

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

Held on June 25, 2013

The meeting of the Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee was held on June 25, 2013 at the City of Cape Coral Annex, Room A200, 815 Nicholas Parkway East, Cape Coral.

Those in attendance included:

Linda Carter	CAC
Patricia Young	At-Large Member
Dan Moser	Injury Prevention Coalition
Mike Tisch	Lee County DOT
Jason Lamey	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Mike Tisch	Lee County DOT
Dawn Huff	Lee County School District
Josh Overmyer	Town of Fort Myers Beach
Jeff Davis	City of Bonita Springs
Simone Behr	Visitors Convention Bureau
Avelino Cancel	City of Fort Myers
Stacey Ravey	Collier Transportation Planning

Others in attendance included Don Scott, Ron Gogoi and Brian Raimondo with the Lee County MPO; and Gary Gasperini with the City of Cape Coral

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Moser called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

The attendees introduced themselves. Mr. Gogoi announced that a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

AGENDA ITEM #1 – APPROVAL OF THE June 25, 2013 BPCC MEETING MINUTES

MOTION BY MR. DAVIS TO APPROVE THE JUNE 25, 2013 BPCC MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY MS. YOUNG. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

AGENDA ITEM #2 - PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None.

NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #3 – BIKE TOURISM

Committee member Simone Behr provided an update on the tourism activities that they are doing through the Visitors Convention Bureau website to promote bike tourism in Lee County. She brought attention to the VCB's consumer web site where they added a completely new section under hiking and biking which has information on the history of Florida Mud Cutters, hiking trails, links to various maps, list of bicycle rental facilities, etc. The information on rental facilities is crucial for visitors as 75% of the visitors come to Lee County by air. She mentioned that VCB has an office in Frankfurt, and their press releases always highlight the Lee County bike amenities. She mentioned about the Guest First free class for hospitality industry employees that empowers a customer service person in a hotel, and helps the front desk employees become knowledgeable in the area attractions, including bike riding etc. There is a section on events where anyone can go and post all sorts of events including biking events. Volunteers at the airport use the MPO bike maps for providing information to visitors, before letting them have a copy.

Ms. Carter suggested displaying accessible bicycle pedestrian amenities prominently on the web site, and Mr. Moser asked whether the posted events could be sorted down by activities and Ms. Behr said she would look into it.

AGENDA ITEM #4 – UPDATE ON BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ACTION PLAN

Mr. Scott stated that staff was trying to address the comments on the draft bicycle pedestrian safety action plan and reported that the MPO's Citizens Advisory Committee critiqued the plan and that it suggested there should be an emphasis on the implementation side as well, and that the Plan should not just focus on the planning side. The CAC recommended identifying and analyzing the 10 worse crash intersections and recommend improvements. He reported that FDOT and FHWA will host a 2 day training course together on bike ped safety action plans during the end of Summer/beginning Fall either in Sarasota or in this area, and that he had shared some of the concerns that came through this exercise with the District Secretary. Mr. Moser suggested that crash data should not be the sole criterion for identifying the 10 worst intersections, because bicyclists and pedestrians avoid certain intersections because they are dangerous and the number of crashes may not reflect how bad they are. He used the intersection of US 41 and Six Mile Cypress Parkway/Gladiolus as an example.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – DISCUSSION ON DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS FOR MARKED AND SIGNED BIKE LANES COUNTYWIDE

Mr. Gogoi reported that FDOT's design standards for Bicycle Lanes have changed. The new spacing requirements for pavement marking symbols is $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile on roadways with posted speeds less than 45 mph and $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile with speeds of 45 mph or greater. No distinction is made between urban and rural sections. The new standards are referenced in FDOT's current Plans Preparation Manual. The old spacing was 600 ft. in urban sections and $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile in rural sections which is the same as recommended in the latest edition of the Florida Green Book. In addition, the new standards do not call for any bike lane signs. FDOT is now using the new design guidelines in all new

construction and 3R projects on state highways in Lee County. Discussion ensued on inconsistency in application of design guidelines within state highways, as well as application of design guidelines within roadways maintained and owned by the same local government jurisdiction. There is also inconsistency in design guidelines among the local government jurisdictions.

Mr. Moser suggested a presentation from ITE on current design standard guidelines for local governments and that he stated he would look into it.

AGENDA ITEM #6 – LEE COUNTY BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN APP PROPOSAL

Mr. Tisch gave a presentation on a Lee County Bicycle Pedestrian App Proposal. He stated that the County Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee recommended moving ahead with the development of the app. The County has funds committed towards the design and production of the app, but would not mind partnering with other agencies and organizations to share some of the cost. The MPO developed bicycle map will provide the basis of the app and it offers a lot of possibilities including the ability to pull up routes matching the skill and experience of a rider. A comment was provided that it should show the locations of bike rental facilities.

AGENDA ITEM #7 – DISCUSSION ON THE MPO NOTIFICATION OF NEW/UPGRADED BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT JURISDICTIONS

Mr. Gogoi stated that the MPO would like to be notified in a timely manner about bicycle pedestrian projects completed by the local governments, so that the MPO could keep track of all such projects by mileage and year. This would be especially useful during the compilation of the year ending MPO bike ped reports, and also for calculation of performance measures. Mr. Tisch suggested the end of the federal fiscal year which would be September 30th.

OTHER BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #8 – PUBLIC AND MEMBER COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None

AGENDA ITEM #9 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPORTS ON BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN RELATED PROJECTS

Mr. Gasperini mentioned about a few projects under development in the City of Cape Coral while Mr. Davis reported that the bids for Shangri-La extension to Imperial Parkway would come out soon. The project includes paved shoulders and a sidewalk on one side. He also reported the status on the Bonita Trail.

AGENDA ITEM #10 – LEETRAN REPORT

None.

AGENDA ITEM #11 – FDOT REPORT

Ms. Nagy asked and received clarification that she could work directly with staff on the state bike lane design standard inconsistencies. She reported that FDOT was holding a workshop at the German American Club on the Pine Island Road widening from Chiquita Boulevard to Burnt Store Road.

AGENDA ITEM #12 – ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

AGENDA ITEM #13 – INFORMATION AND DISTRIBUTION ITEMS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 P.M.