

BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN COORDINATING COMMITTEE

10:00 a.m., December 4, 2018
Fort Myers Regional Library, Room A
1651 Lee Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901
239-244-2220



Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order

This meeting was originally scheduled for November 27, 2018 but was rescheduled due to a delay in receiving FDOT's Draft Tentative Work Program. The meeting was called to order by Chair Dan Moser at approximately 10:02 a.m.

Agenda Item #2 - Roll Call/Introductions

Those present introduced themselves. There was a quorum. Those in attendance included:

From the BPCC

Allen Makau	City of Fort Myers
Arnold Valdez	LeeTran
Dan Moser	Injury Prevention Coalition
Danny Gray	Cape Coral Police Department
David Wagley	Lee County Department of Community Development
David Wheaton	Member-at-Large
Dawn Huff	Lee County School District
Dennis Petracca	Lee County Sheriff's Office
Diane Holm	Injury Prevention Coalition
Isobel Hitchcock	Member-at-Large
Jason Lamey	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Jennifer Hagen	Member-at-Large
Lee Waller	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Mark Tesoro	Lee Health Trauma
Simone Behr	Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau
Syndi Bultman	Lee Health Trauma

Others in attendance included Don Scott and Calandra Barraco with the Lee County MPO; D'Juan Harris, David Agacinski, and Michael Tisch with FDOT; Gary Harrell and Lakshmi Gurram with the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO; Ned Baier with Jacobs; and John Majka.

Agenda Item #3 - Public Comments on Items on the Agenda

There were no public comments on items on the agenda.

Agenda Item #4 - *Approval of the October 23, 2018 Minutes

Mr. David Wagley made the motion to approve the October 23, 2018 BPCC Meeting Minutes. Ms. Simone Behr seconded the motion. There were no objections. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - *Presentation of the Draft Tentative Work Program for FY 2020 – FY 2024

Mr. D'Juan Harris with FDOT presented the Draft Tentative Work Program for FY 2020 through FY 2024. He introduced Mr. Michael Tisch, the new District One liaison for the Southwest Florida Area Office. Mr. Harris then gave a PowerPoint presentation that included slides on the summary of the process, Five-Year Work Program development process, and project development phases. The complete presentation can be accessed here: http://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/BPAC_Presentation-Condensed.pptx Mr. Harris then reviewed the Summary of Changes spreadsheet that included the projects that were added, deferred, and deleted. Chair Dan Moser asked if the Estero Bridge project will be cantilever. Mr. Harris replied yes. Chair Moser asked if

this opened the possibility for the bridge over the Caloosahatchee. Mr. Scott said the project is still in the priorities, and he recently spoke with FDOT's L. K. Nandam about it. Mr. Harris showed another slide with additional information that included the website, swfroads.com, and contact information. Mr. Harris noted the epublic hearing will be open through December 28, 2018. Mr. David Agacinski said that there were no SUN Trail projects added for Lee County, but he will keep trying to get projects funded for Lee County. Mr. Scott asked what was funded. Mr. Agacinski said the funded project was Tenoroc in Polk County. Mr. David Wagley questioned the trails map. Mr. Agacinski said the map on the website should be correct. Mr. Scott noted the website map still shows the draft version. Mr. Agacinski said that SUN Trail is still working on the SUN Trail map due to a recent change in GIS. Mr. Harris mentioned that Charlotte County received funds for a feasibility study in 2020. Mr. Scott then reviewed the projects noting the main issues are reduction in funding and increased project costs. Chair Moser asked if the project costs were increasing by twenty percent. Mr. Harris replied yes, fifteen to twenty percent. Chair Moser asked if endorsement was needed. Mr. Scott said no, just comments. Mr. Scott noted project costs increases and delivering projects in the time frame were issues. There was a brief discussion on the sidewalk project on Hanson in the City of Fort Myers. Mr. Scott said comments could be submitted on FDOT's website or sent to the MPO. Chair Moser repeated the deadline for comments of December 28, 2018. Mr. Wagley asked when the public workshop was being held. Mr. Harris replied that it was held the day before.

Agenda Item #6 - +Recommend MPO Endorsement of School District SRTS Priorities

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item for the review and endorsement of the Lee County School District SRTS Priorities. He said in response to FDOT's call for proposals for Safe Routes to School (SRTS) infrastructure funds, the School District of Lee County is submitting 3 (three) applications. He added of the three, two include the unfunded Bonita Springs and Cape Coral project proposals from last year. He noted applications are due to FDOT by January 31st. He listed the school district priorities as follows:

Priority #1: This is a resubmitted application that calls for sidewalks that will benefit Bonita Springs Elementary located in Bonita Springs. The proposed sidewalks are on the west side of Shriver Avenue from Dean Street to Ragsdale Street. 2017 Cost: \$167,437
Maintaining Agency: City of Bonita Springs

Priority #2: This is a new project application. The proposal calls for (1) sidewalk on west side of Schoolside Court and north side of Schoolside Drive and (2) replacement of the Richmond Avenue Pedestrian Bridge over the Able Canal. The existing bridge was destroyed during Hurricane Irma. The proposal will benefit Lehigh Elementary located in Lehigh Acres. Cost: \$816,738
Maintaining Agency: Lee County BOCC

Priority #3: This is a resubmitted application that will benefit Island Coast High located in Cape Coral. The proposed sidewalks are on both sides of Averill Boulevard from Del Prado Boulevard to Gator Circle South and along the perimeters of South Gator Circle. 2017 Cost: \$862,032
Maintaining Agency: City of Cape Coral

The project location maps were shown at the meeting and attached to the agenda packet.

Ms. Dawn Huff noted that two of the above projects are being resubmitted from last year and one is new. There was a brief discussion on LAP requirements. Chair Moser asked if there was a motion for endorsement from the committee.

Mr. David Wagley made the motion to endorse the SRTS Priorities. Ms. Jennifer Hagan seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #7 - +Discuss the SR 80 Shoreland Drive to Buckingham Road Sidewalk Project

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item to discuss the SR 80 Shoreland Drive to Buckingham Road sidewalk project in preparation of the project discussion at the next MPO Board meeting. Mr. Scott mentioned the project was programmed for FY 2020/2021. Mr. Harris added the project was redesigned and will be let in FY 2020/2021. He said the SR 80 sidewalk project from Shoreland Drive to Buckingham Road (north side of the

road) came up at the last MPO Board meeting from public comments received at the meeting regarding the impacts to driveway access to two businesses within the project limits. He noted the MPO Board gave direction to bring back an agenda item for the next meeting to provide the background and project history. A list of milestones for the project going back to when it was first included as priority in 2005 was briefly discussed by Mr. Scott and also attached to the agenda packet. There was a brief discussion on maintenance issues and funding. Mr. Scott then pulled up Mr. John Majka's PowerPoint presentation. Chair Moser asked if there was a possible truce between Mr. Majka and FDOT so that the project could move forward. Mr. Majka said he has never been able to communicate with the Engineer of Record (EOR) even though it is required by law. Mr. Scott noted that the MPO Board doesn't dictate design, it only deals with whether a project gains approval or not. Mr. Wagley added that access to a state highway is an FDOT decision that can be altered by FDOT at any time to address public health, safety, and access concerns with which developers must comply. Mr. Majka asked who briefed Mr. Wagley. Mr. Wagley responded that he had done his own research on the issue, noting that Mr. Majka wasn't even the owner of the property in question. Mr. Majka continued his presentation. Ms. Isobel Hitchcock asked what the density was in the area. Mr. Majka said he did not know. Ms. Hitchcock said she assumes it is high. Mr. Majka said he did research on accidents in the area, and he stated there weren't any. He said that means it is not a safety issue and there is no reason, except something personal, why FDOT would be doing this. Chair Moser asked what Mr. Majka was looking for from the BPCC. Mr. Majka said he would like support for the south side of SR 80 to become a shared-use path. Chair Moser said that a shared-use path is off the table as it is programmed to move forward. Mr. Majka asked why they couldn't just make the path on the south side two feet wider. Chair Moser replied because no one will maintain it. There was a brief discussion on shared-use paths. Chair Moser said adding two feet to the south side will never happen but the BPCC could endorse encouraging FDOT to work better with Mr. Majka to resolve his issues. Mr. Majka said he appreciated that, and he would be closer to an agreement if the state didn't forbid him to speak with the EOR. Mr. Majka also said he would like to see delineators added. Chair Moser noted that delineators are used to separate on-road facilities, and we are talking about a separate path that will be off the road. Chair Moser again asked what Mr. Majka was looking for from the BPCC. Ms. Jennifer Hagen asked if this is a site design constraint issue. Mr. Majka said other driveways were grandfathered in. He added FDOT changed it to a safety project and then back to a sidewalk project. Mr. Scott referred back to a slide of the site and answered Ms. Hagen's question that Mr. Majka is saying shed deliveries are impacted with a reduced width driveway. Ms. Hagen suggested that Mr. Majka has outgrown the site. Chair Moser said there must be some leverage if this will put Mr. Majka out of business and suggested obtaining a lawyer as there is no further action the BPCC can take. Mr. Majka said it might work if FDOT could remove the proposed grass. Chair Moser suggested driving over the grass. Chair Moser said this item needed to be wrapped up as there were other items on the agenda. Mr. Majka said he appreciated the time given by the BPCC.

Agenda Item #8 - Charlotte County MPO Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan Presentation

Mr. Gary Harrell presented this agenda item on the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO's completed Charlotte County Regional Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan. He said the first ever Plan was adopted by the Charlotte County Punta -Gorda MPO's Board at their October 29th meeting. He added it will be brought before the Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners at their December 11, 2018 meeting. He introduced Mr. Ned Baier with Jacobs, the firm that completed the Plan. Mr. Harrell showed a PowerPoint presentation that included slides on the project purpose, vision, goals, project summary, and public engagement. Mr. David Wagley asked if there would be motor vehicle access at Babcock also. Mr. Harrell replied possibly electric golf carts, and further explained that Tuckers Grade goes through to Babcock Ranch but funding would be needed to maintain and man the gates. Mr. Harrell continued with slides on the gaps and needs, project prioritization matrix, and recommendations. Chair Moser asked if there were plans for on-road facilities. Mr. Harrell said they do have them and will add where possible. There was a brief discussion on advisory shoulders. Mr. Harrell continued his presentation with slides on mid-county and south county projects. Mr. Harrell mentioned that the Plan was crafted to be flexible and showed slides on programs and policies and regulatory tools. He mentioned a \$110,000 grant that had been awarded to Charlotte County for a feasibility study to examine SUN Trail possibilities in Murdock Village. Mr. Harrell concluded his presentation with slides on funding and next steps. He asked if there were any questions. There were none. Chair Moser thanked Mr. Harrell for his presentation.

Agenda Item #9 - FDOT/MPO/Local Agency Updates

Mr. D'Juan Harris with FDOT said that Mr. David Agacinski, also with FDOT, asked him to mention the \$2 million shortfall due to a roadway shift on the Kismet SUN Trail project that is being funded through the MPO

remaining funds as SUN Trail will not pay for roadway alterations. He added it is not reflected in the Work Program. Chair Moser welcomed Mr. Michael Tisch.

Mr. John Majka asked if the county was involved in the SR 80 project and asked Mr. Wagley if he had a statement. Mr. Wagley referred Mr. Majka to Mr. Andy Getch. Mr. Wagley also restated that he had done his own research. Mr. Majka said the county will not let him speak due to lack of jurisdiction but they will meet with FDOT behind closed doors.

Chair Moser asked Mr. Scott if he had any MPO updates. Mr. Scott asked Mr. Ned Baier to give an update on the Estero Bike Ped Plan. Mr. Baier said the Plan will be adopted in April or May. He also noted there were challenges due to neighborhoods and roadways, but this may also be a SUN Trail opportunity. He added they had their first project advisory meeting a week ago. Mr. Scott mentioned that the City of Fort Myers was also on the list for a Bike Ped Plan. Mr. Scott said he will be attending a meeting tomorrow for the City of Sanibel's Bike Ped Plan update. Chair Moser asked Mr. Baier if this was a stakeholder group meeting. Mr. Baier replied yes, it is their first meeting.

Mr. Wagley mentioned that Mr. Ron Gogoi asked him to present information on the county projects, and he will be able to present at the next meeting. He said he can also send the list to Mr. Gogoi for the MPO to send out.

Mr. Jason Lamey announced they have closed on the trailhead property. He said they have applied for a grant to help fund improvements at the site. He also said they are in the process of selecting a design firm.

Mr. Arnold Valdez with LeeTran announced LeeTran had a new director, Mr. Robert Codie. He said LeeTran will resume trolley service on Fort Myers Beach in January.

Agenda Item #10 - 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 #11 – Announcements

There were no announcements.

Agenda Item #12 - Topics for next meeting

There were no topics suggested for the next meeting.

Agenda Item #13 - Information and Distribution Items

The State of the States Reports for the TA and SRTS programs were included in the packet.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

*Action Items *May Require Action

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