

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

Held on September 30, 2014

The meeting of the Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee was held on August 26, 2014 at the Fort Myers Regional Library, Room A, 1651 Lee Street, Fort Myers.

Those in attendance included:

Andy Getch	LCDOT
Anna Bielawska	LeeTran
Belinda Smith	Town of Fort Myers Beach
Dan Moser	Injury Prevention Council
Elisa Yanes	Lee County School District
Gary Gasperini	City of Cape Coral
Jason Lamey	Lee County Parks
Jeff Davis	City of Bonita Springs
Mark Tesoro	Lee Memorial Health System
Masood Mirza	City of Cape Coral
Ryan Shute	Member-At-Large
Simone Behr	Lee County Visitors Convention Bureau
Stacy Revay	Collier County Transportation Planning
Steve Avakian	City of Sanibel
Steve Chupack	Member At-Large
Steve Jansen	Lee County CTST

Others in attendance included Ron Gogoi and Don Scott with the Lee County MPO; D’Juan Harris with FDOT; Captain Conner Cardwell and Lieutenant Greg Bueno of the Florida Highway Patrol; Sergeant John Kulko of the Cape PD; and Melanie Payne with the News-Press; Michael Tisch with Atkins; Ned Baier with Jacobs; Tina Sujana and Isobel Hitchcock

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 AUGUST 26, 2014 BPCC MEETING MINUTES

MOTION BY MR. TESORO TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 26, 2014 BPCC MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY MS. BIELAWSKA. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #2– REVIEW AND COMMENT ON CAPE CORAL BIKE PED MASTER PLAN

Mr. Scott explained the background of the project and asked for comments from the committee. All bike ped needs along City, county and state owned facilities would be addressed between this proposed Master Plan and the MPO's Countywide Bike Ped Master Plan. The latter is going to be updated as part of the development of the 2040 LRTP. Mr. Getch suggested a coordination element with County and FDOT staff in the scope that would address operational decisions on Burnt Store Road, Veterans Parkway, and Pine Island Road regarding bike ped facilities and signage. He also suggested that new bicycle pedestrian treatments proposed as part of the Plan should be consistent with NACTO. Ms. Bielawska stated that the scope should call for coordination with LeeTran to address pedestrian connectivity to stop locations. They have problems with swales. She also stated that LeeTran is not authorized to install bus amenities and all such amenities are put in place by Metropolitan Advertising through an agreement with the City. So the scope should call out coordination between the City and Metropolitan Advertising during data collection and building GIS layers as part of the scope.

AGENDA ITEM #3 – REPORT ON BIKE PED EDUCATION AND AWARENESS ON CAPE

Committee member Steve Chupack discussed the recent bicycle fatality that occurred on Kismet Parkway involving a school student and provided the highlights of a meeting held after Labor Day that included bicycle advocacy groups and the City of Cape Coral officials to discuss safety in Cape Coral roadways. One of the outcomes of this meeting was that the Cape Police Department would submit a High Visibility Enforcement Grant application to FDOT for bicycle pedestrian education and enforcement.

AGENDA ITEM #4 – REPORT ON SECRETARY HATTAWAY'S PRESENTATION FROM SEPTEMBER MPO BOARD MEETING

Mr. Gogoi provided highlights of Secretary Hattaway's presentation from the September 19th MPO Board meeting. The presentation covered the statewide bicycle pedestrian safety initiative, the new FDOT complete streets policy, and the use of modern roundabouts.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – DISCUSSION ON IMPLEMENTATION OF WAYFINDING SIGNS

Committee member Dan Moser stated that currently there are some basic standard signage in parts of the county and some very specific signage like those on the University Loop and the Tour De Parks Route. Even the signage installed by Lee County is not complete as they are only on one side of the road. He felt that the different jurisdictions should get together and figure a way to fill the gaps so there are standard wayfinding signage in place that would guide cyclists to get around the county. Committee Chair Steve Jansen asked the committee members from the Cities of Fort Myers, Cape Coral and Bonita Springs and the Lee County DOT to bring up this issue at their bicycle pedestrian advisory committees meetings, and discuss design criteria and the resources to implement the signage.

AGENDA ITEM #6 – DISCUSSION ON SHARROW USE ON CONSTRAINED ROADWAYS IN LEE COUNTY

Committee member Dan Moser initiated a discussion on use of sharrows on constrained roadways in Lee County, and development of criteria that determines their use on such roadways. He stated candidate roadways could be the two lane roadways in the City of Fort Myers section of McGregor Boulevard north of Colonial, Michigan Avenue, and West First Street. He also suggested that the two lane section between Colonial and College Parkway could be a good candidate as well if the current posted speed limits are brought down to 35 mph. He stated that he is trying to push this through with the City of Fort Myers, and that the City of Cape Coral and the County could also look into this into their own roadways within their jurisdictions. Committee Chair Steve Jansen pointed out the treatment was not really a cheap fix and that it costs \$250 to \$300 to instal a sharrow, and that they have to be accommodated in a spacing of 250 feet, so going for a 20 mile long section could become expensive, but not as expensive as installing bike lanes.

AGENDA ITEM #7 – UPDATES ON THE POLICY FOR PEDESTRIAN RECALLS ON PEDESTRIAN PUSHBUTTON SIGNALS

Discussion ensued on the need for a pedestrian recall, automatic walk signal, vs. a need for a manually activated pushbutton signal to cross side streets in downtown Fort Myers and Cape Coral. Committee Chair Steve Jansen stated that the county is contracted by the municipalities to manage their traffic signals, and that he would work with Marinko Gnjudic with the City of Fort Myers, Masood Mirza with the City of Cape Coral, and Jeff Davis with the City of Bonita Springs (as they have 2 signals that would qualify) to how and when to do these pedestrian recalls.

OLD BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #8 – STAFF UPDATE ON ONGOING PROJECTS

Mr. Scott provided updates to the TIGER funded Lee County Complete Streets Initiative and updates on bicycle pedestrian statistics on injuries and fatalities. Mr. Gogoi provided updates on the Bus Queue Jump and Bus Pullout studies.

OTHER BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #8 – PUBLIC AND MEMBER COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None.

AGENDA ITEM #9 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPORTS

Mr. Avakian reported on the State DEP grant for Bowman’s Beach that was awarded to the City of Sanibel.

AGENDA ITEM #10 – LEETRAN REPORT

Ms. Bielawska announced that LeeTran held its 6th Annual Food Drive on September 21st and they collected a record breaking 178,200 lbs. of food for Harry Chapin Food Bank of Southwest Florida. She also reported that starting October 1st LeeTran will be restoring the services that were cut as part of last year's budget.

Mr. Getch reported that the Lee County Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee will be updating its bicycle pedestrian priority list, and that the committee still has a couple of vacancies.

Ms. Behr reported that there were 430 nominees for the 2014 E Awards and there were 26 winners. Ms. Carolyn Conant of Cape Coral Bike Ped was one of the winners.

Captain Cardwell reported that FHP conducted a successful Pedestrian detail at Fort Myers Beach on September 24th.

AGENDA ITEM #11 – FDOT REPORT

Mr. Harris reported that FDOT distributed bike lights to Cape PD.

AGENDA ITEM #12 – ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Moser announced that Gil Pandalosa, the founder of the international Ciclovía movement, will be the keynote speaker at the FPTA annual conference being held in Naples on October 28th. The speech would commence at 11:30 AM. At Mr. Moser's request the BPCC meeting scheduled to be held at 10 AM on the same day was moved to 8:30 AM so that committee members could attend the keynote speech.

AGENDA ITEM #13 – INFORMATION AND DISTRIBUTION ITEMS

None.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 P.M.