

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

Held on May 27, 2014

The meeting of the Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee was held on May 27, 2014 at the Fort Myers Regional Library, Room A, 1651 Lee Street, Fort Myers.

Those in attendance included:

Andy Getch	LCDOT
Dawn Huff	Lee County School District
Elisa Yanes	Lee County School District
Mark Tesoro	Lee County Memorial
Diane Holm	Injury Prevention Council
Dan Moser	Injury Prevention Council
Lee Waller	LC Parks and Recreation
Steve Jansen	CTST
Jay Anderson	CTST
Patricia Young	Member-At-Large
Dru Doyle	Member-At-Large
Masood Mirza	City of Cape Coral
Avelino Cancel	City of Fort Myers
Josh Overmyer	Town of Fort Myers Beach
Belinda Smith	Town of Fort Myers Beach
Anna Bielawska	LeeTran
Linda Carter	CAC
Simone Behr	Visitors Convention Bureau
Nancy McPhee	Visitors Convention Bureau
Stacy Revay	Collier County Growth Management Division

Others in attendance included Ron Gogoi and Don Scott with the Lee County MPO, Darla Letourneau with BikeWalkLee, Carmen Monroy and Vitor Suguri with FDOT; and Sarah Layman with LeeTran.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Jansen called the meeting to order at 10:00 am and asked the attendees to introduce themselves. Mr. Gogoi reported that a quorum was present. Mr. Overmyer reported that it was going to be his last BPCC meeting and that Ms. Belinda Smith would be taking over from him.

AGENDA ITEM #1 – APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 22, 2014 BPCC MEETING MINUTES

MOTION BY MR. MOSER TO APPROVE THE APRIL 22, 2014 BPCC MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY MS. CARTER. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #2 – FLORIDA GREENWAYS AND TRAILS FOUNDATION PRESENTATION

Mr. Gogoi reported that Mr. Dale Allen could not attend the meeting to present the item because his father passed away on Memorial Day. Staff shared recent legislation passed by Florida Legislature and explained how they impacted bike ped needs. SB 2514 would allow use of State Highway Transportation Trust Funds for implementation of high priority recreational trails from the Florida Greenways and Trails Plan. There was a discussion on the proposed Southwest Florida Connector that includes Lee County priority trail corridors from the Greenways and Trails Plan. With funding expected to be available to address gaps in the recreational trail corridors the MPO needs to conduct PD&E Studies to move along project implementation phase. The potential impacts to Transportation Incentive Grant Program (TRIP) if the ballot measure for Florida Water and Land Conservation Initiative is passed was also discussed. TRIP has funded several projects in Lee County including the widening of the Burnt Store Road segments. In recent years, the funding has decreased and if the measure is passed it will further eat away the documentary tax revenues that funds TRIP.

AGENDA ITEM #3 – REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE ROUNDABOUT FEASIBILITY STUDY SCOPE

Mr. Gogoi explained the core tasks of the roundabout feasibility study scope. Ms. Carter commented that the Buckingham and Gunnery location has historical buildings in the proximity of the intersection that would be impacted by a roundabout. Mr. Jansen suggested that safety and maintenance costs should be considered before picking a specific alternative in a situation where the 2035 design year traffic analysis shows that both a traffic signal and a roundabout option will fail at an intersection.

MOTION BY MS. CARTER TO APPROVE THE SCOPE WITH THE CAVEAT THAT SAFETY ANALYSIS IS INCLUDED EARLY IN THE FEASIBILITY ANALYSIS. SECONDED BY MR. MOSER. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

AGENDA ITEM #4 – PRESENTATION AND UPDATE ON THE LEE COUNTY LAND USE PROJECT SCENARIO

Mr. Scott explained that a preferred land use scenario will be used to guide the future land use of the transportation model. The preferred scenario could potentially work with

transit to reduce overall vehicle trips and vehicle miles travelled. He explained the differences among all three scenarios – A, B and C - that were being studied, and that Scenario B included intensive development of the DRGR land in the eastern part of Bonita Springs. That may actually come out depending on ongoing dialogue with the City of Bonita Springs. On the public involvement side, he stated that though the choice of a specific scenario in the public input survey is not statistically valid, the process is still far better than during the development of the 2030 Plan due to more public participation and input. He went on to describe the process and analyzed the results of the survey.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – VCB UPDATE ON TOURISM TRENDS, ECOTOURISM ACTIVITIES AND WEB SITE DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Behr discussed the Summer Saver Vehicle which has a surf board and bicycle on top which travelled all through Florida promoting tourism in Lee County. She reported on the VCB web site updates that relates to bicycle pedestrian activities including a bicycling search option. This new bicycling search option was shared through an email blast to all VCB industry partners. Visitor survey results showed that the increase in bicycle riding during the winter season increased from 21% in 2013 to 22% in 2014. Discussion on a way to get the message to tourists and visitors that lights are required by law for night time bicycle riding and helmet law for kids.

WALK ON AGENDA ITEM – APPROVAL OF TA AND MULTIMODAL BOX FUND PRIORITIES

Mr. Gogoi handed out the staff recommended priorities for the TAP, Multimodal Box, and Highway Safety Program Priorities. He stated that the priority order of all the projects in the TAP priority list were consistent with the rankings from the bike ped evaluations.

MOTION BY MR. OVERMYER TO APPROVE THE TAP FUND PRIORITIES. SECONDED BY MR. GETCH. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Gogoi stated that the Lee County School District submitted projects from the TAP list were also eligible for Highway Safety Program funds, and their priority order was consistent with the rankings from the bike ped evaluations.

MOTION BY MR. OVERMYER TO APPROVE THE STATEWIDE HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM FUND PRIORITIES. SECONDED BY MS. CARTER. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Multimodal Box priority list included projects which were a mix of bike ped, transit, and congestion management projects on federal aid highways. The top ranked project for each of those categories had a joint #1 priority, followed at #4

priority by the purchase and installation of BlueToad Sensors, and at #5 by the purchase and installation of Pan Zoom and Tilt Cameras. The remaining bike ped projects followed in the same priority order consistent with the rankings from the bike ped evaluations.

MOTION BY MR. MOSER TO APPROVE THE MULTIMODAL BO FUND PRIORITIES. SECONDED BY MR. OVERMYER. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

OLD BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #6 – STAFF UPDATE ON ONGOING PROJECTS AND BPC INPUT

Mr. Scott reported that High Span, URS and Atkins were the firms shortlisted at the end of the Construction Engineering and Inspection RFP for the TIGER grant project. They would be providing presentations in the afternoon before a firm was picked. Design Build RFP was being finalized. Received a Categorical Exclusion for the Environmental Assessment. Grant agreement was approved by FDOT.

He announced that a civic Hackathon would be starting on Friday, May 30th, where presentations on mobile applications would be made that would help in data collection. He also announced that the San Carlos Trolley Lane Pre PD&E Study workshop would be held on Friday at 9 am at the Town of FMB Town Hall.

Ms. Monroy reported that FDOT had prepared a letter regarding the guidelines for maintenance of asphalt shared use pathways on state highways, and is being circulated internally among FDOT staff for input. The proposal in the letter works favorably for local jurisdictions as FDOT would be responsible for maintenance of these facilities.

Mr. Gogoi reported that the shared use gap on Business 41 from San Souci Road to Fork Road would be addressed as part of the programmed sidewalk project on 41 from Bus 41 to south of Del Prado Boulevard. He also reported that FDOT would remove the one way bicycle signs from the shared use paths on SR 80 by the I 75 interchange after the completion of the ongoing highway capacity project.

OTHER BUSINESS

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

Ms. Letourneau reported that Bikewalklee compiled a package of tables and information for a News Press story and that the newspaper had committed itself to covering bicycle pedestrian safety in Lee County as a long term focus.

AGENDA ITEM #8 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPORTS

None.

AGENDA ITEM #9 – LEETRAN REPORT

Ms. Layman reported that the April ridership numbers declined by 0.1 % as compared to same time last year but Passport numbers were up 5% from last year.

AGENDA ITEM #10 – FDOT REPORT

None.

AGENDA ITEM #11 – ANNOUNCEMENTS

Discussion ensued about cancellation of the July BPC meeting. Chairman Jansen suggested keeping the meeting date and cancelling it if there was a lack of agenda items.

AGENDA ITEM #12 – INFORMATION AND DISTRIBUTION ITEMS

None.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 P.M.