

# BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING

**10:00 a.m., October 24, 2017**  
Fort Myers Regional Library, Room A  
1651 Lee Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901  
239-244-2220



## MEETING MINUTES

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The meeting of the Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee (BPCC) was held on Tuesday, October 24, 2017 beginning at 10:00 a.m. in Room A of the Fort Myers Regional Library, 1651 Lee Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901.

**The meeting was called to order by Chair Jennifer Hagen at approximately 10:00 a.m.**

**The members introduced themselves. A quorum was present.**

Those in attendance included:

### From the BPCC

Carl Karakos	City of Fort Myers
Dan Moser	Injury Prevention Coalition
David Wagley	Lee County Department of Community Development
David Wheaton	Member-at-Large
Doug Saxton	Village of Estero
Isobel Hitchcock	Member-at-Large
Jason Lamey	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Jay Anderson	CTST
Jennifer Hagen	Member-at-Large
Lee Waller	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Levi McCollum	LeeTran
Mark Tesoro	Lee Health Trauma
Randy Krise	Lee County MPO's Citizen Advisory Committee
Roger Lloyd	Lee County School District Transportation Services
Salli Kirkland	City of Sanibel
Syndi Bultman	Lee Health Trauma
Wayne Gaither	LeeTran

Others in attendance included Ron Gogoi and Don Scott with the Lee County MPO; David Agacinski and D'Juan Harris with FDOT; Felicia Pannell with Sam Schwarz Engineering via conference call; and Ann Pierce with the Lee County MPO's Citizen Advisory Committee.

### **Agenda Item #1 - \*Approval of the September 26, 2017 BPCC Meeting Minutes**

**Mr. Carl Karakos made the motion to approve the September 26, 2017 BPCC Minutes with the addition of Cassandra Aviles Gomez to those in attendance. Mr. David Wagley seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion was approved unanimously.**

The meeting agenda was shifted to accommodate time constraints of the SR 78 project consultant.

### **New Business**

### **Agenda Item #7 - MPO Project Updates and other Developments**

Mr. Don Scott gave a brief history of SR 78 and the current PD&E project. He discussed whether this could wait until the road is widened or if interim improvements should be made now. Mr. Gogoi said FDOT has provided some alternatives. He presented the alternatives including segments and cost estimates. Felicia Pannell, the consultant with Sam Schwarz Engineering, was on the phone to assist in the presentation. She said the area being discussed was from Park 78 on SR 78 west to SR 31. She

discussed the differences between asphalt and concrete. Mr. Gogoi commented on the project in relation to SUN Trail Network and funding. There was a brief discussion that followed on funding, the need for some type of bicycle pedestrian facilities on SR 78 east of I-75, and issues with the project including right of way. Ms. Pannell then reported on the public involvement aspect of the project. She mentioned that there wasn't anything programmed yet in the LRTP for widening SR 78 east of I-75. She also commented that the current road is projected to be deficient by 2023. She added that the information was brought to the MPO, and they are now awaiting direction on how to proceed.

**Mr. Dan Moser made the motion to continue with the PD&E to explore all options including 8' wide sidewalks and 12' shared use paths with the understanding that it will not delay any work through the interchange, especially for shoulders. Ms. Isobel Hitchcock seconded the motion. There were no objections and the motion was approved unanimously.**

Mr. Gogoi said since this is part of the SUN Trail network, we do not have to evaluate against other projects for MPO funds like SU or TA. There was a brief discussion on SUN Trail projects, funding them, and increasing bicycle pedestrian safety. A discussion followed on the history of the SR 78 sidewalk and widening projects and the SR 31 widening project. Mr. Scott mentioned there was a study in the Work Program that will look at the mainline and interchanges of I-75 and this interchange may be lumped in to that. The discussion continued on SUN Trail and issues related to this type of funding. Ms. Pannell clarified that they would be looking at both the eight and twelve foot pathways. Chair Hagen confirmed. Ms. Pannell said she would wait until the MPO Board makes a final decision to proceed with the PD&E. Mr. Scott and Mr. Gogoi confirmed.

### **Agenda Item #2 - Presentation of FDOT Draft Tentative Work Program**

Mr. D'Juan Harris, FDOT's Community Liaison for District 1, presented this non-action item on the Draft Tentative Work Program for Lee County for FYs 2019 through 2023. He passed out copies of the Draft Tentative Work Program including a summary of changes sheet. He reviewed some of the key items including I-75/Corkscrew interchange interim improvements, the Trafalgar SRTS project, LeeTran bus funding, a PD&E study for SR 31, a Gunnery at Buckingham Roundabout, and the I-75 Master Plan study. He said FDOT had an e-public hearing from October 16-20 at <http://www.swflroads.com/>, noting that written comments to the District or the MPO will still be accepted through November 20. The draft Lee County portion of the Work Program and a summary of additions, reschedulings, and deletions were also included as attachments to the agenda packet.

Mr. Ron Gogoi then provided an analysis of priorities that were adopted this year by the Lee County MPO and those that remain unfunded. He also presented FDOT's revenue projections. He discussed some projects and project phases that MPO staff had asked FDOT to program including Iona/McGregor intersection improvements, US 41/Six Mile Cypress Operational Study, and advancing the design phase for Marsh Avenue Sidewalk while programming the construction phase. There was a brief discussion that followed regarding any foreseeable changes in projects or funding due to hurricanes.

### **Agenda Item #3 - Discussion of Candidate Projects for TA and Multi-Modal Box Funds for Next Funding Cycle**

Chair Hagen deferred Agenda Item #3 to the next meeting.

### **Agenda Item #4 - Discussion of BPC Comment Letter to FDEP on Draft Land Trails Priority Map**

Chair Hagen introduced this non-action item for the Committee to review the draft BPC comments letter to FDEP. Chair Hagen said she was comfortable signing the letter and sending it in, especially since Estero and Bonita interests were represented. Mr. Gogoi mentioned the FDEP meeting in North Port that would be held on Thursday. Mr. Scott mentioned comments from the MPO Executive Committee (MEC) from their meeting on October 11<sup>th</sup> regarding a proposal to add US 41 and the

Caloosahatchee Bridge between Downtown Fort Myers and North Fort Myers in the Priority Trails Map. Mr. Gogoi felt it might be too late to add these two newly proposed projects to this year's map. Chair Hagen thanked Mr. Gogoi for composing the letter.

#### **Agenda Item #5 - Discussion of Candidate Projects for FY 2024 SUN Trail Funds**

Mr. Gogoi presented this non-action item for discussion on candidate projects for FY 2024 SUN Trail funds. He noted that FDOT is currently soliciting applications for SUN Trail funds for FY 2023/24, and the deadline for submission of these applications to FDOT is December 15<sup>th</sup>. He added that following the MPO process for submission of such applications, staff sent out an email to all the local governments for coordination with MPO staff and identifying a list of their candidate projects by October 13<sup>th</sup>. A list of the milestones for the submission of the applications were also shared with the local governments. The MPO solicitation email and the milestones were also attached to the agenda packet.

Mr. Gogoi asked Mr. David Agacinski with FDOT to present updates to the solicitation process. Mr. Agacinski stated applications would be accepted until 5 p.m. on December 15. He gave a brief history of SUN Trail, explained the funding and categories, listed key dates, discussed the pre-requisites for consideration, and provided contact information. Mr. Gogoi listed the following projects that have been identified for submission without any particular order:

- Construction Phase of JYLP Multiuse Trail Extension from Colonial Boulevard to Hanson Street
- Rails to Trails Feasibility Study on the Seminole Gulf Right of Way
- Kismet Parkway Multiuse Trail from Nelson Road to Littleton Road

Mr. Gogoi said it might be next funding cycle before the JYLP Trail Extension could be submitted as the feasibility study is behind. There was a question about approval and funding for the Rails to Trails project. Mr. Gogoi said that the City of Bonita Springs and the Village of Estero have committed funds, and the MPO has dedicated funds for a legal review of the SGR corridor. Mr. Gogoi then explained the Kismet project, noting the limits are actually from Del Prado Boulevard to Corbett Road. He also mentioned the Coastal Loop. Mr. Agacinski said if the section of trail is not on the current approved SUN Trail Map by December 15 at 5 p.m. then it is not eligible. Mr. Gogoi said that would mean there were only two candidate projects for Sun Trail Funds. He asked the BPCC to recommend priorities for the two projects. A committee member asked if the realignment was completed for Littleton Road. Mr. Gogoi said it was a Lee County DOT project. There was a brief discussion regarding this project.

**Mr. Doug Saxton made the motion for the Rails to Trails Feasibility Study to be the #1 priority. Chair Hagen seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion was approved unanimously.**

#### **Agenda Item #6 - Discussion of FDOT Safety Performance Measure Targets**

Mr. Don Scott presented this non-action item on FDOT's vision zero targets, attached to the agenda packet, for all five national safety measures. He listed the safety performance measures:

1. Number of Fatalities
2. Rate of Fatalities per 100 million Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)
3. Number of Serious Injuries
4. Rate of Serious Injuries per 100 million VMT
5. Number of Non-Motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries

He said that after some delay, FDOT released the targets at the October 12<sup>th</sup> MPO Advisory Council (MPOAC) Staff Director's meeting. They have identified "Vision Zero" targets for all five of the safety performance measures and in the process Florida has become the only state in the nation to do so. He noted the interim target for 2018 questioning the portion of that number that represents Lee County. He said by May 27, 2018, MPOs must include a narrative description of the safety performance target(s)

in their TIPs to address the performance targets and the anticipated effects the projects will have collectively on meeting these targets. He commented that guidance regarding implementation of adopted targets will be provided by FHWA to Lee MPO staff at a one on one webinar on October 26<sup>th</sup>. He noted that the MPO will have to decide to adopt FDOT's targets or something different. He said the next step is for the MPO to adopt Safety Performance Measures and Targets by February 27, 2018 in order to meet new Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirements. He said the MPO will most likely match what FDOT has proposed. He continued that unlike other performance measures applicable only to the National Highway System (NHS), the safety performance measures apply to all public roads. There was a short discussion on vehicle miles traveled.

## **Old Business**

### **Agenda Item #8 - Local Government Updates on Bicycle Pedestrian Related Projects**

Mr. Karakos with the City of Fort Myers reported that the JYLP and Winkler Canal Feasibility Study being done by Jacobs have been approved to begin with contracts waiting to be signed. He noted there would be a workshop with the stakeholders in November and public information in January. Chair Hagen asked Mr. Karakos to address the Edison/Cortez realignments. Mr. Karakos said the project was resurrected from 2009 and will be integrated with the Virginia Roundabout project that is tentatively scheduled for March 2018. There was a short discussion about the inclusion of Complete Streets in this process. Ms. Ann Pierce requested the City of Fort Myers incorporate the Complete Streets process which involves citizens being engaged in this. Mr. Karakos responded that there must be a starting point created with due diligence. There was a brief discussion about the project and the way it has been handled. Chair Hagen offered the assistance of the BPC and its members for the project.

Mr. Doug Saxton with the Village of Estero reported on the Rail as a priority and selecting a consultant for Estero Parkway.

### **Agenda Item #9 - LeeTran Report**

Mr. Levi McCollum gave the LeeTran report. He reported the ITS project was completed and listed kiosk locations. He noted the Fort Myers Beach Park and Ride will be open by the end of 2017 or early 2018. He also mentioned the LeeTran app is now available and can be downloaded to iPhone or Android devices.

### **Agenda Item #10 - FDOT Report**

FDOT's report was given by Mr. D'Juan Harris. He said there were some candies and safety items and urged committee members to take them. He also noted the cancelled Complete Streets Workshop was renamed the Context Classification Workshop and rescheduled to November 6, 2017 in Bartow from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. He added that there might be a workshop held in this area. He commented that the closest Florida Greenways and Trails Workshop is in Sebring on Tuesday, November 7, 2017 from 4 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. He had handouts listing those meetings.

Mr. Gogoi mentioned that he had heard that around 200 comments were sent by residents of the Village of Estero to FDEP.

### **Agenda Item #11 - Public and Member Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

There were no public or member comments on items not on the agenda.

### **Agenda Item #12 - Announcements**

There were no announcements.

## **Agenda Item #13 - Information and Distribution Items**

There were no information and distribution items.

**Chair Hagen reminded the BPCC that the next Meeting is on November 28, 2017.**

**The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:08 p.m.**

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### **\* Action Items + May Require Action**

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