

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

Held on January 28, 2014

The meeting of the Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee was held on January 28, 2014 at the Fort Myers Regional Library, Room A, 1651 Lee Street, Fort Myers.

Those in attendance included:

Andy Getch	LCDOT
David Wagley	LCDOT
Anna Bielawska	LeeTran
Dawn Huff	Lee County School District
Mark Tesoro	Lee Memorial Trauma
Jason Lamey	LC Parks and Rec
Pat Young	At-Large
Dru Doyle	Member-At-Large
Jay Anderson	CTST
Steve Jansen	CTST
Gary Gasperini	City of Cape Coral
Jeff Davis	City of Bonita Springs
Linda Carter	CAC
Simone Behr	Visitors Convention Bureau
Stacy Revay	Collier County Growth Management Division

Others in attendance included Don Scott and Ron Gogoi with the Lee County MPO, Darla Letourneau with BikeWalkLee, Providance Nagy with FDOT, Ned Baier with Jacobs, and Brad Davis with Alta.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Gogoi called the meeting to order at 10:00 am and reported that the Chair had a scheduling conflict while the Vice Chair was running late. He announced that a quorum was present and asked the attendees to introduce themselves. He asked that the committee hold of the approval of the minutes until after the election of officers for the new calendar year.

NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #2 - ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE 2014 MEETINGS

Mr. Gogoi stated that under existing bylaws an officer cannot serve consecutive terms in the same office, and that it is the practice of this committee to elect the current Vice Chair as the new Chair. He reported that the Vice Chair Jansen had expressed his willingness to be the new Chair, and called for nominations for the Chair

MOTION BY MR. DAVIS TO NOMINATE STEVE JANSEN AS THE CHAIRMAN. SECONDED BY MS. YOUNG. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Gogoi asked for nominations for Vice Chairman. Ms. Carter nominated herself.

MOTION BY MR. ANDERSON TO NOMINATE LINDA CARTER AS THE VICE CHAIRMAN. SECONDED BY MS. YOUNG. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Vice Chair Carter was asked by staff to chair the meeting until the Chair arrived.

AGENDA ITEM #1 – APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 26, 2013 BPCC MEETING MINUTES

MOTION BY MR. TESORO TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 26, 2013 BPCC MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY MR ANDERSON. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

AGENDA ITEM #3 – BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND AN OVERVIEW OF THE SHOVEL READY PROJECT GUIDE PRESENTATION

Mr. Baier of Jacobs and Mr. Davis of Alta Planning & Design provided an overview of the tasks that were completed last year as part of the ongoing bike ped contact including overhauling the project selection and evaluation process. The consultants went on to discuss two other tasks that they subsequently completed including bicycle performance measures as a bench mark to evaluate the effectiveness of completed bike ped facilities, and a funding toolkit for federally funded bicycle and pedestrian projects. Ms. Letourneau commented that the two documents do not address the issue of federal funding of projects of those local government jurisdictions that are not LAP certified, and that she would like to see applications submitted by all 5 local governments. Mr. Scott stated that those local governments could still have projects funded and managed by FDOT but the downside is that the projects would cost higher. Mr. Getch stated that Lee County DOT is LAP certified and it submits projects but prefers to have them managed and built by FDOT instead of through a LAP contract. Mr. Scott would like to see more projects submitted by the local governments so that all MPO allocated funds for bike ped projects is spent.

MOTION BY MR. ANDERSON TO ACCEPT THE FUNDING TOOLKIT WITH MODIFICATIONS AS MAYBE NEEDED, AND TO ENCOURAGE ALL LEE COUNTY JURISDICTIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE APPLICATION PROCESS FOR TAP AND MULTIMODAL BOX FUNDS. SECONDED BY MS. YOUNG. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Discussion ensued on performance measures and targets in state and MPO plans for implementation of bicycle pedestrian facilities.

AGENDA ITEM #4 – DISCUSSION ON THE EXISTING DISTRICT ONE POLICY FOR FUNDING BICYCL PEDESTRIAN PROJECTS REQUIRING DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. Gogoi asked that the item be deferred to the next regular BPCC meeting as the item's presenter Mr. Moser could not attend the meeting due to a scheduling conflict. The committee deferred the item to the March 25th BPCC meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – INPUT ON THE METRO PARKWAY SHARED USE PATH CONNECTION TO ALICO ROAD ALTERNATIVES

Mr. Getch presented the item and stated that the County was exploring alternatives that would allow less experienced bicyclists and pedestrians using the shared use path on Michael G. Rippe Parkway to safely cross Alico Road and head eastbound. This is not a problem for experienced cyclists who use the bike lanes on the overpass and off ramp to head eastbound on Alico. The path connects to a sidewalk on the north side of Alico Road that terminates at US 41. There is no sidewalk east of where the path connects to the sidewalk.

Bicyclists on the path have three options to get to eastbound Alico – get over to westbound bike lanes and weave over to a directional median to take a U turn, or use the US 41 intersection, or walk the bike across the railroad. Some of the interim solutions could be to continue the shared use path along Alico Road east while keeping outside the railroad right of way to Indy Drive, or continue even further east to Quaker Lane and use the traffic signal there to cross Alico Road. Ms. Letourneau called for wayfinding signs on Six Mile Cypress east of US 41 to inform pedestrians and cyclists about the shared use path on Michael Rippe Parkway.

Mr. Jansen arrived at 10:45 am and the Vice Chair asked Mr. Jansen to chair the remainder of the meeting after discussion of agenda item 5 ended.

AGENDA ITEM #6 – INPUT ON THE LIST OF ROUNDABOUT FEASIBILITY STUDY LOCATIONS TO BEGIN PROJECT SCOPING

Mr. Scott reported that staff had developed a list of existing, planned and proposed roundabouts in 2012 that was part of a roundabout presentation to the MPO Board. Subsequently, the MPO received \$400,000 in planning funds to study the feasibility of implementing roundabouts that were identified as planned in the list. Staff was now finalizing the list of planned roundabouts before developing the scope of work for the project and having it approved by the MPO Board. The list was revised following TAC and CAC input from their January 9, 2014 meetings and staff was now seeking input on the revised list from the BPCC.

AGENDA ITEM #7 – COMPLETE STREETS IMPLEMENTATION REPORT PRESENTATION

Mr. Getch presented Lee County's Complete Streets Implementation report. He explained the various components of a complete street, emphasized the safety aspect of a complete street that encourage walking and biking that leads to a healthy lifestyle, reported on stakeholders, advocacy groups and advisory committees involved with complete street implementation in Lee County, and cited examples (canals, cul de sac, gated communities etc.) that leads to a disconnected transportation network.

OLD BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #8 – REVIEW OF THE UPDATED BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN CRASH STATISTICS

Mr. Scott presented updated bicycle pedestrian crash statistics and graphs. He stated that Commissioner Pendergrass had taken the initiative to host meetings with law enforcement agencies to address bicycle pedestrian safety and that the first meeting was held in December of last year. The next meeting would be in February and would look at specific crash data. Mr. Scott shared random Florida traffic crash reports with the committee, and asked for input regarding crash locations that should be discussed at that meeting. The committee suggested that crashes should be confined to US 41, SR 80 and Del Prado Boulevard, and that law enforcement agencies from Fort Myers and Cape Coral, the Lee County Sheriff's Office and FHP should be invited.

AGENDA ITEM #9 – STAFF UPDATE ON ONGOING PROJECTS AND BPCC INPUT

Mr. Gogoi provided an update on the candidate list of projects for TAP and Multimodal Enhancement Box funds. He also reported that staff had submitted an application to FDOT for funding a shared use pathway on Old 41 from US 41 in Collier County to Bonita Beach Boulevard using regional TAP funds. Staff was seeking a staff endorsement from Collier County in support of a joint application and Mr. Gogoi requested Ms. Revay to coordinate with appropriate staff in Collier County in getting the endorsement and a detailed cost estimate for the project that took into consideration the Collier portion of the project.

OTHER BUSINESS

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

There was a discussion on the existing bicycle rack at the new Fort Myers Regional Library and the difficulty in using it. The library is addressing it.

AGENDA ITEM #8 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPORTS

None.

AGENDA ITEM #9 – LEETRAN REPORT

None.

AGENDA ITEM #10 – FDOT REPORT

None

AGENDA ITEM #11 – ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Scott reported that the next meeting would be a joint meeting with Collier MPO's Pedestrian Advisory Committee.

AGENDA ITEM #12 – INFORMATION AND DISTRIBUTION ITEMS

None.

**MOTION BY MS. CARTER TO ADJOURN. SECONDED BY MR. DAVIS.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 P.M.