

LAP Community of Practice (LAPCop) Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2026

2:00 pm to 3:00 pm EST

Via Microsoft TEAMS

Welcome – Samantha Samford

- New CO Employees: Introducing our new CO State Local Program Coordinators:
 - Kelly Miller – District 1/4/6/7
 - Chandra Robinson – District 2/3/5.

New Topics:

- **Local Funds Construction Contingency (LFCC) on LAP Construction projects. State law passed (339.28201 F.S.) requiring the Dept to create a contingency for LAP projects, FPO Bulletin 26-02 (located on our LP site) was released on 6/22/2026 that contains all the information on the law and new requirements for local agencies and the department.**

Notes from meeting:

- HB 287 had 2 parts, first to roll out was the consolidation of the LAP Division 1 Spec second was the Local Funded Construction Contingency (LFCC) went out last month and effective 7/1/26
 - Pertains to LAP projects w/ construction phases only
 - Agreements w/ construction phases that were executed 7/1/2026 and after must comply and use the updated LAP agreement that captures the law. Info must also be included in Exhibits A&B.
 - Contingency amount is 0.5% or \$10k, whichever is greater of the estimate provided the year the project is to be let which is when LAP Agreements are executed
 - Recommends the agencies create a measure to account for this amount as early as application submission to reduce sticker shock when year of agreement execution occurs
 - See FPO Bulletin 26-02, LP Manual Ch. 5 and 6
 - No questions from members
- **REDI vs Rural Areas of Opportunity (RAO)**
 - Program is run by Florida Commerce, not FDOT
 - Applications to become a REDI community must go to Florida Commerce
 - Existing REDI communities must apply for match waivers directly with Florida Commerce
 - The Department uses the information provided by Florida Commerce for eligible entity determinations

- REDI entities are NOT the same as RAO entities, and they each have different entitlements within the Department
- RAO entities are only those listed in the most recent Governors Executive Order declaring them.
- If an entity is not listed on the most recent Governors EO of declared RAO's they ARE NOT eligible for those entitlements such as SCOP M funding even though they are REDI eligible and may be eligible to receive match waivers for other grants offered by the department.
- Alternative Advance Payments (HB1209)
 - Department guidance on how this is done. For FDOT, RAO/Rural Communities must meet the criteria in FS 215.971 this is an entitlement that does not require approvals, for other agencies not covered by the statute they must receive dept comptroller approval prior agreement execution to be eligible.
- Organizations/Groups/Committees for agencies below the county level. Would like to know if these exist so I can reach out to them to become a LAPCop member.
Call for topic at the 2026 Fall FACERS for the Dept to present on.

Notes from meeting:

- Reach out to other agencies and let us know if they have feedback or requests.

Ongoing Discussions:

- Debra's R/W question is pending feedback
- Question (Debra): Resurfacing in Leesburg (St Route 44), 1496 or 1497, 5ft pass paved R/W is for DOT to maintain, everything else is on the LA

FDOT Roads Intersect Local Roads

- Troy McCain with Hillsborough County would like to discuss the responsibility of maintenance of roads where the local road intersects FDOT Roads.
- We have lovingly coined this issue the "LAP GAP" even though it happens on all projects not just those that are LAP delivered.
- Discussions with Fredrick Hartless and Troy McCain (Hillsborough CO) revealed a few things related to this issue:
 - Defining this issue: various types of roadway work done in areas where local & FDOT roads intersect sometimes creates "gaps" where the work done by the Dept or LA's ends and the existing change of pavement begins. Depending on many factors sometime there are "gaps" of pavement untouched by the new work because it did not extend all the way to the existing change of pavement if that change of pavement fell outside of the stop line which can be specific of the project or prior collaboration between FDOT/LA's.

- In these cases, the “gap” creates a maintenance issue due to various factors on responsibility, state law, rules, regs, etc. and creates delays in getting the work done or issue addressed with this after the fact approach.
- When/how to address the “gap” before the work causing them starts or is completed, altogether preventing the “gaps” from ever happening.
- We are still in discussions on best practices to on ways the department can collaborate with the locals during the design phase of projects and promoting discussions on if a “gap” would occur.
- Local agencies also need to have the conversation with FDOT early on for projects when this may occur and not leaving it solely to the Dept to bring up or address.
- Largest know issue is funding on closing the “gap” if the stop lines are not the same as the change of pavement and row.
- We have had discussions here in CO and I was able to speak on it at the last District Design Engineer meeting so all the DDE are aware and should be looking out for this.
- Will keep everyone informed of updates as I have them but happy to report we have at least brought the issue to light and started conversations on the topic.

Next Meeting Date

- October 8, 2026