaps in service regarding General Information on Veterans Transportation section. Needs more specific information regarding the local area and discounts/ride share costs to veterans. This information was moved to a later section showing which areas offer discounted fares.

Transportation Disadvantaged section – removed/edited chart regarding national/statewide statistics.

Some discussion of transportation types that are *not* paratransit.

Regarding Table 2: Summary of Regional Transportation Providers by County

- Delete “regional” from the title.
- Added some providers, such as DAV and Cape Coral Mini Bus.
- This table suggests what is to follow in the text, but is not a comprehensive overview.

Each county in this section has a description of available services. These categories are repeated for every county, as a list of available services in each county. (Committee reviewed submitted comments for this section.)

Discussion regarding what information is needed for each county.

- List of providers and contact information is sufficient, and then go into barriers and solutions.
- Listing in each county is too comprehensive, and will be dated/inaccurate if/when service routes change. Need to streamline the county-by-county breakdown to general information only.
- List of what is provided and by whom (and when – for instance, service on 3-, 5-, or 7-days a week, nights, weekends, etc.) is important. There was some disagreement on this issue, since details of service provision change frequently.
- Suggested adding a table (snapshot) of service providers, by location (county, city, etc.), and showing which areas have coverage by which service providers. Listing major players (primary providers) in each county, and add some disclaimer regarding that some other private and/or secondary providers exist.

Agenda Item #5: Questions, Comments, Concerns

- Drive and stop off at State Road 80 to get veterans and their families on the Tran
- Provide employment trans for veterans and families

Agenda Item #6: Next Steps

Ms. Pellechio explained the 45-day comment period. The final plan will be completed June 30, 2014.

Agenda Item #7: Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.