

BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN COORDINATING COMMITTEE

10:00 a.m., Tuesday, April 23, 2013
City of Cape Coral Annex, Room A200
815 Nicholas Parkway E., Cape Coral
239-244-2220



AGENDA

Call to Order/Roll Call

Member Introductions

1. *Approval of the March 26, 2012 BPCC Meeting Minutes
2. Public Comments on Items on the Agenda

New Business

3. Presentation by the Cape Coral Bike-Ped. Group (Carolyn Conant)
4. +Update on the Bicycle Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (William Roll)
5. Update on the US 41 Pedestrian Improvements Project (Don Scott)
6. Lee County Bicycle Pedestrian Safety Awareness and Enforcement Campaign (Dan Moser)
7. +Review Options for Acquiring and Analyzing Traffic Crash Data in a Timely Manner (Don Scott)
8. Discuss Potential TIGER V Grant Proposal (Don Scott)

Other Business

9. Public and Member Comments on Items not on the Agenda
10. Local Government Reports on Bicycle Pedestrian Related Projects
11. LeeTran Report
12. FDOT Report
13. Announcements
14. Information and Distribution Items

Adjournment

* Action Items + May Require Action

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

Held on March 26, 2013

The meeting of the Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee was held on March 26, 2013 at the City of Cape Coral Annex, Room A200 815 Nicholas Parkway, Cape Coral.

Those in attendance included:

Dru Doyle	At-Large Member
Patricia Young	At-Large Member
Karen Solgard	At-Large Member
Linda Carter	CAC
Stephanie Smith	City of Cape Coral
Jeff Davis	City of Bonita Springs
Dan Moser	Injury Prevention Coalition
Steve Jansen	Lee County CTST
Jay Anderson	Lee County CTST
Mike Tisch	Lee County DOT
Wayne Gaither	LeeTran
Josh Overmyer	Town of Fort Myers Beach
Simone Behr	Visitors Convention Bureau

Others in attendance included Don Scott, Ron Gogoi and Brian Raimondo with the Lee County MPO; Gary Amig, Mike Kautz, Kellie Spurgeon and Russ Muller with FDOT; and Darla Letourneau of BikeWalkLee;

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 JANUARY 29, 2013 BPC MEETING
MINUTES**

**MOTION BY MS. LINDA CARTER TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 29,
2013 BPC MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY MR. OVERMYER.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

AGENDA ITEM #2 – APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 26, 2013 JOINT BPCC AND PAC MEETING MINUTES

MOTION BY MS. LINDA CARTER TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 26, 2013 JOINT MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY MR. OVERMYER. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

AGENDA ITEM #3 - PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None.

NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #4 – REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF SCOPE FOR MAP 21 PROJECT FUNDING AND PRIORITIZATION

Mr. Scott gave an overview of the scope that was developed by the MPO General Planning consultants Jacobs and Alta. The scope will develop bicycle pedestrian performance measures and address all funding available for bicycle pedestrian projects under MAP 21. It would overhaul the existing TEA evaluation criteria which will take into consideration new requirements under MAP 21. Ms. Letourneau of BikeWalkLee stated that Alta was the best in the business on bicycle pedestrian studies.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – PRESENTATION ON THE PROPOSED US 41 PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC ISLANDS

Ms. Kelly Spurgeon with FDOT gave an overview of the project. The project includes traffic islands in the median of US 41 at 6 locations where pedestrians have been seen to frequently cross US 41. The traffic islands in the shape of surfboards would assist those pedestrians who want to cross the roadway. Discussion ensued on the City of Fort Myers opposition to the project as it is not consistent with the City's CRA Plans for the corridor. The City would prefer a traffic median with landscaping similar to SR 80. Ms. Carter objected to the project because the proposed traffic islands were not designed to be accessible to wheelchair users. Mr. Jansen supported the project as they would provide some safety to pedestrians where there is currently none at all. It is not perfect but you cannot let perfect be the enemy of the good. Mr. Gogoi pointed out the project's other benefits including proposed improvements that would make various intersections accessible to pedestrians, bicyclists and wheelchair users. Mr. Gaither stated that if landscaped medians and road dieting is considered on US 41, he would like to see transit lanes addressed in the design.

MOTION BY MR. JANSEN TO GENERALLY APPROVE THE STATE'S CONCEPT OF IMPROVING PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ON US 41 BY INSTALLING THE PEDESTRIAN REFUGE SAFETY ISLANDS. SECONDED BY MS. SOLGARD. MOTION CARRIED WITH MS. LINDA CARTER DISSENTING.

AGENDA ITEM #6 – UPDATE ON THE BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ACTION PLAN

Mr. Scott presented the Goals and Objectives, and the proposed Actions that were developed as part of the MPO's Bicycle Pedestrian Safety Action Plan. Discussion ensued on pedestrian accessible issues on West Terry Street/Old 41 intersection. The City recently added dual left turn and right turn lanes at this intersection. The traffic signals include permissive lefts which conflicts with the pedestrian signal phase, making it dangerous to pedestrians, cyclists or wheelchair users try to cross the intersection. Mr. Davis agreed to take this issue up with the City of Bonita Springs.

AGENDA ITEM #7 – DISCUSSION ON SR 80 BEFORE/AFTER EVALUATION OF MEDIAN TRAFFIC SEPARATOR

Mr. Scott opened the discussion on the SR 80 Before/After evaluation of median traffic separator and invited FDOT representatives to speak about it. Mr. Gary Amig with FDOT mentioned that the study has indicated that all types of crashes have gone down with the installation of the traffic separator from Seaboard Street to I 75. He, however, noted that traffic has also gone down since the separator was installed as a result of the down economy. The fact that a lot of people living in the surrounding community left the area could also contribute to the decrease in crashes.

AGENDA ITEM #8 – PRESENTATION ON SAFE STREET ACTIVITIES

Mr. Moser stated that this event originated from the Healthy Lee Coalition and addresses obesity and lack of activities. The event is planned to be held 3 to 4 times a year throughout Lee County and would require closing down the main streets for 4 hours for showcasing niche activities by various organizations. Restaurants and food vendors can also showcase healthy food and nutrition, and there could be activities such as jump roping and skate boarding. All this would lead to a sense of community. He also mentioned that this concept has been borrowed from Colombia where it is called Ciclovía and very popular and is also similar to events held in Seattle in the 60s. They are planned on being held during the weekends, and would cost approximately \$100,000 to hold each event, would therefore require donations. The organizers would also have to coordinate with the local government jurisdictions where the event would be held.

OTHER BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #9 – PUBLIC AND MEMBER COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Ms. Doyle gave an update on the ongoing coordination with Visitor Convention Bureau to create a web page that focusses on bicycling and hiking to attract visitors to Lee County. Mr. Raimondo gave a printing update on the 3rd edition Lee MPO Bicycle maps. Discussion ensued on dissemination of the bike maps.

AGENDA ITEM #10 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPORTS ON BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN RELATED PROJECTS

Mr. Davis reported that the City of Bonita Springs is in the process of hiring a contractor to address a sidewalk gap of 120 linear feet approximately on Dean Street, and will be

installing bus shelters on Old 41. He also reported on the status of the proposed Bonita Trail. Mr. Overmyer gave an update on the Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons project undertaken by the Town of Fort Myers Beach. He reported that one had been installed at the south end of Santini Marina Plaza and work was beginning on the second enhanced crossing at the Holiday Inn.

AGENDA ITEM #11 – LEETRAN REPORT

Mr. Gaither reported that LeeTran held the groundbreaking for its new Operations facility, and that LeeTran received FTA’s Transit System of the Year award. Mr. Moser announced that there was going to be a Transit Task Force Committee meeting on Thursday.

AGENDA ITEM #12 – FDOT REPORT

Mr. Muller and Mr. Amig reported hiring updates on the Bike Pedestrian Safety Specialist and Bike Pedestrian Coordinator for District One. The Safety Specialist position was closing and going to be filled but it fell through while they have identified a person for the bike pedestrian coordinator position.

AGENDA ITEM #13 – ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

AGENDA ITEM #14 – INFORMATION AND DISTRIBUTION ITEMS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.

PRESENTATION BY CAPE CORAL BIKE-PED GROUP

RECOMMENDED ACTION: A presentation will be provided for information and discussion. No action is required.

Last year, a bicycle pedestrian advocacy group was formed in Cape Coral called Cape Coral Bike-Ped. Its president Carolyn Conant will be at the April 23rd BPCC meeting and will give a presentation on the organization's goals and objectives, ongoing activities, and projects that they are working in coordination with the City of Cape Coral.

UPDATE ON THE DRAFT BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ACTION PLAN

RECOMMENDED ACTION An update on the ongoing Lee County Bicycle Pedestrian Safety Action Plan project will be provided by the MPO's consultant followed by committee discussion and input. No action is required.

At the March 26th BPCC meeting, MPO staff presented the vision, goals and objectives, and proposed actions that were developed as part of the Lee County Bicycle Pedestrian Safety Action Plan. These items were subsequently presented to the TAC and CAC at their respective April 3rd meetings. A public workshop will now be held on April 17th to get public input on these items.

At the April 23rd BPCC meeting, MPO's consultant TOA, Inc., will report on the input received at the TAC and the CAC meetings, at the April 17th Public Workshop and also at the April 19th MPO Board meeting as well as providing other updates on the ongoing project.

UPDATE ON THE US 41 PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

RECOMMENDED ACTION This item is to provide an update on the US 41 pedestrian safety project and the actions taken by the Committee's and the Board.

At the March 26th BPC meeting, there was a discussion on a pedestrian improvement project on US 41 from Hanson Street to SR 82. The project includes six pedestrian safety islands in the center two-way left turn lanes and crosswalks, pedestrian ramps, and pedestrian countdown signals/buttons at intersections to make them safe and accessible to pedestrians, bicyclists and wheelchair users.

The BPC had voted 10 to 1 to generally approve the State's concept of improving pedestrian safety on US 41 by installing the pedestrian refuge safety islands. The one vote against the project was because the pedestrian safety islands were designed without any wheelchair access. Since that meeting FDOT has informed staff that the islands would be designed to include curb cuts, and pedestrian ramps and other ADA improvements as necessary to accommodate wheelchair users.

The TAC also discussed this item at length but did not vote on the item at its April 4th meeting. The City of Fort Myers representative raised the issue of using the money from this project and a resurfacing project between Winkler and SR 82 programmed two years later to install a median from Hanson Street to SR 82. The TAC members discussed their concerns with that process and identified some of the issues including whether there would be enough money to construct the project (and whether the funding could be used that way), whether a median could be installed without acquiring additional right-of-way and whether doing all this may actually take a much longer time to implement meaning no safety improvements would be made for some time. The TAC also noted that the installation of these safety islands would not preclude a median project later on.

The CAC voted unanimously to move forward with the proposed pedestrian safety islands in the locations shown by FDOT and consistent with ADA requirements.

At the April 23rd meeting, staff will report on any updates to the ongoing discussions between the City and FDOT, and report on the action taken by the MPO Board at its April 19th meeting.

LEE COUNTY BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AWARENESS AND ENFORCEMENT CAMPAIGN

RECOMMENDED ACTION: No action required. This is an information and discussion item.

BikeWalkLee is partnering with the Lee County MPO, Stay Alive...Just Drive!, and the Lee County BOCC on a Project for Public Space (PPS) event in the Tice community of Lee County in May. Talks are also in progress with FDOT to use this event to spread FDOT's educational message of *Alert Today Alive Tomorrow* to raise public awareness of pedestrian safety and enforcement. FDOT had earlier promoted this message by sponsoring the #87 *Alert Today Alive Tomorrow* Toyota driven by Joe Nemechek in the NASCAR Nationwide Series race at Daytona International Speedway held on February 23rd.

The logistics and specifics of the PPS event and FDOT's participation in the event are still being worked out. BPC Chairman Dan Moser will provide an update at the April 23rd meeting.

REVIEW OPTIONS FOR ACQUIRING AND ANALYZING TRAFFIC CRASH DATA IN A TIMELY MANNER

RECOMMENDED ACTION: This Item is for staff to receive committee input and direction on the possible options for getting traffic crash data in a timely manner.

Over the years staff has used different sources to get the crash data (including paying Pride Enterprise to enter crash data from reports) and we are now discussing the best option for moving forward to analyze and report crash data in a timely manner. Listed below are some of the options that we have discussed and staff would like to get committee input on what option(s) they feel we should pursue further as a community. Listed below are the options staff will discuss further at the BPC meeting. Most of the options would deal with GIS conversions either by staff or another agency.

- Work with Lee County DOT
- University of Florida Signal Four Analytics Crash System
- DHSMV Daily Fatality Reports (FARS database)
- DHSMV crash data reports
- Florida Department of Transportation FARS database
- Nationwide numbers from consultant (APPRS)

DISCUSS A POTENTIAL TIGER V GRANT PROPOSAL

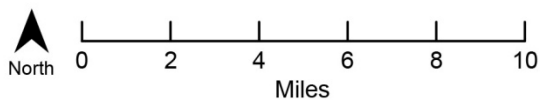
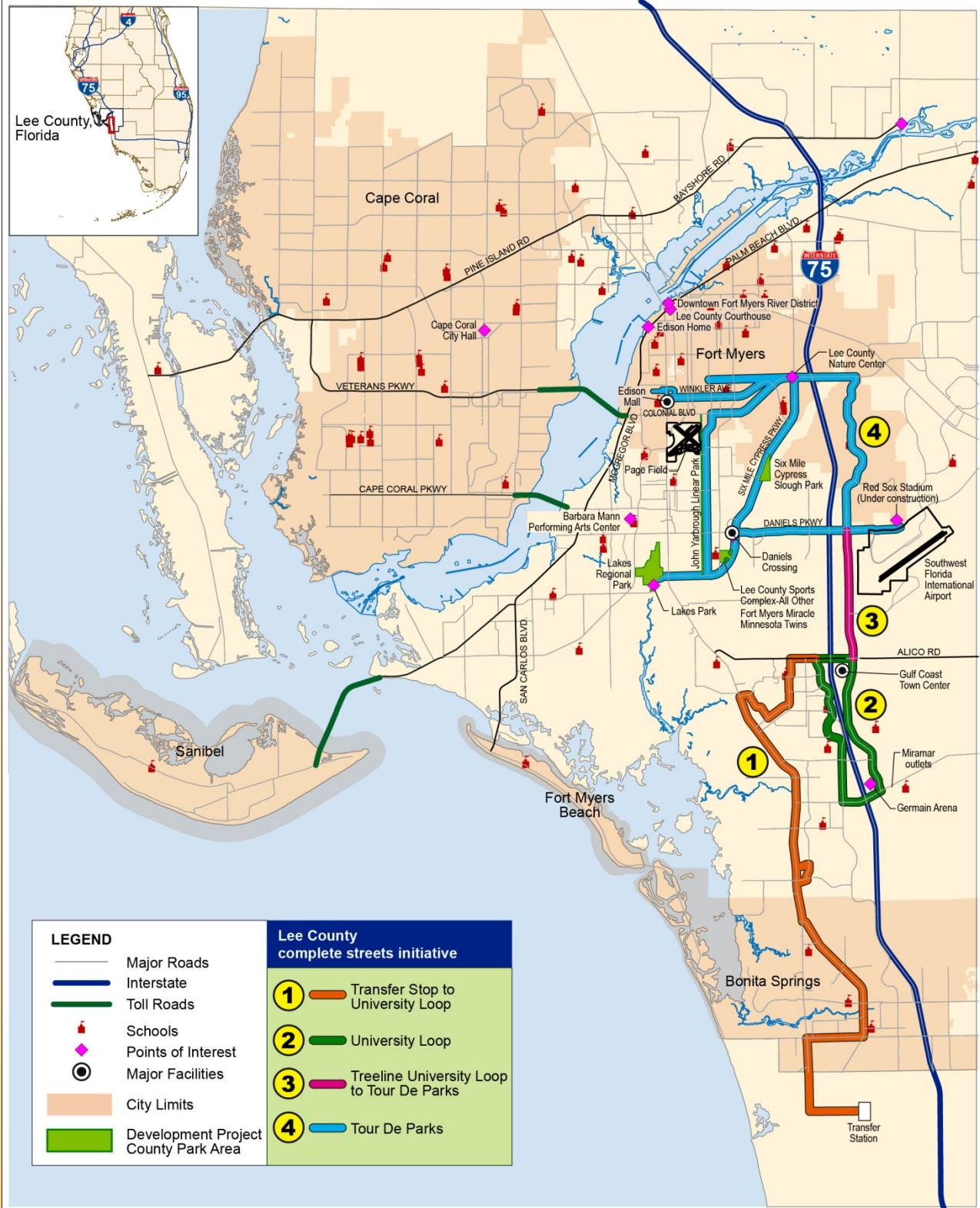
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discuss the possibility of submitting a TIGER V grant proposal.

At last week's Southeast Regional Bicycle Safety Summit in Tampa, USDOT Secretary LaHood indicated that there will be TIGER V grant competition coming soon. The amount of funding to be available for this program will be \$475 million and going after a complete streets/bicycle/pedestrian/transit project similar to our last submittal (we did not get awarded the grant) is what we would be recommending moving forward with.

The MPO submitted a TIGER IV grant application in March of 2012 and a map showing the project is **attached**. The grant requested was \$10.0 million with a \$4.6 million local match for a total estimated project cost of \$14.6 million. The intent of the project was to help complete the three demonstration projects (The Lee County Tour de Park route, the University Loop and the Winkler/Jefferson Complete Streets Project) from the MPO's Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan. The proposed improvements included the construction of pathways, bike lanes, signing and striping of bike lanes, sidewalks, bus shelters and sidewalk connections, way finding signs, bike parking/racks/lockers. The Tiger Grant match funding was coming from locally programmed bicycle, pedestrian and transit projects that are within or abutting the project area that were helping to meet the goal of completing these facilities.

Staff would like to discuss the submittal of a similar grant proposal for possible TIGER V funding and start identifying potential local match projects.

Lee County Complete Streets Initiative



Lee County Complete Streets Initiative

CH2MHILL