

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT LEE COUNTY MPO BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN
COORDINATING COMMITTEE AND THE COLLIER MPO PATHWAYS ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

Held on February 23, 2016

The meeting of the Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee was held on February 23, 2016 at the South Lee County Regional Library, Room 103A, 21100 Three Oaks Parkway, Estero.

Those in attendance included:

From the BPCC

Andy Getch	LCDOT
Carl Karakos	City of Fort Myers
Dan Moser	Injury Prevention Council
Doug Saxton	Village of Estero
Isobel Hitchcock	Member-At-Large
Lee Waller	LC Parks
Jennifer Hagen	City of Bonita Springs
Megan Will	Town of Fort Myers Beach
Mark Tesoro	Lee Memorial Hospital
Roger Lloyd	LCSD
Simone Behr	VCB
Tina Sujana	Member-At-Large

From the PAC

Dayna Fendrick
Alan Musico
Debbie Chesna
Joe Bonness
Jayne Cheffy

Others in attendance included Ron Gogoi and Don Scott with the Lee County MPO; Eric Ortman and Anne McLaughlin with Collier MPO; Lorraine Lantz with Collier County Transportation Planning; Providance Nagy with FDOT; Darla Letourneau with BikeWalkLee; Patty Huff with ROGG; Keith Williams with Sanibel Public Works; Brendan Donohue with Lee County Department of Health; Justin Frederiksen with Grady Minor; Don Mayne with Lee County BPAC; Dominic Konieczki with LCSO; Dan Leger with the Cape Coral PD; and Mike and Mary Miller from Sanibel.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Dan Moser, BPCC Chair, chaired and called the joint meeting to order at 10:00 am. The members introduced themselves.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments

AGENDA ITEM #5A – APPROVAL OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE JOINT PATHWAYS MAP

Mr. Gogoi explained the origin and significance of the Lee Collier Joint Regional Pathways Map and called out the proposed amendments to the map in Lee and Collier County. He indicated that some of the changes were being done to be consistent with the Land Trails Opportunity Map which was updated last year by the Florida Greenways and Trails Council. Other changes included deletions where trails were no longer viable, and the status of trail segments based on what was currently on ground. There was a discussion on proposed trails shown along the Rookery Bay FPL corridor and San Marco Road in Collier County.

MOTION BY MR. MUSICO TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE JOINT PATHWAYS MAP. SECONDED BY MR. BONNESS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

AGENDA ITEM #5B – MPO RECOMMENDATION OF JOINT REGIONAL PATHWAY PRIORITIES

Mr. Gogoi provided a background of the Old 41 pathway project south of Bonita Beach Road and reported that the City of Bonita Springs contracted Johnson Engineering to develop 100% construction design plans of the pathway within the railroad right of way, and that the drawings were going to be completed in May 2016. The City is looking at its commitment of local funds as a leverage for FDOT commitment of funds for the remainder of the pathway that extends to US 41 in Collier County. The committees were asked whether they would like to entertain a motion asking the two MPO Boards to request FDOT to fund the pathway using Regional “Any Area” TA funds during the submittal of each MPO’s priorities this year. Discussion ensued on the PD&E Study for the 4 lane expansion funded in FY 2019 within the same project limits. Chair Moser stated that even if the pathway were removed after 10 years because of the road expansion it would be money well spent as it would have enhanced the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians during that time.

MOTION BY MR. GETCH TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE JOINT PATHWAYS MAP. SECONDED BY MS. HAGEN. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

AGENDA ITEM #5C – DISCUSSION OF CANDIDATE PROJECTS FOR SUN TRAIL FUNDS

Mr. Gogoi provided an overview of the SUN Trail Program and reported that 2 applications for SUN Trail funds in Lee County would be submitted in April that included a design build project for a pathway on Kismet Parkway from Del Prado Boulevard to Burnt Store Road, and a PD&E Study that would extend the JYLP Trail from Colonial Boulevard to Hanson Street. It was confirmed by members of the PAC that no projects were being considered

in Collier County for SUN Trail funds. There was a discussion on whether SUN Trail projects should be submitted as joint priorities by the two MPOs, or submitted separately by the MPOs. Both Mr. Musico and Mr. Bonness felt that such projects should be submitted as joint priorities through both the MPOs.

Mr. Scott reported about a broader alliance involving TBARTA and the three MPOs in Southwest Florida to push the Southwest Coast Connector as the next highest priority trail corridor in Florida for SUN Trail fund spending. A TBARTA letter of support with signatures from all the MPO staff Directors is being drafted, and BikeWalkLee had thrown in its support. Ms. Patty Huff asked if the River of Grass Greenway segment within Collier County could be added to the TBARTA request. Mr. Gogoi stated that he would convey the request to TBARTA staff.

AGENDA ITEM #5D – DISCUSSION ON PATHWAY IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES ON FPL CORRIDORS ALONG SOUTHWEST COAST CONNECTOR

Mr. Gogoi called out the segments within the Southwest Coast Connector that were within FPL corridors and stated that some would require grassroots effort to get underlying property owners buy-in to building pathways on these segments. Ms. McLaughlin stated that Collier MPO would assess the feasibility of trails in the Collier portion of the FPL easements and FPL owned corridors during the MPO Comprehensive Pathways Plan Update. There was a general consensus that the trail alignments within the FPL easements should be persisted and assessed, and that dialogues with FPL should be initiated. Mr. Getch reported that a similar trail opportunity on a FPL corridor in unincorporated Lee County was being currently explored, and that a Lee County resident had already opened a dialogue with FPL's Sarasota Office. Mr. Gogoi stated that he would ask the City of Bonita Springs to undertake an assessment on the FPL easement in Lee County while they were working on a Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

AGENDA ITEM #6A–PRESENTATION ON SANIBEL SHARED USE PATH INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT STUDY

Mr. Kieth Williams, City of Sanibel Public Works Director, provided an update on the Sanibel Shared Use Path Intersection Improvement Study. The City implemented path stop signs at 4 different intersections and crosswalk "paddles" at 2 intersections as a pilot project to gauge their success and report back to City Council. In addition, the City is in the process of implementing the recommendation to remove the "stop" pavement markings throughout the path system. The implementation was delayed by the January floods but will be completed in March. The rest of the recommendations from the Study would be included in the 5-year CIP and budgeted annually.

AGENDA ITEM #6B –ZAGSTER BIKE SHARING PRESENTATION

Mr. Getch provided an overview of bike sharing programs and introduced Chad Jacobs with Zagster. Mr. Jacobs broadcasted a power point presentation from his office that highlighted how their bike sharing model worked including the planning, implementation,

management, and operations and how the company fit into the scheme of things. Mr. Jacobs also highlighted security, financing the program, how to use the bikes, the type of bikes used, and provided examples in Florida where they have been operating. Mr. Karakos shared some of his concerns on the implementation of the bike sharing program from the City of Fort Myers perspective. Chair Moser commented that a bike sharing program could hurt local bike rental businesses but at the same time the pricing and the way they operate made the zagster model feasible. Mr. Getch commented that the zagster service was like a membership. It is a service meant for locals who do not own a bike who can grab one and run errands.

AGENDA ITEM #6C–STATUS ON ONGOING/UPCOMING BIKE PED PROJECTS IN LEE AND COLLIER COUNTY

Mr. Scott reported that he was working on the extension of the project limits of the Daniels Multi-use Path under the TIGER LCCSI project. Mr. Gogoi reported that he received a 'yes' to participating in the wayfinding committee except from FDOT and Fort Myers, and that he was considering holding a meeting in March. Mr. Ortman reported that Collier MPO was working on a scope for the Pathways Comprehensive Plan Update.

Ms. Huff provided an update on the River of Grass Greenway. She reported that the ROGG Master Plan Feasibility was going to be completed in March, and that it covered 3 segments from CR 92 to Chrome Avenue. The 16 mile long ROGG West PD&E Study from CR 92 to SR 29 is funded but the study is pending until the Master Plan is completed. Construction of the 2 mile section from 6L Farm to CR 92 is scheduled for construction next year. A \$30,000 grant will be used in partnership with National Park Conservation to study an alternative transportation and shuttle bus option along the ROGG corridor from Miami Dade to Shark Valley.

Ms. Hagen announced that on the same day as the joint BPCC and PAC meeting there was an informal hours with the consultant working on the Bonita Beach Road Corridor Vision Study. The location was City Hall. There was also a workshop scheduled on February 26th from 6 pm to 7:30 pm. She also announced that a public workshop was being held on March 10th from 4 pm to 7 pm to get public input that would assist the consultant in developing the Bonita Springs Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan.

AGENDA ITEM #6D – REPORT ON LEE AND COLLIER COUNTY PROPOSALS FOR SRTS FUNDS

The item was pulled due to lack of time.

AGENDA ITEM #7 – FDOT REPORT

Ms. Nagy handed out copies of USDOT's Road Diet Desk Reference, and announced SUN Trail Public Open Houses and Webinar dates and locations.

AGENDA ITEM #8 – LEETRAN AND CAT REPORT

None.

AGENDA ITEM #9 – MEMBER’S COMMENTS

None.

AGENDA ITEM #10 – INFORMATION ITEMS

None.

AGENDA ITEM 11 – ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 12 noon.