

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

**Held on June 24, 2014**

The meeting of the Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee was held on June 24, 2014 at the Fort Myers Regional Library, Room A, 1651 Lee Street, Fort Myers.

Those in attendance included:

Andy Getch	LCDOT
Anna Bielawska	LeeTran
Avelino Cancel	City of Fort Myers
Belinda Smith	Town of Fort Myers Beach
Dan Moser	Injury Prevention Council
Jay Anderson	Lee County CTST
Jason Lamey	LC Parks and Recreation
Jeff Davis	City of Bonita Springs
Linda Carter	CAC
Mark Tesoro	Lee County Memorial
Stacy Revay	Collier County Growth Management Division
Simone Behr	Visitors Convention Bureau
Steve Jansen	Lee County CTST

Others in attendance included Ron Gogoi and Brian Raimondo with the Lee County MPO; Sergeant Petracca, Sergeant Dominic Konieczki, Roman Serrano, April Bodemann, Jeffrey Salk, Ashley Johnson and Tiffany Salters with the Lee County Sheriffs Office

**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.

**AGENDA ITEM #1 – APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 24, 2014 BPCC MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION BY MR. MOSER TO APPROVE THE JUNE 24, 2014 BPCC MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY MS. CARTER. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**AGENDA ITEM #2– AMENDMENT TO BPCC BYLAWS**

Mr. Gogoi stated that staff was proposing to change the BPCC bylaws by removing the Southwest Florida Police Chief Association from the voting membership and instead

make it possible for any law enforcement agency in Lee County to attend and participate at the BPCC meetings as non-voting members.

**MOTION BY MS. CARTER TO AMEND THE BPCC BYLAWS BY DROPPING SWFPCA FROM THE VOTING MEMBERSHIP AND ADDING PARTICIPATING LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AS NON VOTING MEMBERS. SECONDED BY MR. GETCH. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**AGENDA ITEM #3 – APPROVE CHANGES TO ROUNDABOUT FEASIBILITY STUDY SCOPE**

Mr. Gogoi reported that the original scope was revised to incorporate the requested changes from all the committees.

**MOTION BY MR. MOSER TO APPROVE THE CHANGES TO THE ROUNDABOUT FEASIBILITY SCOPE. SECONDED BY MS. CARTER. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**AGENDA ITEM #3 – DISCUSSION ON LCSO'S BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN EDUCATION/ENFORCEMENT GRANT**

Ms. Bodemann reported that the Sheriff's Office applied for and received the state grant because Lee County is one of the top 10 counties with the highest number of bike ped fatalities. Based on crash statistics from 2007 through 2011 that was provided by FDOT, they identified 4 hot spots including Pine Island Road from US 41 to Bus 41, Palm Avenue down to Daniels Parkway, Palm Beach Boulevard, and Bonita Beach Road from US 41 to Imperial Parkway. The Pine Island event will be on June 26<sup>th</sup> while the dates for the other 3 events were not identified. The events will include public awareness, education and enforcement. The enforcement portion during the events will be just a warning but if they are caught doing it again a citation will be issued. A sign in sheet was passed around the room for agencies who wanted to participate in the awareness and education part of these events.

**AGENDA ITEM #5 – UPDATE ON THE BICYCLE DETECTION EFFORTS AT LEE COUNTY INTERSECTIONS AND A POLICY ON PEDESTRIAN RECALLS FOR PEDESTRIAN PUSHBUTTON SIGNALS**

Mr. Jansen stated that there is no feasible way to have a blanket policy on every intersection to be done in a certain way because they are all different with different land uses around them, road conditions, and traffic and pedestrian volumes. Every intersection has to be evaluated individually.

Mr. Moser asked for something in writing from LCDOT that says that the county actually evaluates intersections for automatic pedestrian recalls. A heavily used pedestrian corridor such as Cleveland Avenue may have automatic walk signals for crossing side streets at 6 intersections in a row but the next one does not, even if there are no cars on the side streets. This lack of consistency impacts bicyclists riding on sidewalks or side paths as they have to get down from their bikes and manually activate the pedestrian

signals. He would like to see this agenda item continued in the BPCC meetings until some action is taken by the County. Discussion ensued on the difficulty of collecting pedestrian counts that could provide data for identifying locations with high pedestrian volumes and developing a threshold for implementing automatic pedestrian recalls. Mr. Jansen stated that he would get in touch with FDOT to find out if they have a policy or process on pedestrian walk and recalls that could be implemented in Lee County.

**AGENDA ITEM #6 – DISCUSSION ON THE BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN ISSUES REPORTED IN 2014 CONGESTION SURVEY**

Mr. Getch explained the summary table of locations with pedestrian issues identified in the 2014 congestion reporting surveys, and how the county plans to address them. He stated that Alabama Road sidewalks could be a good project for MPO's Multi-modal box funds as it meets all the requirements. County staff will take this project to the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) for adding to its list of bike ped priorities. He discussed other locations in this table and stated that he would share the table with the staff comments and suggestions with the BPAC. Discussion ensued on the US 41 sidewalk north of Williams and the need for replacing it with a wider bicycle pedestrian facility. Mr. Moser suggested that the sidewalk should be replaced by a developer especially as the segment abuts prime land and that the same applies for the sidewalks on the south side of SR 82 west of Ortiz. Mr. Getch suggested that the BPCC should evaluate the projects on state highways identified in the MPO Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan.

**AGENDA ITEM #7 – REPORT ON THE FDOT CONDUCTED ROAD SAFETY AUDITS**

Mr. Raimondo reported that the Lee MPO worked with FDOT to conduct Pedestrian/Bicycle Road Safety Audits (RSA's) at the intersections of SR 78 and Santa Barbara Boulevard, SR 80 Palm Beach Blvd.) and Marsh Avenue, US 41 and Gladiolus/Six Mile Cypress Parkway, and Colonial Boulevard and Six Mile Cypress Parkway/Ortiz Avenue. The RSAs were conducted with participation by staff from FDOT, MPO, City of Fort Myers, LCDOT, LCSO, FMPD, and Lee Memorial Health System. The RSA was also attended by BikeWalkLee. FDOT is considering a pilot project to implement any recommendation that will come out from the RSA at the US 41 and Six Mile Cypress Parkway intersection. The findings from the RSAs will be included in a preliminary report that will be sent to the participants for review and comments.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**AGENDA ITEM #8 – STAFF UPDATE ON THE ONGOING PROJECTS AND BPCC INPUT**

Mr. Raimondo provided an update on the LCCSI Tiger grant implementation project. He also provided an update on the status of the bus pullout and bus queue jump studies. KOI was the top pick by the selection committee for both projects and staff was in contract negotiations with the consultant.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

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

None.

### **AGENDA ITEM #10 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPORTS**

None.

### **AGENDA ITEM #9 – LEETRAN REPORT**

Ms. Bielawska reported that the May ridership numbers declined by 6.67 % as compared to same month in 2013 but Passport numbers were up 4.5% from last year.

### **AGENDA ITEM #10 – FDOT REPORT**

None.

### **AGENDA ITEM #11 – ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

### **AGENDA ITEM #12 – INFORMATION AND DISTRIBUTION ITEMS**

None.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 P.M.