

MINUTES OF THE LEE MPO BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Held on August 23, 2016

The meeting of the Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee was held on Tuesday, August 23, 2016, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in Room A of the Fort Myers Regional Library, 1651 Lee Street, Fort Myers, FL.

Those in attendance included:

From the BPCC

Andy Getch	LCDOT
Carl Karakos	City of Fort Myers
Dan Moser	Injury Prevention Coalition
David Wagley	LCDOT
Diane Holm	Injury Prevention Coalition
Doug Saxton	Village of Estero
Isobel Hitchcock	Member-At-Large
Jason Lamey	LC Parks
Jennifer Hagen	Member-At-Large
Jerl Levi McCollum	LeeTran
John Karcher	CAC Member
Mark Tesoro	Lee Memorial Health System
Pim Tan	City of Cape Coral
Salli Kirkland	City of Sanibel
Sean Gibbons	City of Bonita Springs
Simone Behr	Lee County VCB
Tina Sujana	Member-At-Large

Others in attendance included Ron Gogoi and Don Scott with the Lee County MPO; D’Juan Harris, Providence Nagy, Ray Porter, Richard (Mose) Howard, and Rick Lilyquist with FDOT; Katie Meckley with LeeTran; Raymond Lee with Dewberry; and Wally Blain with Tindale Oliver.

Call to Order and Roll Call of BPCC Meeting

Mr. Moser, BPCC Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Quorum was met. The members introduced themselves.

There were no public comments.

Agenda Item #1 - Approval of the June 28, 2016 BPCC Meeting Minutes

Mr. Gogoi called out one correction in the attendance section where Dan Moser was stated to be from the Injury Prevention Council. It should say Injury Prevention Coalition.

Motion by Jennifer Hagen to approve the June 28th meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mark Tesoro and approved unanimously.

Agenda Item #2 - Presentation of the SR 82 Widening Projects in Lee County

Mr. Ray Lee with Dewberry and Mr. Ray Porter with the FDOT provided a presentation on the four SR 82 project segments in Lee County. The current schedule for the four segments is listed below:

- SR 82 from Lee Boulevard 4.6 miles eastward to Shawnee Road (just east of Daniels/Gunnery) – Construction is programmed for this fiscal year (widening from 2 to 6 lanes). Project also includes a Continuous Flow Intersection (CFI) at Gunnery and Daniels (short explanation video), the first of its kind in Florida, with a posted speed of 55 mph, and a 10-foot shared use path, with a light beige noise barrier at Village of Stoneybrook, this project will be completed in four main construction phases, construction is funded for fiscal year 2016/2017 with an estimated cost of \$56.7 million
- SR 82 from Shawnee Road about 3.5 miles east to Alabama Road – Construction is not programmed in the five-year work program but is planned for FY 2021/2022 in the SIS Cost Feasible Plan (widening from 2 to 6 lanes), main project similar to first, deep muck pocket discovered and will be mitigated in two phases, general construction will be completed in four phases with an estimated cost of \$23 million
- SR 82 from Alabama Road to Homestead Road, about 3.6 miles – Right-of-way is programmed for this fiscal year and construction is programmed for FY 2017/2018 (widening from 2 to 4 lanes), expandable to 6 lanes in long-range future, 10-foot shared use path, roadway lighting, posted speed 55 mph, constructed in three phases, no peak hour lane closures, construction at a cost of \$39.6 million
- SR 82 from Homestead Road to the Hendry County line, about 4.6 miles – Construction is programmed for FY 2017/2018 (widening from 2 to 4 lanes), divided roadway, expandable to 6 lanes long range, 10-foot shared use path, roadway lighting, posted speed 60 mph, three phases of construction, no peak lane closures, estimated cost of \$18 million

Questions were answered about gutter types, sidewalk/shared use paths, project phase timing, bidding, speed zones, slowing traffic along corridor, CFI use for cyclists, roadway lighting, friction course/road surface material, and use of rumble strips at edge of bike lanes.

Mr. Scott presented a summary of the CAC discussion from its August 1st meeting and reported that the CAC had recommended removing the bike lanes from the roadway and widening the shared use path on the south side to a width of 12' to 14' so that it can accommodate a separation of bicyclists and pedestrians. Any such redesign proposal would be costly and cause significant delays in project.

The BPCC acknowledged that this agenda item was not advertised as an action item, but nevertheless, decided to make a motion in support of the design of the SR 82 projects with the intent of providing their input to supplement the CAC action.

Motion by Salli Kirkland to endorse the design for SR 82. Seconded by David Wagley. The motion was carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #3 - MPO Staff Proposed Bicycle Treatments at Continuous Flow Intersections

Mr. Gogoi reported that FDOT had requested MPO staff to review conceptual drawings for bicycle and pedestrian accessibility at the Continuous Flow Intersection (CFI) of Colonial Boulevard/Six Mile Cypress Parkway intersection and at the Diverging Diamond Interchange of I 75/Colonial Boulevard and provide comments. Staff took the opportunity to review the design plans for the CFI at SR 82/Gunnery as well. FDOT has done a good job at providing pedestrian accessibility at both CFIs. However, they do need to take into consideration that the CFIs are located within corridors that are growing and within areas marked for new developments. The approaches to the Colonial/Six Mile Cypress CFI for example have existing

shopping centers and residential units that generate considerable foot traffic and recreational bicycling, with pedestrians and cyclists both sharing the crosswalks and proposed refuge islands to cross the intersection. Taking into consideration both the expected new growth and existing developments, pedestrian refuge islands and crosswalks at both CFIs should be designed to be able to support all the pedestrians, wheel chair users and bicyclists.

While the conceptual design at the Colonial/Ortiz CFI and the 90% design for the SR 82/Gunnery CFI includes bicycle lanes at the approaches, bicycle accessibility (for those riding on the roadway) within the CFIs should be enhanced by implementing treatments recommended in the NACTO's Urban Bicycle Guide. This includes marking the path for bicyclists for better visibility and navigation, and the ability to make left turns (without having to walk the bikes in the crosswalks and refuge islands). Using the 90% design plans for the SR 82/Gunnery CFI, Mr. Gogoi illustrated these treatments which include Two Stage Bicycle Queue boxes inside the CFI's (placed in between the crosswalks and stop bars at all 4 approaches), or a combination of Two Stage Bicycle Queue Box at only the Gunnery and Daniels approaches and regular Bike Boxes in the SR 82 approaches to facilitate left turns for bicyclists. Additionally, green bicycle lanes should be implemented in the approaches to the CFI.

The Gunnery/SR 82 CFI being the first of its kind in Florida should be designed properly so that it is supported by the bicycling community after it is implemented. The committee supported the treatments and Chair Moser noted that these are acceptable treatments used around in the country but have never been implemented in Florida. He thanked staff for putting the time and effort in doing the research, and proposing these treatments to FDOT to implement at the two CFIs.

Agenda Item #4 - Presentation on LeeTran's Transit Development Plan (TDP)

Mr. Wally Blain with Tindale Oliver presented on the major update of the draft LeeTran Transit Development Plan (TDP). The entire TDP document is available on the LeeTran website for review

at <http://www.leegov.com/leetrans/Documents/Schedules/LeeTran%20Draft%20TDP%208-1-16.pdf>

The State of Florida Public Transit Block Grant Program requires public transit service providers to develop and adopt a 10-year comprehensive planning document in accordance with Rule Chapter 14-73, Florida Administrative Code.

Major updates are required every 5 years with annual progress reports during the interim years. LeeTran has drafted the 2016 Major Update to its TDP for 2017 – 2026. This plan sets forth an improvement plan for transit service in Lee County, which is consistent with local plans and the Lee MPO Long Range Transportation Plan and will serve as the guiding document for the MPO's Transportation Improvement Program as well as the FDOT's Five-Year Work Program covering public transit projects in Lee County. It includes the Mobile Lee plan that funds existing services and services in future years.

The TDP was developed with input from various stakeholders and interviews with elected officials representing the County and all municipalities. Five public participation workshops were conducted and public comment was solicited through various means. These included using the LeeTran website with a posted question each week, bus rider on board surveys, and social media. The plan was vetted through the Review Committee, which was comprised of representatives from County Departments as well as local stakeholders like Chamber Members, FGCU, and Lee Memorial.

The TDP contains ten primary sections reviewing existing services, the operating environment, future conditions, transit needs, and proposed improvements to meet those needs. A financial plan is also included in the TDP, identifying the costs of existing and proposed services and resources necessary to fund the transit ten-year plan. All identified plan improvements beyond those currently funded with existing federal, state, and/or local sources are proposed to move forward only when an adequate funding mechanism can be secured. Grants and other revenue sources are being explored to fund new services like express routes. Next steps include presentations to MPO Board, and Lee County BOCC, and finally submission to FDOT in October.

A question was brought up about going to larger employers like Hertz or Gartner to provide incentives to their employees to ride. Another question was raised about connecting the airport and/or FGCU and no plans are made currently for that due to a lack of funds. Express service to Lehigh was brought up and there is a plan for that. There was a question about Park and Ride facilities in the Cape and he stated that there is a Park and Ride facility currently at the transfer center in Cape Coral.

Agenda Item #5 - SUN Trail Update

Ms. Nagy provided an update on SUN Trail applications. Applications received by the recent deadline were evaluated per the selection criteria. The applications were ranked and phases and costs were assessed. A draft prioritization scenario was created. The amount of funds available is \$50 million. There were fifty eligible requests statewide and the first round should be announced in September. There will be ongoing coordination with project applicants. There was a question and discussion regarding the John Yarbrough Linear Park Extension application.

Agenda Item #6 - TIGER and Other MPO Project Updates/Developments

Mr. Scott gave an update on the TIGER project. Colonial is completed, Daniels is under way, and FGCU is down to punch list items now. He stated that FHWA came into town last week for a project review and that the Broward MPO is visiting next week for guidance in implementing their TIGER funded project. He gave the contract status with eighty-one percent of contract time lapsed and seventy percent of the money has been spent.

He then went into the input on Wayfinding sign concepts were taken from Wayfinding Working Group, that the field work is done and that they presented examples for discussion. Comments are being solicited on the designs. No cost information is available now.

He stated that all the local government jurisdictions need to be contacted for Complete Streets project updates and the group provided members to contact.

Agenda Item #7 - Local Government Reports on Bicycle Pedestrian Related Projects

Mr. Lamey reported that Lee County Parks opened a new facility last month on Pine Island called Pinewood Trails Park. It has a 30 acre wooded preserve with trails and a few shelters.

Mike Swanson with Cape Coral Bike Ped announced that on the following day (August 24th) the City of Cape Coral will be having a public meeting on the Bike/Ped Master Plan from 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Agenda Item #8 - LeeTran Report

None.

Agenda Item #9 - FDOT Report

None.

Agenda #10 - Public and Member Comments on Items not on the Agenda

None.

Agenda #11 - Discussion of a Joint Meeting Date with the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee

None.

Agenda Item # 12 – Announcements

None.

Agenda Item #13 - Information and Distribution Items

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.