



JOINT COLLIER MPO PATHWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND LEE COUNTY MPO BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING

Council Chambers, Bonita Springs City Hall
9101 Bonita Beach Road
Bonita Springs, Florida 33928

**February 27, 2015
10:00 a.m.**

All meetings of the Joint Lee County and Collier County Pathways Advisory Committees are open to the public and citizen input is encouraged. Any person wishing to speak on any scheduled item may do so upon recognition by the Chairperson. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting should contact **Mr. Johnny Limbaugh at the Lee County MPO** at (239) 330-2239; or **Ms. Lorraine Lantz at the Collier County MPO** at (239) 252-5779, 48 hours prior to the meeting; if you are hearing or speech impaired, call (800) 955-8770 Voice (800) 955-8771 TDD. Or, e-mail jlimbaugh@leempo.com or LorraineLantz@colliergov.net.

The MPO's planning process is conducted in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Related Statutes. Any person or beneficiary who believes that within the MPO's planning process they have been discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, or familial status may file a complaint with either the Lee County MPO Title VI Coordinator Johnny Limbaugh at (239) 330-2242 or by writing Mr. Limbaugh at P.O. Box 150045, Cape Coral, Florida 33915-0045 or the Collier MPO Title VI Specialist Lorraine Lantz at (239) 252-8192 or by writing Ms. Lantz at 2885 South Horseshoe Dr., Naples, Florida 34104.

Any person who decides to appeal a decision of this committee will need a record of the proceedings pertaining thereto, and therefore may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

- 1. Call to Order/Roll Call**
- 2. Election of a Chairperson**
- 3. Public Comments**
- 4. Approval of Agenda**
- 5. Action Items**
 - A. Approval of Proposed Changes to the Southwest Coast Connector
 - B. MPO Recommendation of Joint Regional Pathway Priorities
- 6. Reports and Presentations**
 - A. Presentation on the Blue Zones Project (Mark Tesoro)
 - B. Overview of Safety Project Criteria (FDOT)
 - C. Presentation on the Bonita Springs Downtown Improvement Project (Matt Feeney)
 - D. Update on the Vanderbilt Drive Greenway
- 7. Florida Department of Transportation**
- 8. Transit Update**
- 9. Members' Comments**
- 10. Information Items**
- 11. Adjournment of Meeting**

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE SOUTHWEST COAST CONNECTOR

RECOMMENDED ACTION: (1) Review and recommend Joint MPO approval of the **attached** changes to the Lee and Collier portion of the Southwest Coast Connector identified in the *Priority Trails Map* of the Florida Greenways and Trails System Plan.
(2) Also, recommend approval of a proposed new Rural Connector in the **attached** Priority Trails Map connecting Lee and Collier counties.

The Lee County and Collier MPO's Southwest Coast Connector (SW2C) Working Group met on January 30th to review and evaluate the Lee and Collier portion of the proposed Southwest Coast Connector identified in the *Priority Trails Map* of the Florida Greenways and Trails System (FGTS) Plan. The *Priority Trails Map* include those high priority trails of statewide and regional significance from the *Land Trails Opportunity Map*. Both maps are part of FGTS Plan.

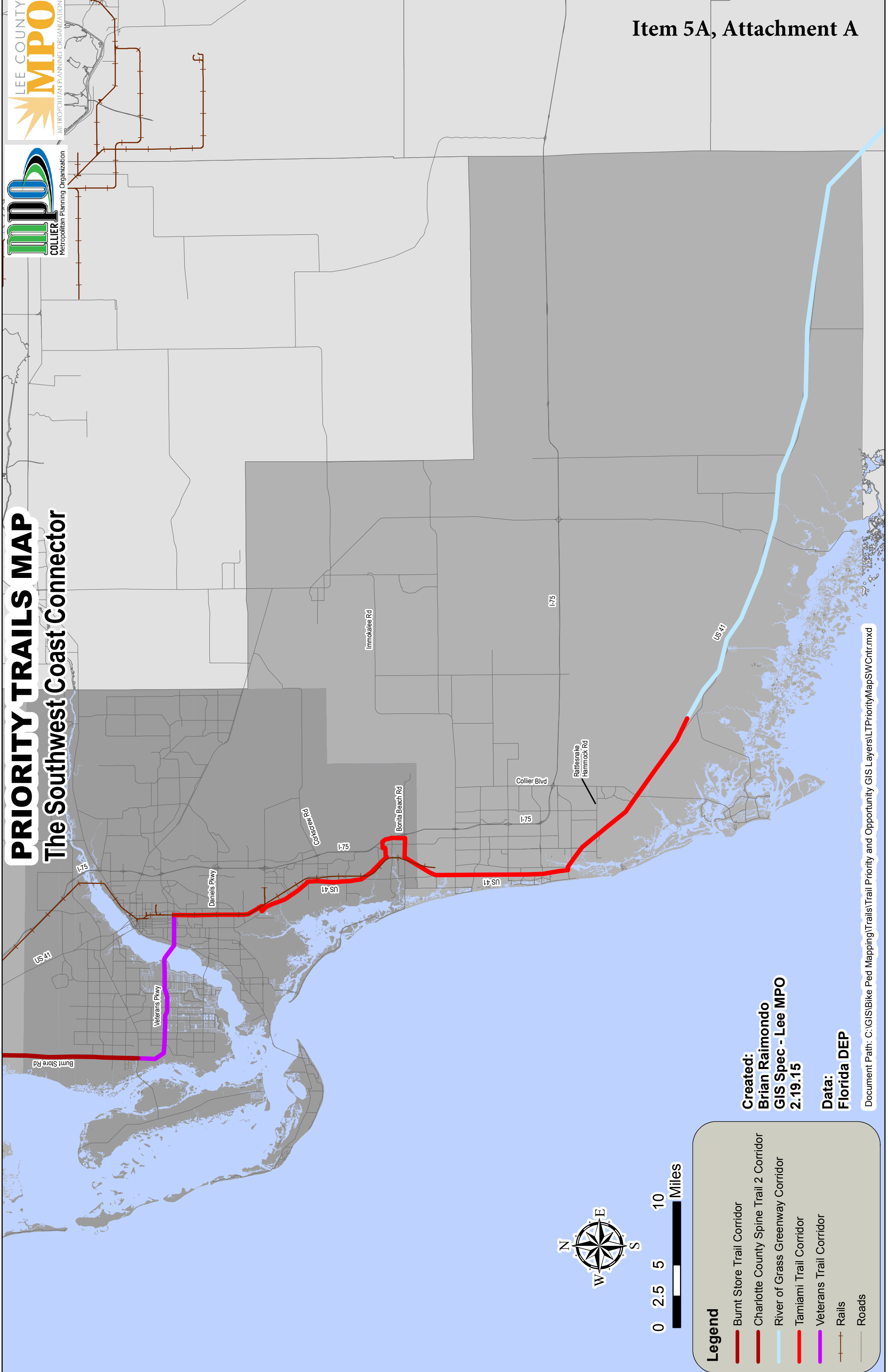
In addition to the proposed changes to the SW2C, the Working Group also felt that there was a need to show a separate trail in the Priority Trails Map that connects both counties and that traverses through the rural areas in Collier, Hendry and Lee Counties. This trail, identified in the Lee and Collier Regional Pathways Map, have sections which already have existing or programmed pathways. MPO staff is calling this new trail simply the Rural Connector which will hook up with the SW2C in Lee County. The proposals of the Working Group were presented for comments to the Lee MPO's TAC and CAC at their February 5th meetings, and the Collier MPO's PAC at its February 17th meeting.

The proposed changes will have to be submitted to the Office of Greenways and Trail (OGT) by April 30th so that they can be considered during the update to the FGTS Plan currently under way.

Attachment A shows the Southwest Coast Connector as currently proposed in the *Priority Trails Map*, and **Attachment B** shows all the changes that were proposed by the SW2C Working Group at its January 30th meeting.

PRIORITY TRAILS MAP

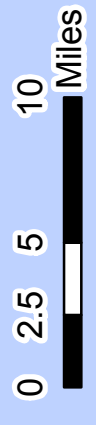
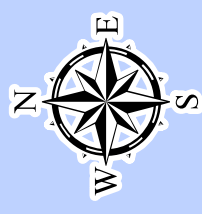
The Southwest Coast Connector



Created:
Brian Raimondo
GIS Spec - Lee MPO
2.19.15

Data:
Florida DEP

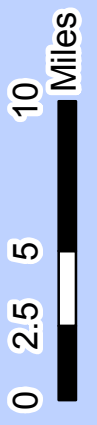
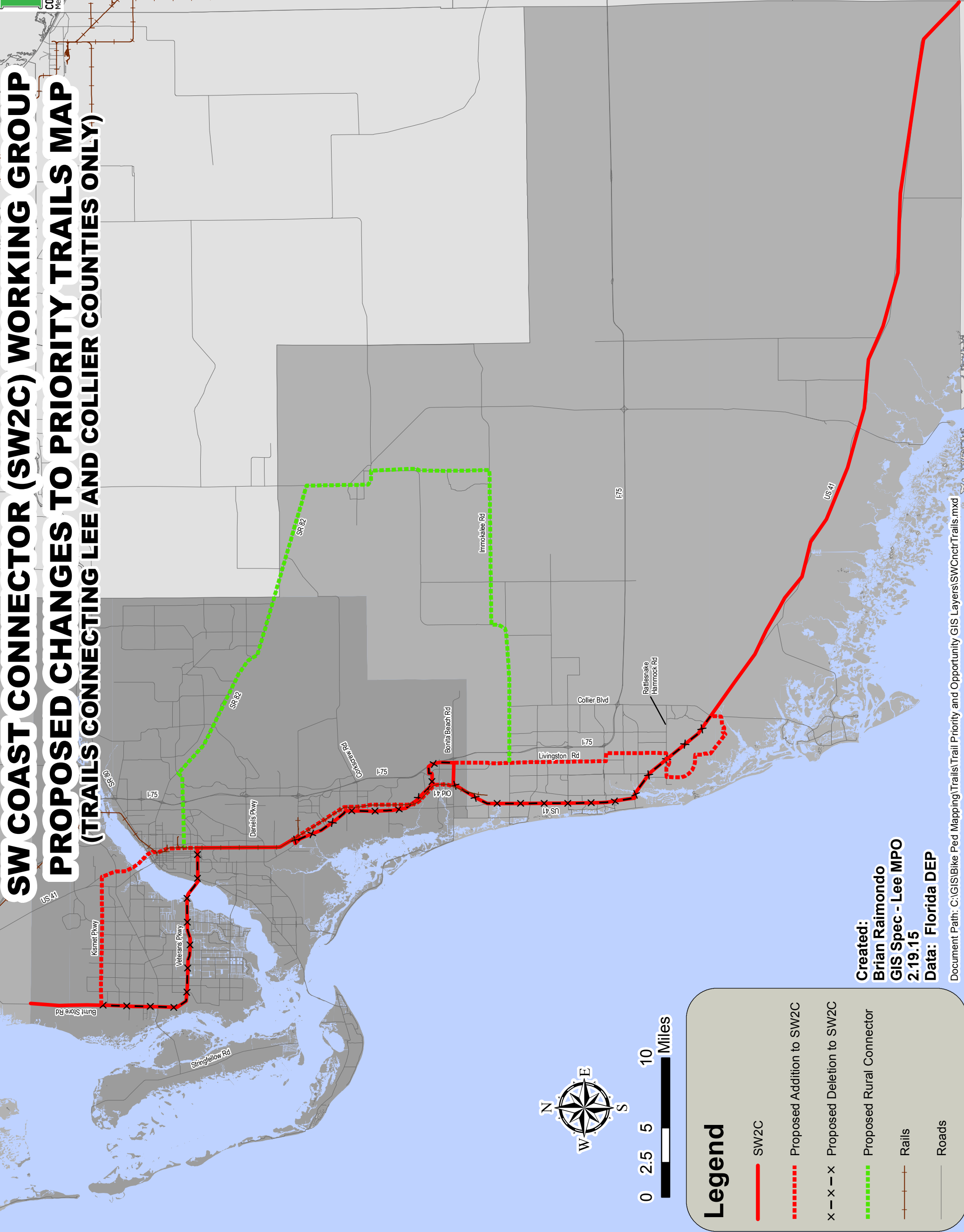
Document Path: C:\GIS\Bike Ped Mapping\Trails\Trail Priority and Opportunity GIS Layers\LPriorityMapSWCntr.mxd



Legend

- Burnt Store Trail Corridor
- Charlotte County Spine Trail 2 Corridor
- River of Grass Greenway Corridor
- Tamiami Trail Corridor
- Veterans Trail Corridor
- Rails
- Roads

**SW COAST CONNECTOR (SW2C) WORKING GROUP
PROPOSED CHANGES TO PRIORITY TRAILS MAP
(TRAILS CONNECTING LEE AND COLLIER COUNTIES ONLY)**



Legend

- SW2C
- - - Proposed Addition to SW2C
- - x - - Proposed Deletion to SW2C
- - - Proposed Rural Connector
- x - Rails
- Roads

Created:
Brian Raimondo
GIS Spec - Lee MPO
2.19.15
Data: Florida DEP

MPO RECOMMENDATION OF JOINT REGIONAL PATHWAY PRIORITIES

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Recommend that the Lee County and Collier MPO Boards approve the Old 41 Shared Use Path proposal for District One TA funds.

Last year, the Lee and Collier MPO had submitted two regional pathway priorities (adopted jointly by MPOs with regional coordination agreements) for funding through the District's allocation of Transportation Alternative (TA) - *Any Area* funds. However, only one project was funded and it was not through the District One TA funds, but through SU funds specifically allocated to Lee MPO annually. The unfunded project from last year is as follows:

- \$1,694,310 for the design and construction of a 10' wide shared use path on the west side of Old 41 from US 41 in Collier County to Bonita Beach Road in Lee County (Project Sponsor: *City of Bonita Springs and Collier County BCC Transportation Planning Division*)

This project is identified in the Lee-Collier Joint Regional Pathway Network, a requirement for any bicycle pedestrian project that is considered for discretionary funding and submitted jointly by the Lee and Collier MPOs as a regional project. Since only one project is being submitted for funding, assignment of project priorities are not warranted. The BPC and PAC are being asked simply to recommend that the two MPOs jointly endorse the project for FDOT consideration (of District One TA – *Any Area* funds) during the development of the new Work Program. The project application describing the proposal in detail is in **Attachment B**. **Attachment A** includes the MPO responses to FDOT questions from the submittal of this application last year regarding implementation of the pathway. The MPO responses hold good this year as well.

ATTACHMENT A

MPO RESPONSE TO FDOT QUESTIONS

Please note that FDOT had asked specific questions about the implementation of this project when the application was submitted last year. The questions and the MPO responses from last year are below, and the answers still hold good this year as well.

FDOT: Old US 41 from Bonita Beach Road to US 41 10' shared use path on west side - How does this fit in with the programmed PD&E Study? Need signatures from those that would be responsible for maintenance in both Lee and Collier. Please address how the project will cross the railroad track. The south end of the project is constrained with guardrail and mid-block crossing Old 41 near the curve would be a safety concern. Please explain your proposed solution for this portion of the shared use path. Need to provide a detailed cost estimate.

MPO RESPONSE:

- **PD&E Study is programmed 4 years out and will probably take another 5 years to complete. Construction is not expected to commence until at least another 5 years after that, so 15 to 20 years before we can see any construction on that project. As such it is critical to enhance safety for pedestrians and cyclists on this two lane collector road where high number of crashes have been recorded by building a shared use path.**
- **MPO staff has obtained appropriate signatures from City of Bonita Springs, and Collier Growth Management Division as the Co-Applicants, the City of Bonita Springs and the Collier County Growth Management Division as Co-Maintaining Agencies. Signatures from representatives of the two MPOs have been also provided. The signed signature pages are attached.**
- **Detailed cost estimates for the Bonita portion from Bonita Beach Road to Collier County line and the Collier portion from US 41 to Lee County line are individually attached. The total cost estimate for both portions is (\$883,151.17+\$779,077.43) = \$1,662,228.60**
- **The proposed solution to address constraints at the south end would be a midblock crossing with safety features (Rapid Flashing Beacon and signs) south of Monticello Road where the existing sidewalk on the west side terminates and turns at a right angle towards Old 41. At**

this midblock crossing the proposed shared use path on the west side will tie with the existing sidewalk on the east side of the road.

- As part of this project the existing sidewalk on the east side of Old 41 where the proposed shared use path will tie in shall be widened to 10’.
- Regarding the railroad crossing, the City of Bonita Springs has a General Agreement for Public Road Crossings with Seminole Gulf that permits the City to maintain, widen and improve the crossings. Old 41 is listed as one of these crossings under Exhibit “A”. See attached. The MPO’s proposal is that FDOT build the pathway and stop at the railroad right of way line on either side of the tracks, and the City of Bonita Springs will fill the gap across the railroad tracks on the backs of its Public Crossing Agreement with SGLR, or through a new license agreement between the City and the railroad. If the pathway project is programmed by FDOT in its new Tentative Work Program, the City will commence their construction before or after FDOT does, and fill the pathway gap between the railroad right of way lines. The City will use its own funds to pay for construction and any railroad crossing fee.
- This is a project with widespread support from the respective bike ped committees of the two MPOs as well as public support. There have been a few crashes along this roadway segment and a shared use pathway will enhance safety for cyclists and pedestrians.
- The City will be responsible as to how it will design the pathway at the crossing, and will probably use standard crossing surface.

ATTACHMENT B - PROJECT APPLICATION

Project Information

1. Project Category (Choose at least one): M/TPO Box Transportation Alternatives Other (If other, please indicate funding source being sought. Note that the applicant is applying for District 1 TA regional enhancement funds)

2. Project Name (Street Name): Old 41 South: 10 FT Shared Use Path

3. Project Limits (From & To) (if not at an intersection, use logical termini): From the Intersection of Old US 41 & Bonita Beach Road to intersection of Old US 41 and US 41 (Tamiami Trail) in Collier County.

4. ***Detailed*** project description including but not limited to lane width; design – rural or curb & gutter; shoulder width, paved or grass; signals; median width, painted, grass or raised, etc.
 - a. Existing Conditions including any construction obstacles (**provide labeled and dated pictures**):
 Old 41 south of Bonita Beach Road is a two lane road with no curblines and wide drainage swales on either side of the roadway. There is a 0.36 mile long existing sidewalk on the east side of Old 41 from US 41 to Monticello Road, and further north there is a 0.11 mile long existing sidewalk in the proximity of Collier Center Way, all within Collier County. In the Lee County portion there is a 0.12 mile long existing sidewalk on the west side by Performance Way.
 - b. Proposed Improvements (including how you will address any construction obstacles):
 The applicant proposes to construct a 10FT wide shared use path on the western side of the roadway utilizing 5X8 Box Culvert to cover a northern portion of the ditch in Lee County where ROW is constrained. There are a few other locations with drainage issues/ROW constraints in the Collier County portion where the proposed width of the shared use path may have to be reduced, or other strategies have to be figured out to accommodate a 8 or 10' wide path.

5. Cost Estimate by Phase:

	Planning Study	PD&E	Design (PE)	ROW	Construction	CEI
Cost Estimate (Present Day Cost)			\$195,497		\$1,303,315	\$195,497
Fiscal Year Funding Available			FY 2018/19		FY 2018/19	
Phase Status	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Started <input type="checkbox"/> 30% <input type="checkbox"/> 60% <input type="checkbox"/> 90% <input type="checkbox"/> Complete <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Started <input type="checkbox"/> 30% <input type="checkbox"/> 60% <input type="checkbox"/> 90% <input type="checkbox"/> Complete <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Started <input type="checkbox"/> 30% <input type="checkbox"/> 60% <input type="checkbox"/> 90% <input type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Started <input type="checkbox"/> 30% <input type="checkbox"/> 60% <input type="checkbox"/> 90% <input type="checkbox"/> Complete <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Started <input type="checkbox"/> 30% <input type="checkbox"/> 60% <input type="checkbox"/> 90% <input type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Started <input type="checkbox"/> 30% <input type="checkbox"/> 60% <input type="checkbox"/> 90% <input type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Funding Type (Local, State or Federal)	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local

6. Date project was endorsed by local jurisdictional board/council. Provide meeting minutes: City of Bonita Springs Budget Workshop: 7/17/12

7. Is the project, as described above, included in the Metropolitan/Transportation Planning Organization's (M/TPO) Financially Feasible Long Range Transportation Plan:
 Yes No N/A If yes, provide page #: _____ If N/A, provide explanation: The bicycle pedestrian facility gap on Old 41 is identified in the Secondary Network of the Lee MPO Bike Ped Master Plan. While the project is not exclusively identified in the Prioritized Needs Plan there is language in the Master Plan on Page 80 which clearly says any facility need identified as part of the Secondary Network Needs Map can be 'bumped' up and included in the Prioritized Needs Plan.
If no, the project cannot be considered at this time.
8. Is the project in the local jurisdictions adopted Capital Improvement Plan: Yes No If yes, provide a copy.
9. Is the applicant LAP certified? Yes No If yes, is the applicant interested in completing this project via the LAP? The City of Bonita Springs is not LAP certified but Collier County Transportation is. The applicants would like FDOT to manage and complete the project.

Constructability Review: (For items 3-8 provide labeled & dated photos)

1. Are there any other projects programmed (local, state or federal) that overlap the project limits? Yes No If yes, provide details, including but not limited to, project scope and schedule.
2. Does the applicant have an adopted ADA transition plan? Yes No
3. Identify areas within the project limits that will require ADA retrofit.
4. Bus Stops/Shelters/Benches: (Number, type, etc.) There is no LeeTran or CAT Bus Route along this route.
5. Drainage Structures: (Number of Culverts or Pipes currently in place; type, replace, extend, etc. How do you intend to accommodate existing drainage?) Box Culvert areas where ROW is too narrow to accommodate path and open swale system. Does this project fall within an area covered by a stormwater master plan? Yes No If yes, provide a copy of the plan.
6. Any excavation greater than one foot below land surface? Yes No If yes, provide locations.
7. Utilities: Yes No If yes, list specific utilities within project limits and any conflicts. BSU Waterlines
8. Bridges within project limits: Yes No If yes, can the existing bridge accommodate the proposed improvements? Yes No
9. Right-of-way (Existing Width) See letter E under "Required Documentation": 100'
10. Additional Right-of-way/Easement Required: Yes No **If yes, the project is not eligible at this time.** If right-of-way was previously acquired, please provide documentation supporting process consistent with 49 CFR Part 24 was followed.
11. Is there a railroad within the project limits: Yes No **If yes, the project cannot be considered.**

For items 12-18, if the answer is yes, please provide additional details including the method by which the information was obtained. If the answer is no, please note how this conclusion was drawn. You may want to visit <https://etdmpub.fla-etat.org/est/> for additional resources.

12. Are there any permits required: Yes No Rail Road and City ROW Permits
13. Are there any wetlands within the project limits: Yes No
14. Is there any critical habitat within the project limits: Yes No
15. Are there any endangered species within the project limits: Yes No
16. Is a historic survey required: Yes No
17. Is Recreation or 4(f) property within/adjacent to the project limits? Yes No
18. Are there any contamination areas within the project limits: Yes No

19. Additional Information: Collier County residents use this corridor heavily to commute to work in Bonta Springs

Required Attachment Checklist:

- A - Project Location Map
- B - Dated & Labeled Pictures of the project
- C - Detailed Cost Estimate including pay items
- D - Local Capital Improvement Program (if applicable)
- E - Survey/As-builts/ROW documentation (provide enough detail to show that adequate right-of-way exists for the proposed improvement)
- F - Project Acquisition Process (if applicable)
- G - Meeting Minutes (if applicable)

Certification

Name of Applying Agency: City of Bonita Springs and Collier County Growth Management Division

Contact Person (Name & Title): Matt Feeney Public Works Director

Email: matt.feeney@cityofbonitasprings.org

Phone: 239-949-6246

Mailing Address: 9101 Bonita Beach Road
Bonita Springs, FL 34135

Contact Person: Stacy Revay,

Transportation Planning Project Manager

Email: StacyRevay@colliergov.com

Phone: 239 252 5677 Mailing Address: 2800

Horseshoe Drive, Naples, FL 34104

Your signature indicates that the information included with this application is accurate.

Signature:

Date:

Signature: 

Date 2/6/2015

Name of Maintaining Agency: City of Bonita Springs and Collier County Growth Management Division

Contact Person (Name & Title): Matt Feeney, Public Works Director

Email: matt.feeney@cityofbonitasprings.org

Phone: 239 -949-6246

Mailing Address: 9101 Bonita Beach Road
Bonita Springs, FL 34135

Contact Person: John Vliet, Director of Road
and Maintenance

Email: JohnVliet@colliergov.net

Phone: 239 252 8192

2885 South Horseshoe Drive, Naples, FL

Your signature indicates your concurrence with the information provided within this application and your agency's willingness to allow this improvement within your right-of-way and enter into the appropriate Local Agency Program (LAP) or maintenance agreement as applicable.

Signature:

Date:

Signature: 

Date 2/10/2015

If the project is located within a M/TPO area, a M/TPO representative must fill in the required information below:

[Empty box for M/TPO representative information]

Email: rgogoi@leempo.com
Phone: 239 330 2239
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 150045, Cape Coral, FL 33915

Email: LAyer@colliergov.net
Phone: 239 252 5884
Mailing Address: 2885 S. Horseshoe Drive
Naples, FL 34104

Your signature indicates the MPO has reviewed the application for consistently with all applicable adopted plans as well as program requirements.

Signature:

Date:

Signature:

Date:

For FDOT Use Only:

Application Complete Yes No

Project Eligible Yes No

Implementation Feasible Yes No

Recommend Programming Yes No

Liaison _____

LAP Coordinator _____

Production Staff _____

SWAO Director (if applicable) _____

Director of Production _____

Acronyms

ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act

CEI – Construction Engineering and Inspection

CFR – Code of Federal Regulations

LAP – Local Agency Program

M/TPO – Metropolitan/Transportation Planning Organization

PD&E – Project Development and Environment

PE – Preliminary Engineering

ROW – Right-of-Way

Resources

Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Manual

<http://www.dot.state.fl.us/emo/pubs/pdeman/pdeman1.shtm>

Local Agency Program (LAP) Manual

http://www.dot.state.fl.us/projectmanagementoffice/LAP/LAP_TOC.shtm

Email: rgogoi@leempo.com
Phone: 239 330 2239
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 150045, Cape Coral, FL 33915

Your signature indicates the MPO has reviewed the application for consistently with all applicable adopted plans as well as program requirements.

Signature: _____ **Date:** 1/31/2014

For FDOT Use Only:

Application Complete *Yes* *No*

Project Eligible *Yes* *No*

Implementation Feasible *Yes* *No*

Recommend Programming *Yes* *No*

Liaison _____

LAP Coordinator _____

Production Staff _____

SWAO Director (if applicable) _____

Director of Production _____

Acronyms

- ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act
- CEI – Construction Engineering and Inspection
- CFR – Code of Federal Regulations
- LAP – Local Agency Program
- M/TPO – Metropolitan/Transportation Planning Organization
- PD&E – Project Development and Environment
- PE – Preliminary Engineering
- ROW – Right-of-Way

Resources

Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Manual

<http://www.dot.state.fl.us/emo/pubs/pdeman/pdeman1.shtm>

Local Agency Program (LAP) Manual

http://www.dot.state.fl.us/projectmanagementoffice/LAP/LAP_TOC.shtm

APPLICATION FOR REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS

Project Title: Old 41 South : 10 FT Shared Use Path

Regional Entity: City of Bonita Springs and Collier County Transportation

Contact Name: Matt Feeney

Phone: 239-949-6246

Project Description (must include location map):

From: Bonita Beach Rd **To:** US 41 in Collier County

Length: 2.72 Miles **Width:** 10 Feet **Surface Type:** Asphalt

Funding requested: District 1 TMA Funds for Regional Enhancement

Describe the proposed project's existing right of way ownership:

The City of Bonita Springs owns an approximate 100 FT ROW along Old US 41 from the intersection with Bonita Beach Road southward to the Collier County Line, while Collier County owns an approximate 150' ROW south of the Lee/Collier line to Tamiami Trail (US 41).

Describe any proposed right of way acquisition:

None

Describe any completed work phases:

None

Address the proposed projects connectivity items below:

1. Connects two or more existing major activity centers/attractors

Yes, the proposed shared use path will provide bicycle pedestrian access for Collier County residents living off Old 41 to Downtown Bonita with its many attractions and activity centers. Aside from the restaurants, boutiques, and government offices, Downtown Bonita includes the Bonita Springs Community Center, Bonita Springs Old Depot Park by the Seminole Gulf Railroad, and the Bonita Park.

2. Traverses more than one county

Yes the Trail and the proposed shared use path will traverse Lee and Collier counties.

3. Connects to or will connect with the statewide or existing regional trail

Yes, the proposed shared use path is part of the Tamiami Trail Corridor identified in the Florida Greenways & Trails System Plan, and will connect to existing sidewalks on Bonita Beach Road which is also in the Tamiami Trail Corridor and the Estero Bonita Trail Corridor also identified in the Florida Greenways & Trails System Plan. See Map Attachment of Greenways and Trails System Plan.

Address the proposed projects significance items below:

1. Included in the Office of Greenways and Trails regional or statewide systems

Yes, the proposed shared use path is along the Tamiami Trail Corridor which is a regional trail identified in the Office of Greenways and Trails System Plan.

2. Currently designated a regional trail by a regional entity

The Tamiami Trail Corridor along Old 41 is included in the Collier-Lee Bi-County Regional Transportation Network – “Pathways Component” – adopted by both the Lee County and Collier MPOs.

3. Included in the National trail system

No

Address the proposed projects significance item below:

1. Provides exposure for users to significant ecological/environmental resources

No

2. Part of an economic development initiative at county or regional level

While it is not yet part of a city economic development initiative, construction of the shared used path does have some potential to increase business activity in downtown Bonita as the City continues to develop the downtown.

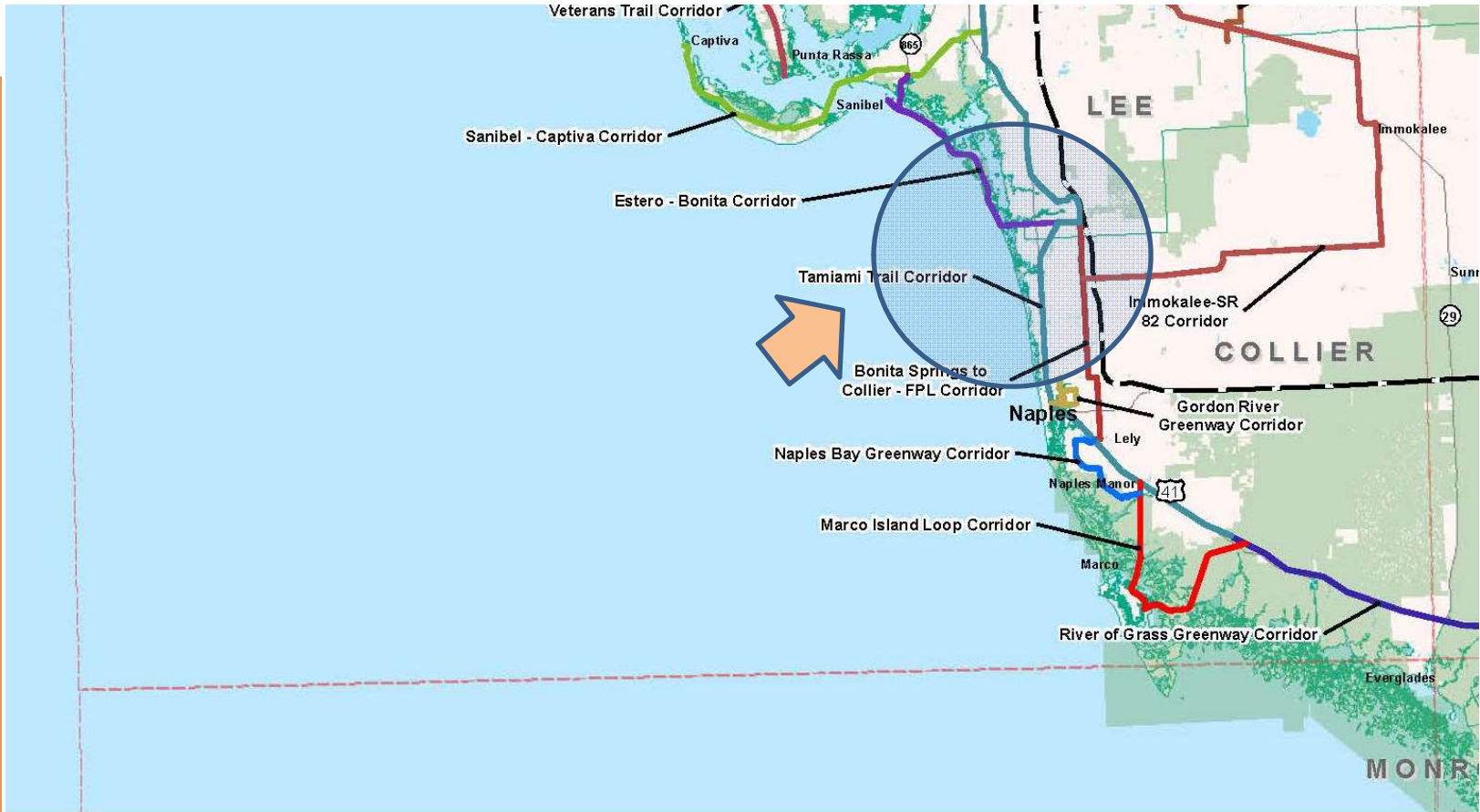
3. Promotes use of non motorized modes of travel for non recreational trips

The pathway is expected to be used for both recreational and utilitarian trips. The facility will enable Collier County residents living off Old 41 to commute to work in Downtown Bonita by walking and cycling. Since the roadway intersects with US 41 in Collier County which has a transit service operated by LeeTran, bicyclists riding from Bonita can commute even longer distances by hopping a ride in a LINC bus and transferring to a Collier Area Transit bus to reach their places of work in Collier County.

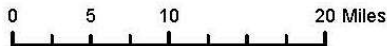
Additional project information:

The Old 41 corridor is already being used heavily by pedestrians and bicyclists. The current road configuration brings pedestrians and bicyclists into danger, as the roadway's shoulder is limited and traffic volumes are high. The shared use path will enable people living in Collier County and Bonita Springs to be able to commute to work along the Old 41 corridor either by walking or biking.

CONSISTENCY OF PROPOSED SHARED USE PATH/TRAIL IN
OGT GREENWAYS AND TRAILS SYSTEM PLAN



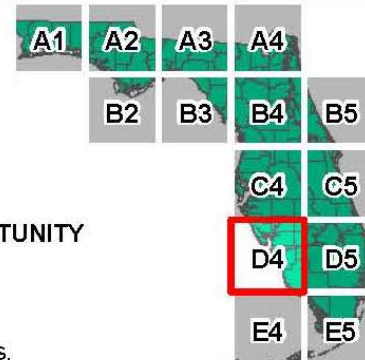
Florida
Greenways & Trails
System
Plan



* 2012 LAND TRAILS OPPORTUNITY



FLORIDA NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL OPPORTUNITY

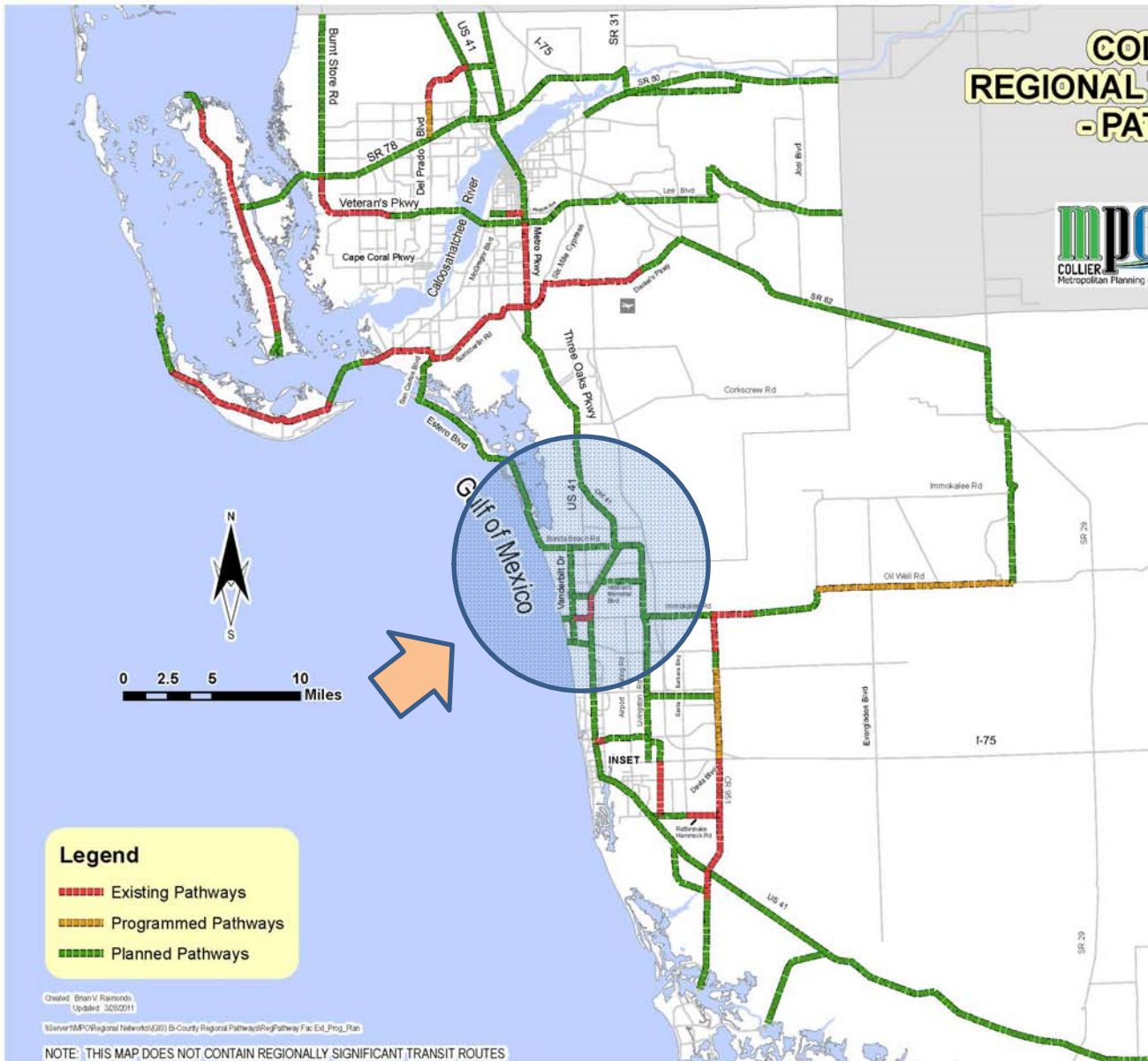
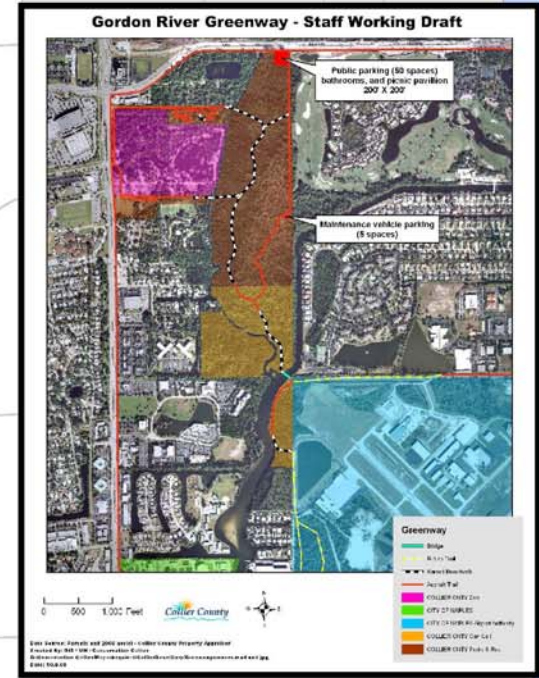


* The different colors of the Land Trails represent the beginning and ending points of individual corridors.

COLLIER-LEE BI-COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION NETWORK - PATHWAYS COMPONENT - Adopted: 3/18/11



INSET



CONSISTENCY OF PROPOSED SHARED USE PATH/TRAIL IN REGIONAL AGENCY PLANS

PROJECT LOCATION AND IMPROVEMENTS



Proposed SUP

Existing SW



BONITA (LEE COUNTY) PORTION OF IMPROVEMENTS



Old 41 Shared Use Path

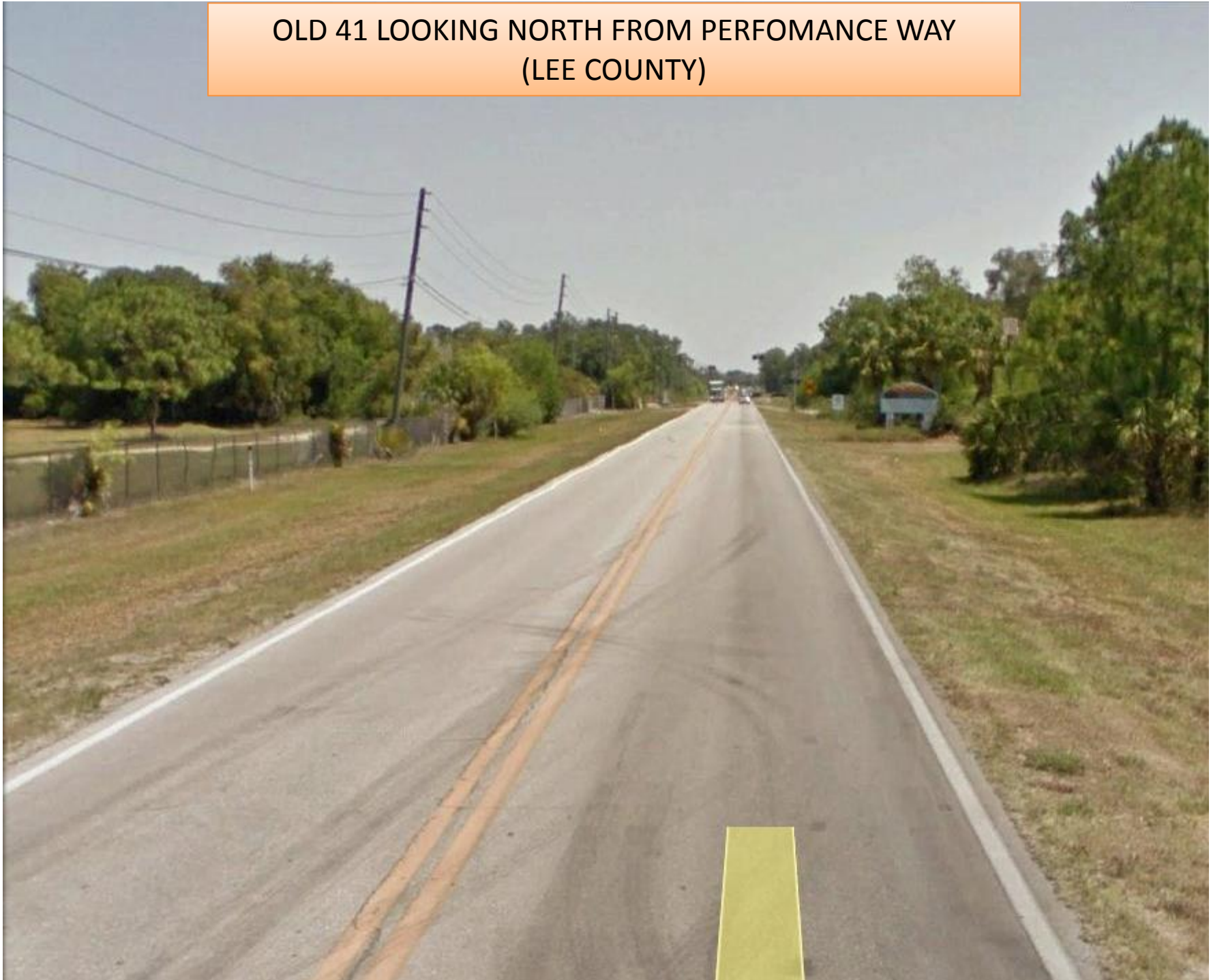
- 5 X 8 Box Culvert
- Old_41_Bike_Path

OLD 41 LOOKING NORTH – SOUTH OF BONITA BEACH
ROAD (LEE COUNTY)



Location of proposed
box culvert

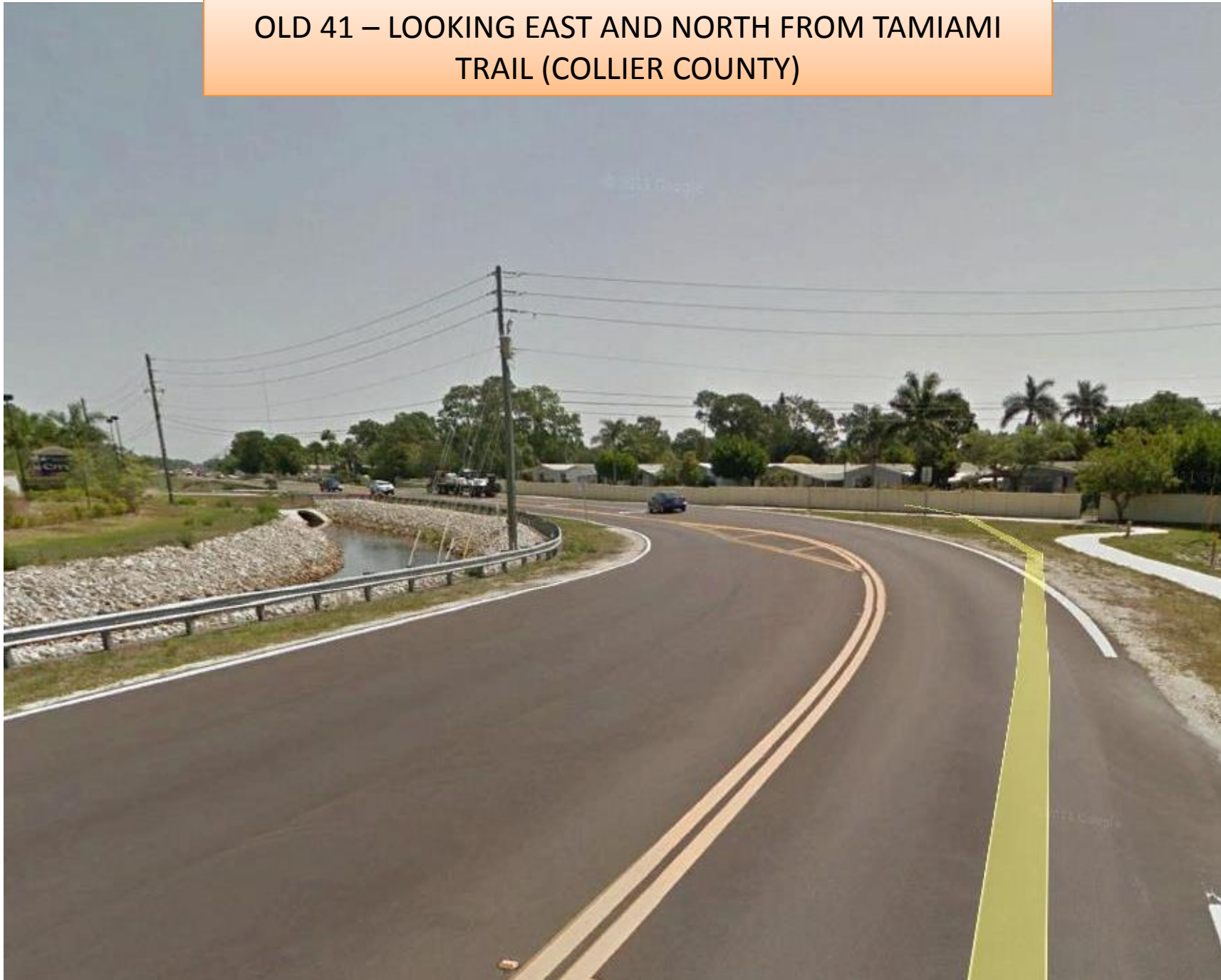
OLD 41 LOOKING NORTH FROM PERFORMANCE WAY
(LEE COUNTY)



OLD 41 – NORTH OF NIAGARA LANE (COLLIER COUNTY)



OLD 41 – LOOKING EAST AND NORTH FROM TAMIAMI
TRAIL (COLLIER COUNTY)



OLD 41 – EAST OF TAMIAMI TRAIL (COLLIER COUNTY)



COST ESTIMATE FOR SHARED USE PATH ON OLD 41 ROAD FROM US 41(COLLIER COUNTY TO BONITA BEACH ROAD)

Rural Cross Section	Cost Per LF	CST	MOT	Mobilization	Subtotal	Scope Contingency (25%)	Total CST Cost	PE Design (15%)	CEI (15%)	Total Project Cost
Add 14,361.6 Ft (2.72 Miles) Shared Use Path on south side	\$60	\$861,696	\$86,170	\$94,786.56	\$1,042,652	\$260,663	\$1,303,315	\$195,497	\$195,497	\$1,694,310

PRESENTATION ON THE BLUE ZONES PROJECT

RECOMMENDED ACTION: This is not an action item. NCH Healthcare System will present an overview of the Blue Zones Project that was launched last year in Collier and South Lee Counties.

Wiki defines "[blue zones](#)," as a term for the regions on Earth with the longest life expectancy, disability-free life expectancy or concentration of persons over 100. An eight year long global longevity study of several such blue zones by a team of researchers, followed by a National Geographic article by Dan Buettner in 2005 highlighting the results of the study, and his subsequent Blue Zones book led to the development of the Blue Zones Program. Blue Zones Project is a community well-being improvement initiative to help improve the well-being and longevity of people in communities across the US. Blue Zones Project encourages changes to our surroundings and built-environment leading to healthier options.

A Blue Zones Project was launched in Collier and South Lee Counties in October 2014 spearheaded by NCH Healthcare System. Dr. Allen Weiss, President and CEO of NCH Healthcare System will give an overview of the Blue Zones Project at the February 27th joint BPCC/PAC meeting.

OVERVIEW OF SAFETY PROJECT CRITERIA

RECOMMENDED ACTION: This is not an action item. FDOT will be presenting an overview of FDOT's Highway Safety Program for informational and discussion purposes.

FDOT District One will be providing an overview of its highway safety program at the request of the Lee County MPO. The overview is expected to address questions on how safety projects are identified and funded in FDOT's Work Program.

PRESENTATION ON THE BONITA SPRINGS DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

RECOMMENDED ACTION: This is not an action item. The City of Bonita Springs will provide a presentation on the proposed design improvements planned for the Old 41 corridor in downtown Bonita.

The City has committed \$16 million towards a downtown improvement project along Old 41 from Terry Street south to the Oak Creek Bridge. Improvements include sidewalk and bicycle connectivity, drainage, landscaping, utility relocation, parking, streetscape, etc. Two roundabouts are proposed as part of this project, one at the intersection of Old 41 and West Terry Street and the other at the Old 41 and Pennsylvania Avenue intersection. Completion of the improvements are expected to attract businesses to downtown Bonita Springs and promote urban infill development. A Public Information Meeting “open house” was held on January 28th.

Matt Feeney, the City’s Public Works Director, will provide a presentation on the proposed improvements at the February 27th Joint BPCC-PAC meeting.

UPDATE ON THE VANDERBILT DRIVE GREENWAY

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEM

For the past several years, Collier County has pursued the planning and design of what has become known as the Vanderbilt Drive Greenway, a multi-use pathway to be located along the west side of Vanderbilt Drive extending from Bonita Beach Road on the north to 111th Avenue North/Bluebill Avenue on the south. As a result of funding made available through a developer Settlement Agreement between Collier County and Lodge Abbott Associates in June 2008, the County initiated a planning process that incorporated an extensive public involvement/participation process to help define the scope and purpose of the corridor improvements.

During the public involvement/participation process intended to define the “greenway” improvement, ancillary concerns were raised about the safety of cyclists traveling within the roadway along the southern 1.25 miles of the 4-mile long corridor (where no bike lanes exist), and the safety of pedestrians (and cyclists) wishing to cross Vanderbilt Drive in an effort to access the new pathway to/from developments located along the east side of Vanderbilt Drive.

After a thorough evaluation and consideration of all of the public input, the Consulting Team, in consultation with Collier County Transportation Staff, proposed a set of recommendations, in priority sequence, including:

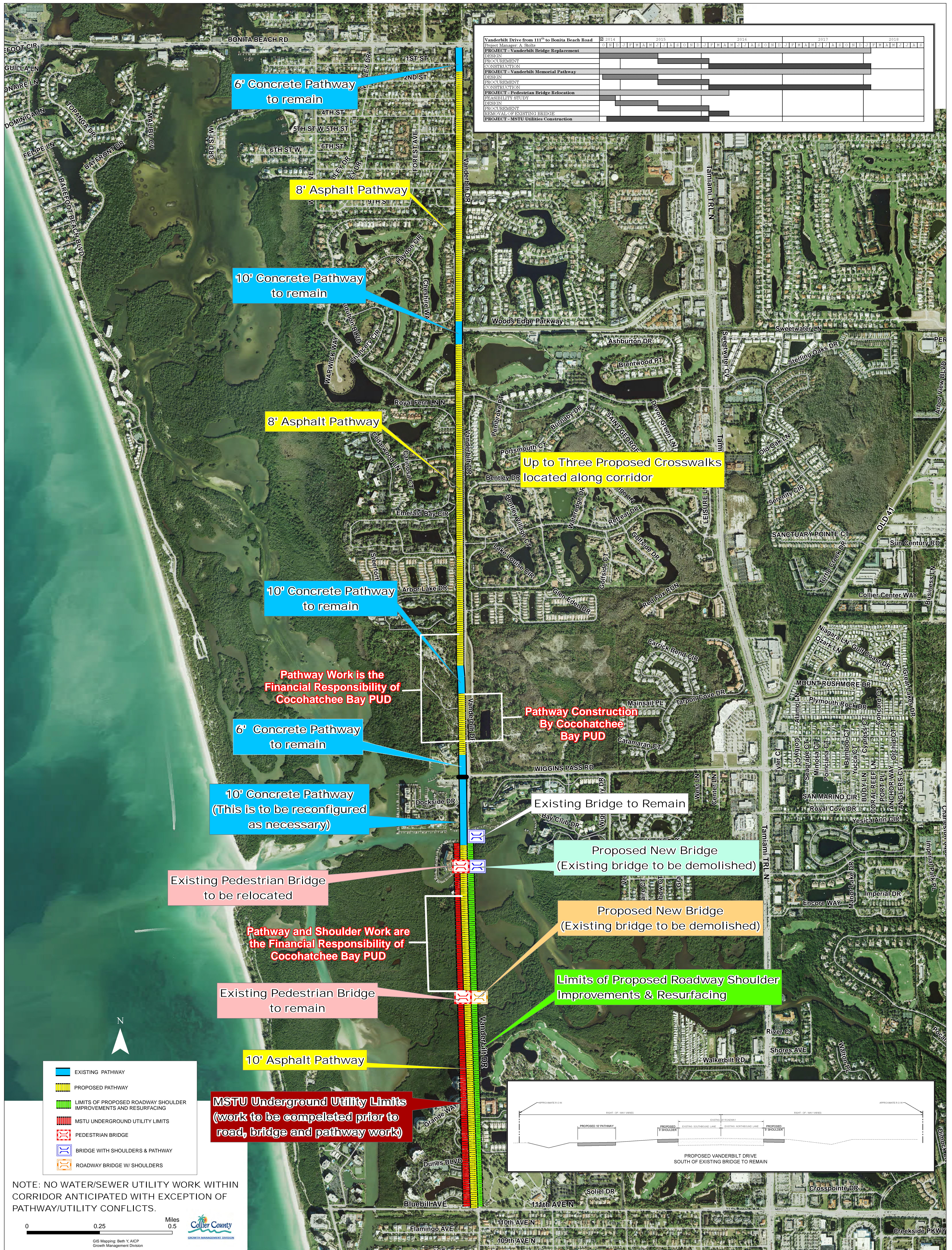
Proposed Improvements (See **attachment** for details and schedule):

- *Provide a pathway on the west side of Vanderbilt Drive*
- *Provide five-foot shoulders on both sides of Vanderbilt Drive from 111th Avenue North to the Cocohatchee River Bridge*
- *Add enhanced warning signs, pavement markings or other acceptable treatments to create visibility and promote safety for cyclists, pedestrians and motorists at the pathway’s crossings of the various driveways on the west side of Vanderbilt Drive*

Overall Estimated Pathway Cost: \$1.25 million

Collier County In-house Design Anticipated Schedule: 60% Plans - 1st quarter 2015; 100% Plans - 2nd quarter 2015

Contacts: Anthony O. Stolts, P.E., Sr. Project Manager,
Transportation Engineering Department
Phone: (239) 252- 8192 Email: AnthonyStolts@colliergov.net
Or, Connie Deane, Community Liaison
Phone: (239) 252-8192 Email: ConnieDeane@colliergov.net



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Project Manager: A. Solte						
PROJECT - Vanderbilt Bridge Replacement						
DESIGN						
PROUREMENT						
CONSTRUCTION						
PROJECT - Vanderbilt Memorial Pathway						
DESIGN						
PROUREMENT						
CONSTRUCTION						
PROJECT - Pedestrian Bridge Relocation						
FEASIBILITY STUDY						
DESIGN						
PROUREMENT						
REMOVAL OF EXISTING BRIDGE						
PROJECT - MSTU Utilities Construction						

6' Concrete Pathway to remain

8' Asphalt Pathway

10' Concrete Pathway to remain

8' Asphalt Pathway

Up to Three Proposed Crosswalks located along corridor

10' Concrete Pathway to remain

Pathway Work is the Financial Responsibility of Cocohatchee Bay PUD

6' Concrete Pathway to remain

Pathway Construction By Cocohatchee Bay PUD

10' Concrete Pathway (This is to be reconfigured as necessary)

Existing Bridge to Remain

Proposed New Bridge (Existing bridge to be demolished)

Existing Pedestrian Bridge to be relocated

Proposed New Bridge (Existing bridge to be demolished)

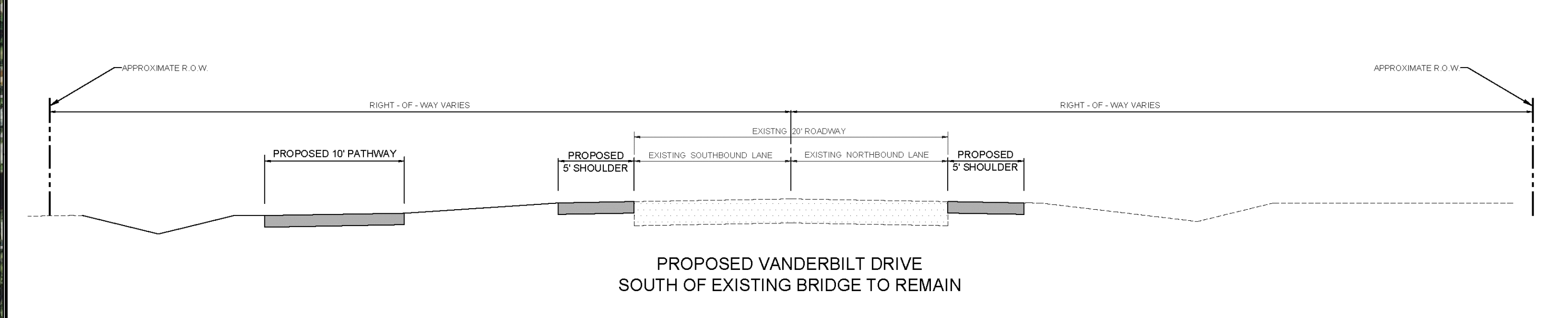
Pathway and Shoulder Work are the Financial Responsibility of Cocohatchee Bay PUD

Limits of Proposed Roadway Shoulder Improvements & Resurfacing

Existing Pedestrian Bridge to remain

10' Asphalt Pathway

MSTU Underground Utility Limits (work to be completed prior to road, bridge and pathway work)



- EXISTING PATHWAY
- PROPOSED PATHWAY
- LIMITS OF PROPOSED ROADWAY SHOULDER IMPROVEMENTS AND RESURFACING
- MSTU UNDERGROUND UTILITY LIMITS
- PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE
- BRIDGE WITH SHOULDERS & PATHWAY
- ROADWAY BRIDGE W/ SHOULDERS

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. February 25, 2014 Joint BPCC-PAC Meeting

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT LEE/COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
(MPO)
BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN COORDINATING COMMITTEE (BPCC) AND
PATHWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC) MEETING**

Held on February 25, 2014

10 A.M.

The following members were present for the joint meeting of the Collier and Lee County MPO BPCC/PAC on February 25, 2014, 2013 at the Estero Community Park & Recreation Center, 9200 Corkscrew Palms Boulevard, 103A, Estero, Florida 33928.

Collier County MPO PAC Members Present:

Dayna Fendrick, At-Large
Al Musico, At-Large
Joe Bonness, At-Large

Lee County MPO BPCC Members Present:

Jeff Davis, City of Bonita Springs
Steve Jansen, Community Traffic Safety Team (CTST)
Dan Moser, Injury Prevention Coalition (IPC)
Dawn Huff, Lee County School District
Wayne Gaither, LeeTran
Mark Tesoro, Lee Memorial Health System
Andy Getch, Lee County Department of Transportation
Pat Young, At-Large
Josh Overmyer, Town of Fort Myers Beach
Steve Avakian, City of Sanibel

Collier MPO Staff Present:

Lucilla Ayer, MPO Executive Director
Sue Faulkner, MPO Principal Planner
Sarah Layman, MPO Planner
Kristin Campos, MPO Administrative Secretary

Lee County MPO Staff Present:

Don Scott, MPO Executive Director
Ron Gogoi, Transportation Planning Administrator

Others Present:

Anna Bielawska, LeeTran
Persides Zambrano, City of Cape Coral
Carolyn Conant, Cape Coral Bike Ped
Darla Letourneau, Bike Walk Lee
Maureen Bonness, River of Grass Greenway (ROGG)
Stacy Revay, Collier County Growth Management Division (GMD) Transportation Planning Department, non-voting
Patty Huff, ROGG
Providance Nagy, FDOT

Ryan Weeks, FDOT
Justin Reck, FDOT
Deb Chesna, Florida Department of Health
Vitor Suguri, FDOT
Ellie Krier, Southwest Florida Land Preservation Trust
Megan Contreras, Wink News
Paul Whiteside, citizen

Agenda Item 1 - Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 by Mr. Jansen.

Ms. Campos called the roll for the Collier PAC and announced that a quorum was not present

Mr. Gogoi called the rolled for the Lee County BPCC and announced that a quorum was present.

Agenda Item 2 - Election of a Chairperson

Ms. Fendrick was elected Chairwoman of the February 25, 2014 Joint Lee/Collier BPCC/PAC meeting.

Agenda Item 3 - Public Comments

Ms. Darla Letourneau with BikeWalkLee stated that it is gratifying to see all the presentations scheduled at the Joint BPCC/PAC meeting because it demonstrates that there are many projects that are occurring within Lee and Collier County.

Ms. Letourneau discussed Agenda Item 6A (Presentation on the Cape Coral Bike-Ped Initiative Update) and stated that this proposal is a great interest to BikeWalkLee. She explained that BikeWalkLee has been very supportive of the idea. Cape Coral Bike Ped and the city of Cape Coral were awarded BikeWalkLee's Complete Street Champion of the Year Award for 2013.

Ms. Letourneau discussed the Attachment Item for Agenda Item 6B (Presentation on the Status of the River of Grass Greenway) and stated that the letter requests FDOT to review alternate pathway alignments to be studied as a Design component of the project.

Agenda Item 4 - Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda was approved by Consensus.

The committee agreed to reorder the agenda and moved to reports and presentations.

Reports and Presentations

Agenda Item 6A – Presentation on the Cape Coral Bike-Ped Initiative Update

Ms. Zambrano presented an Update on the Cape Coral Bike-Ped Initiative in a PowerPoint presentation. Ms. Zambrano presented the Strategy and Progress of Cape Coral Bike-Ped which included:

- Identify phased improvements and routes to begin creating a city wide network;
- Work the routes with standardized signage and pavement markings;
- Improve critical areas where potential problems exist; and
- Publicize the routes through a website.

Ms. Zambrano explained that Cape Coral Bike-Ped has initiated the Adopt A Route, the blue and white sponsor signs, which tell you the name of the route and the organization that raised the funds to make each route possible. She stated that the community has come together to begin to create a system of over 90 miles of interconnected cycling routes within Cape Coral.

Ms. Zambrano introduced Ms. Conant, Cape Coral Bike-Ped, stated that on March 1, 2014 there would be a Formal Ride to launch the Team Aubuchon Route and the Chamber Route.

Ms. Conant stated that the city of Cape Coral has completed marking the first two routes, Team Aubuchon and the Chamber Route, with green and white traffic control signage as well as the blue and white sponsor signage. She explained that the green and white traffic control signage and the blue and white sponsor signage will provide cyclists an effective means to navigate through the bicycle routes.

Ms. Conant stated that Strategic Goal 3 would be to seek grants in conjunction with the city of Cape Coral for infrastructure improvements. Ms. Conant stated that Cape Coral Bike-Ped would coordinate with the City of Cape Coral, Lee County and/or the State to insure a pathway or other bicycle friendly designs are included in widening or road improvement projects, such as Burnt Store Road widening.

Ms. Conant stated that Strategic Goal 4 would be to publicize the routes through a website and elsewhere for the public to view. She discussed the goals of Cape Coral Bike-Ped which include:

- Relocating needed information from the Cape Coral Bike-Ped website to the city of Cape Coral's website. List all bike route links and other pertinent information on the city of Cape Coral's website and optimizing the city's search engine to locate information on cycling in Cape Coral, in 2015.
- Enlisting writers to submit articles with different slants to state, national and international publications.
- Promoting more effective bicycle tourism to Cape Coral and other areas within the region by working with the Lee County Visitors and Convention Bureau.

Discussion ensued. Mr. Musico questioned the cost of the Sponsor a Route signs. Ms. Conant explained that the sponsor signs are \$300 each or citizens can donate funds for 10 sponsor signs for \$2500 total. Ms. Conant explained that Cape Coral Bike-Ped also gives citizens the opportunity to Name a Route, in which case the citizen's name would be on the route sign for 10 years.

Chairwoman Fendrick asked if the sponsored routes were existing facilities. Ms. Conant stated that Cape Coral Bike-Ped took existing bike lanes and connected them to less congested alternate streets.

Mr. Gaither stated that the networks of bikeway routes identified in Cape Coral are within the vicinity of LeeTran routes. Mr. Gaither asked if Cape Coral Bike-Ped would be interested in providing any amenities for connection with LeeTran. Ms. Conant stated that Cape Coral Bike-Ped would be very interested in becoming more intermodal.

Mr. Moser stated that an interconnected pathway for the populace of Cape Coral is what the city needed.

Agenda Item 6B – Update on the River of Grass (ROGG) Greenway Project

Ms. Faulkner introduced Ms. Maureen Bonness with the Friends of River of Grass Greenway. Ms. Bonness gave a brief PowerPoint presentation on the status of the ROGG project.

Ms. Bonness stated that the River of Grass Greenway is a future 75-mile shared use pathway parallel to US 41 between Naples and Miami. Ms. Bonness stated that the ROGG will be a facility for non-motorized transportation and recreation that promotes enhanced opportunities for education and stewardship of the environmental cultural assets of the area. She discussed the current ROGG projects which included:

- **1.** Feasibility and Master Plan Study for the entire pathway which has been underway for nearly 20 months. The Feasibility and Master Plan Study is funded by FTA Sarbanes Transit-in-Parks grant.
- **2.** PD&E Study for the 17-mile segment known as ROGG west which is between CR 92 (San Marco Road) and SR 29. The PD&E Study is funded by 2009 FDOT Regional Transportation Enhancement Grant.
- **3.** Design study for the 2.3 mile segment to the west of CR 92, known as “ROGG far-west.” ROGG far-west is funded by 2009 FDOT Regional Transportation Enhancement Grant. Concern has been raised about pathway options for crossing the Alexander-Cameron Canal.

Ms. Bonness discussed the Feasibility and Master Plan Study and stated that extensive efforts were made to incorporate widespread public participation through weeks of public meetings, as well as a continuing town hall website. She stated that in June 2013, an Agency Technical Review was held and efforts in recent months have focused on scheduling numerous agency meetings.

Ms. Bonness discussed the PD&E Study for ROGG-west and stated that the PD&E will evaluate the 17-mile segment from CR 92 (San Marco Road) and SR 29 in Collier County. Ms. Bonness stated that the study team is currently gathering information on the social and environmental in the project study area. She explained that ROGG-west is currently on hold pending the results of the Feasibility Study and Master Plan.

Ms. Bonness discussed the Design Study for ROGG far-west and stated that the 2.3 mile segment from CR 951 to CR 92 was contained in the FDOT US 41 PD&E Study. She noted that FDOT expressed concerns with the potential overlap of joint studies and project limits of the 2.3 mile limit.

Mr. Scott questioned if the pathway would be asphalt. Ms. Bonness stated that ROGG far-west would be asphalt. She explained that the Friends of River of Grass Greenway have always stated “hard surface” to leave it open to other alternative materials.

Ms. Bonness discussed the plans for the Alexander-Cameron Bridge and stated that the FDOT design calls for the pathway to be located within the shoulder of the existing US 41 bridge, rather than having a separate bike/ped bridge across the canal. She explained that there are vital safety concerns about co-locating a pathway on a bridge within inches of the traffic and requested that both alternative pathway alignments be studied as a component of the Design project.

Mr. Scott asked what the sufficiency rating was for the Alexander-Cameron Bridge. Mr. Weeks stated that the Alexander-Cameron Bridge is in good condition and the direction FDOT has been given is to utilize the existing roadway and the existing shoulder. Mr. Weeks stated that construction for an independent pedestrian bridge would be a secondary project. He explained that construction for the River of Grass Greenway trail would take place in FY15/16 by utilizing the existing Alexander-Cameron Bridge.

Chairwoman Fendrick questioned if the Alexander-Cameron Bridge has a lot of fisherman on the bridge. Ms. Bonness stated no, there is a sign that states that there is to be no fishing on the bridge.

Ms. Young asked how long it would take to construct the trail from Naples to Miami. Ms. Huff stated that the timeframe would be identified in the Feasibility Study and Master Plan.

Ms. Bonness announced that the Everglades Ride would take place on Sunday, April 13, 2014 to benefit the Friends of ROGG. She stated that there are 16-mile, 27-mile or 62-mile options and opportunities to customize the length of your ride.

Discussion ensued regarding the ROGG. Mr. Weeks stated when the local MPO's are discussing programming projects and if pedestrian bridges are going to be a desirable feature; to ensure that pedestrian bridges are part of the FDOT application that the local MPO would like the pedestrian bridges considered as part of the project.

Agenda Item 6C – Presentation on Serenity Walk Park and Freedom Park

Ms. Ellie Krier with the Southwest Florida Land Preservation Trust introduced the item and gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Serenity Walk Park and Freedom Park.

Ms. Krier stated that Serenity Walk Park is an existing mitigation for the overall Lely Stormwater Area Improvement Project (LASIP). Ms. Krier noted that the land for Serenity Walk Park has 99 acres of natural wooded habitat with a one mile nature trail. She stated that Serenity Walk Park is located in eastern Collier County on the west side of Collier Boulevard south of I-75 and Davis Boulevard. She explained that the restored area includes wetlands that were enhanced by removing invasive, exotic plants and making hydrologic improvements.

Ms. Krier stated that Freedom Park is an approximately 50-acre natural water quality treatment facility, which provides flooding relief and treatment of stormwater runoff from the Gordon River Extension Basin. Ms. Krier explained that Freedom Park combines wetlands, habitats, trails, boardwalks, observation gazebos, educational facilities, and extensive indigenous landscape within a passive park setting. She noted that Freedom Park is located on the north side of Golden Gate Parkway between Airport-Pulling Road and Goodlette-Frank Road.

Agenda Item 6D – Update on the Gordon River Greenway

Ms. Krier introduced the item and gave a brief PowerPoint presentation on the Update on the Gordon River Greenway.

Ms. Krier stated that the first section of the Gordon River Greenway opened in 1992 which consisted of a 1 ½-mile paved loop trail adjacent to the Naples Municipal Airport and along the eastern edge of the river. She noted that the Gordon River Greenway will stretch two miles from Golden Gate Parkway toward the heart of the City of Naples ending at Central Avenue. Ms. Krier discussed the many characteristics that the Greenway would feature. Ms. Krier noted that the overall project, which seeks to create 124 acres of natural trails when complete, has been in the works since the 1980s.

Ms. Krier explained that there is going to be a new parking lot which will create 600 parking spaces for the Naples Zoo, Greenway Park and the Conservancy of Southwest Florida.

Ms. Krier explained that the pedestrian bridge will tie in 3 to 4 acres of Conservation Collier land near the northwest corner of Naples Municipal Airport to the other 35 acres of conservation park property between the Golden Gate Canal and Gordon River.

Mr. Davis asked about the area that is currently under construction just south of Golden Gate Parkway. Ms. Krier stated that the area under construction across from Freedom Park is a canoe/kayak launch which will be complete in September 2014. Ms. Krier explained that the pathway will be 12-foot and 8-foot wide elevated boardwalks which will be ideal for walkers, runners and cyclists.

Action Items

Agenda Item 5A – Amendment of the Collier-Lee Bi-County Regional Transportation Network-Pathways Component

Mr. Gogoi introduced the item and stated that staff from Lee and Collier MPOs have made some changes to the pathway component of the Collier-Lee Bi-County Regional Network which include changing the color coding of those pathways on the map where the status of the proposed pathways have changed from “Programmed” to “Existing” with the completion of construction, and from “Planned” to “Programmed” for those facilities where funds have now been committed for construction.

Mr. Bonness stated that he would like to see modifications in the Collier-Lee Bi-County Regional Network which include Oil Well Road, just west of Oil Well Grade Road to just east of Ave Maria Boulevard and existing Immokalee Road from Northbrook Drive one-hundred feet west of Collier Boulevard.

MOTION BY MR. MOSER TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT OF THE COLLIER-LEE BI-COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION NETWORK-PATHWAYS COMPONENT AS AMENDED WITH THE CHANGES. SECONDED BY MR. OVERMYER. APPROVAL BY CONSENSUS

Agenda Item 5B – MPO Recommendation of Joint Regional Pathway Priorities

Mr. Gogoi introduced the item and stated that FDOT District 1 has informed Collier and Lee MPO that it will program regional pathways priorities from the District's allocation of Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) funds during the development of this year's Tentative Work Program. He noted that there are two candidate projects from the Lee and Collier Bi-County area which are:

- 10-foot shared use path on the west side of Old US 41 from US 41 to Bonita Beach Road in Lee County – approximate cost for design and construction is \$1,694,310
- PD&E Study for a pathway on Pine Island Road from Veterans Parkway to Stringfellow Road – Approximate cost is \$520,000

Mr. Gogoi explained that both projects are identified in the Lee-Collier Joint Regional Pathway Network which is a requirement of the two MPOs before regional projects can be considered for discretionary funding.

Mr. Gogoi stated that the right-of-way on the west side of Old US 41 by US 41 in Collier County is constrained. He stated that that the ROW constraints may require designing a 8' sidewalk at this location instead, or terminating the proposed shared use path at the northern end of the Landmark Naples Residential Resort and connecting it to the existing sidewalk on the east side of the roadway via a midblock crossing with enhanced safety features.

Discussion ensued. Ms. Ayer stated that Collier MPO supports the proposed 10-foot shared use pathway on Old US 41 from US 41 to Bonita Beach Road and suggested that the Committee not debate about the design solution for the project but to focus on the recommendations of the joint priorities.

Ms. Letourneau stated that both regional projects are excellent however there are safety issues with Old US 41 from US 41 to Bonita Beach Road that makes this project a higher priority, and that the project will extend the TIGER grant improvements further south on Old 41 and into Collier. She explained that the Pine Island Road PD&E Study has potential for connectivity.

MOTION BY MR. OVERMYER TO APPROVE THE JOINT REGIONAL PATHWAY PRIORITIES AS SUGGESTED BY STAFF. SECONDED BY MR. MUSICO. APPROVED BY CONSENSUS.

Reports and Presentations

Agenda Item 6D – Update on Vanderbilt Drive Greenway

Ms. Revay introduced the item and gave a brief PowerPoint presentation on the Update on the Vanderbilt Drive Greenway. Ms. Revay discussed the history of the Vanderbilt Drive Greenway and stated that in 2008, there was a settlement agreement for the Cocohatchee Bay PUD for \$3 million for corridor improvements and bridge enhancements. She explained that approximately \$1.5 million has been spent on bridge improvements along Vanderbilt Drive and there is approximately \$1.5 million left to utilize for pathway and safety enhancements along the corridor. Ms. Revay noted that in 2009, the consultant PBS&J was awarded the design contract for the 4 miles from 111th Avenue North to Bonita Beach Road and in 2011, the pathway was designed by PBS&J to be a 12-foot wide multi-use pathway.

Ms. Revay discussed the various recommendations that would be presented to the Board of County Commissioners in March 2014 which include:

1. To construct an 8-foot asphalt pathway on the west side of Vanderbilt Drive from north of the existing overpass northward to the existing sidewalks in the Bonita Shores area and construct a 10-foot asphalt pathway on the west side of Vanderbilt Drive from 111th Avenue North to the north of the existing overpass.
2. To construct 5-foot shoulders on both sides of Vanderbilt Drive from 111th Avenue North to the Cocohatchee River Bridge.
3. Enhanced warning signs, pavement markings or other acceptable treatments to create visibility and promote safety for cyclists, pedestrians and motorists at the pathway's crossings of the various driveways along the pathway on the west side of Vanderbilt Drive.
4. To construct safety improvements along Vanderbilt Drive in order to provide pedestrian access across Vanderbilt Drive, if warranted. These features include but are not limited to; up to three crosswalk locations with safety islands or medians. Crosswalks can also be important for traffic calming measures. Staff recommends the use of "flashing beacons" or something similar with medians for pedestrian refuge as a safety enhancement. Crosswalk placement needs to be determined by a warrant study however; preliminary locations recommended are at Woods Edge Drive, The Dunes development and another crosswalk north of the overpass.
5. To construct low level lighting along the Vanderbilt Drive pathway. Staff would not recommend operation and maintenance of lighting for the pathway along Vanderbilt Drive due to cost to the County. Staff recommends the residents of Vanderbilt Drive create a Municipal State Taxing Unit (MSTU) or some similar taxing district for operations and maintenance of any lighting installed.

Agenda Item 7 - Florida Department of Transportation

Ms. Providence Nagy, FDOT Bike-Ped Coordinator, reported on the FDOT "Alert Today, Alive Tomorrow" initiative. Ms. Nagy stated that the Alert Today, Alive Tomorrow resource center at the Florida Pedestrian and Bicycling Resource Center at the University of Florida provides educational materials and information to advocate groups within the state.

Ms. Nagy stated that the purpose of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Strategic Safety Plan is to focus funding and resources on vital areas that have the greatest opportunity to reduce pedestrian and bicycle crashes, injuries and fatalities.

Agenda Item 8 - Transit Update

Mr. Gaither with LeeTran reported that for the first time since July 2010, LeeTran had an 8 ½% reduction in ridership in January 2014.

Mr. Gaither reported on the LinC 600 Route which connects Lee and Collier County transit systems. He stated that LeeTran and CAT staff have been working together and LeeTran is working to seek funding to allow the route to continue in FY 2015 and beyond. Mr. Gaither noted that LeeTran would be making a presentation on this topic to the Joint MPO Board on March 21, 2014.

Agenda Item 9 - Members Comments

Mr. Bonness announced that in an effort to raise awareness, there would be a Share the Road Event on Saturday, March 1, 2014 at Cambier Park in Naples from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. This event is to promote safe passage for all those who travel Naples and Collier County roads.

Agenda Item 10 - Information Items

None.

Agenda Item 11 - Adjournment of Meeting

Having no further business, the Joint BPC/PAC meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:15 p.m.