

**MINUTES OF THE LEE COUNTY MPO BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN
COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

Held on October 28, 2014

The meeting of the Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee was held on August 26, 2014 at the Fort Myers Regional Library, Room A, 1651 Lee Street, Fort Myers.

Those in attendance included:

Andy Getch	LCDOT
Anna Bielawska	LeeTran
Avelino Cancel	City of Fort Myers
Dan Moser	Injury Prevention Council
Elisa Yanes	Lee County School District
Jason Lamey	Lee County Parks
Mark Tesoro	Lee Memorial Health System
Masood Mirza	City of Cape Coral
Nancy McPhee	Lee County VCB
Nicholas Danu	City of Fort Myers
Simone Behr	Lee County VCB
Steve Avakian	City of Sanibel
Steve Chupack	Member At-Large
Steve Jansen	Lee County CTST

Others in attendance included Ron Gogoi and Don Scott with the Lee County MPO; D’Juan Harris with FDOT; Jennifer Hagen with City of Bonita Springs; Persides Zambrano with the City of Cape Coral; Tamara Pigott with Lee County VCB; Darla Letourneau with BikeWalkLee and Isobel Hitchcock.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Jansen called the meeting to order at 8:30 am and asked the attendees to introduce themselves. Mr. Gogoi reported that a quorum was present.

**AGENDA ITEM #1 – APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 30, 2014 BPC MEETING
MINUTES**

**MOTION BY MR. GETCH TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 30, 2014
BPC MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY MS. BEHR. MOTION
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #2- DISCUSSION ON INTERCONNECTION OF CAPE'S BIKE ROUTES WITH NEIGHBORING JURISDICTIONS

Ms. Zambrano reported that the City completed designating 90% of its 90 mile Bike Route System, and that the City had received grant from the Lee County Visitor's Convention Bureau to market the City as a bicycling destination. There have been requests from the public to have wayfinding signs installed to navigate to the Cape Coral Bike Route system from the City of Fort Myers and North Fort Myers. The City coordinated with FDOT to design and install signs and logos that are consistent with the logo and bike route signs used in Charlotte County. She felt that the BPCC was an ideal forum to initiate a discussion on wayfinding signs. Mr. Scott suggested that such a project could come out from the Cape Bike Ped Master Plan.

Mr. Gogoi stated that wayfinding signage was a countywide need and that the committee had discussed this matter at the October 30th meeting. The committee had asked staff from local government jurisdictions to discuss the interest in signage, local funding, and design criteria at their individual bike ped advisory committees, and share the feedback with the BPCC. Mr. Getch backed the suggestion of a MPO subcommittee to discuss the feedbacks from the local bike ped committees once they are received, and also the next steps.

AGENDA ITEM #3 – PRESENTATION ON THE CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS COMPLETE STREETS PROGRAM

Ms. Jennifer Hagen with the City of Bonita Springs reported that the City adopted a Complete Streets Resolution on October 15, 2014, and that the Resolution is now in place to develop a Complete Streets Policy. The tested policy guidance in the Local Policy Workbook for Complete Streets was used as a reference in developing the resolution, and the Resolution also has language on some type of a measurement that could be used for reporting to Council once a year. The County of Los Angeles Design Manual for Living Streets was used as a reference to include innovative bike ped design guidelines in the Resolution. Next step is developing a complete street design manual. She stated that City will be doing a Streetscape Improvement project on Old 41 in Downtown Bonita, and that the storm-water drainage infrastructure improvements will work as a catalyst for infill development, and complete street along the corridor. Context sensitive roadway cross sections will be developed and included in Chapter 3 of the Land Development Code. She asked for volunteers to serve two seats in the Bonita Springs Bike/Ped Advisory Committee.

AGENDA ITEM #4 – LEE COUNTY VISITOR CONVENTION BUREAU PRESENTATION

Ms. Tamara Pigott, Executive Director of Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau reported that visitation in the first half of the year was 2.8 million of which 1.6 million were paid accommodations. The bed tax from the paid accommodation pays for marketing, beach and shoreline protection/enhancement, and debt services tied to Boston Red Sox and Minnesota Twins Spring Training facilities. There were 77% domestic and 23% international visitations. International visitors stay longer and their share of total visitor

spending on the local economy is 40%. The VCB conducted a study on domestic travelers to Lee County based on populations from the South East, Mid-West and North East and categorized 4 markets of opportunities – Activity Seekers, Affluent Explorers, Nature Admirers, and Social Seekers. It is hoped that the indicators from this study will help VCB in targeting visitors to the area, and enhance marketing campaign.

VCB looks for ways to attract visitors during the off season. As part of this effort, they hosted the 2014 Island Hopper Songwriter Festival in Fort Myers Beach and Captiva during two weekends in the fall. The event was made walkable and bikeable.

A biking section was added in the Events Calendar in the VCB website which had 4,140 page views. It was also reported that there were 431 nominees for E Awards. 26 were awarded. The VCB provided \$4,000 to City of Sanibel for creating a video on bike safety and awareness. Bed tax went up 17% this fiscal year.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – APPROVAL OF THE CAPE CORAL BIKE PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN SCOPE

Mr. Scott stated that staff finalized the scope after addressing comments received at all the committees, and that he was looking for an approval from the BPCC.

MOTION BY MR. TESORO TO APPROVE THE CAPE CORAL BIKE PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN SCOPE. SECONDED BY MR. MIRZA. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

OLD BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #6 – STAFF UPDATE ON ONGOING PROJECTS

Mr. Scott stated that Wright Construction with David Douglas Associates and Johnson Engineering, Gibbs and Register, Oak with Hole Montes Engineering, and Ajax submitted proposals for the Design Build contract. The RFP review and technical scoring will be on Nov 13th and the bid opening and announcing of final scores will be on the day after. The MPO Board will approve the selected team on Nov 21st. Mr. Gogoi announced that the SRTS Sub Committee meeting would be held AT 11:30 am at the SWIFT Center, and that the TAP/Box Fund Proposal Screening Subcommittee meeting will be held on December 5th.

OTHER BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #7 – PUBLIC AND MEMBER COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mr. Getch asked for representatives from the local governments to man the local government booth at the Streets Alive event so they would be able to address questions on specific bike ped questions in their jurisdictions.

AGENDA ITEM #8 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPORTS

Mr. Cancel reported that the City of Fort Myers will be constructing sidewalks in December on Winkler Avenue from Metro Parkway to Colonial Boulevard, Marion Avenue from Veronica Shoemaker Parkway to Polk Avenue, and Seminole Avenue from Edgewood Academy to Polk Street.

Mr. Getch reported that the County Bike Ped Advisory Committee was finalizing the bike ped priorities for recommendation for funding in next year's CIP.

Mr. Avakian reported that the City of Sanibel Public Works Director would provide a presentation on various bicycle pedestrian projects and grants at the November 25th BPCC meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #9 – LEETRAN REPORT

None.

AGENDA ITEM #10 – FDOT REPORT

None

AGENDA ITEM #12 – ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

AGENDA ITEM #13 – INFORMATION AND DISTRIBUTION ITEMS

None.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.