

## BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN COORDINATING COMMITTEE

10:00 a.m., February 26, 2019  
SW Florida Community Foundation Collaboratory  
2031 Jackson Street, Suite 100, Fort Myers, FL 33901  
239-244-2220



### MEETING MINUTES

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#### **Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. by Chair Dan Moser.

#### **Agenda Item #2 - Roll Call/Introductions**

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

##### From the BPCC

Andy Getch	Lee County Department of Community Development
Carl Karakos	City of Fort Myers
Dan Moser	Injury Prevention Coalition
David Murphy	Lee County Department of Transportation
David Wheaton	Member-at-Large
Dawn Huff	LeeTran
Doug Saxton	Village of Estero
Isobel Hitchcock	Member-at-Large
Pim Tan	City of Cape Coral
Salli Kirkland	City of Sanibel
Simone Behr	Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau
Tina Sujana	Member-at-Large

Others in attendance included Don Scott and Ron Gogoi with the Lee County MPO; and David Agacinski with FDOT.

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

There were no public comments on items on the agenda.

#### **Agenda Item #4 - History of the Southwest FL Community Foundation Collaboratory and Tour**

Ms. Sarah Owen with the Southwest Florida Community Foundation gave a presentation on the creation of the Southwest Florida Community Foundation's Collaboratory. She discussed the conversion of the 1920s rail depot into the current meeting space through a public-private partnership with the City of Fort Myers. Chair Dan Moser commented on the need to preserve historic buildings/treasures noting his dismay with the future demolition of the old rail depot/Reilly Brothers building in east Fort Myers. Chair Moser also mentioned his upcoming meeting with the Independent Transportation Network that will also be held at Collaboratory. Ms. Owen thanked Mr. Getch for allowing a photo of his smart car to be used for the cover of their annual report. She also thanked the committee for holding their meeting at Collaboratory. Ms. Carolyn Rogers explained the rental fees for the meeting rooms and then gave the committee a quick tour of the facility.

#### **Agenda Item #5 - \*Approval of the January 29, 2019 Minutes**

**Ms. Isobel Hitchcock made the motion to approve the January 29, 2019 BPCC Meeting Minutes. Ms. Salli Kirkland seconded the motion. There were no objections. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item #6 - \*Election of Officers**

Chair Dan Moser noted this was generally done at the January meeting. He then directed Mr. Gogoi to speak on this agenda item. Mr. Gogoi said that Ms. Jennifer Hagen is currently the Vice-Chair and the Vice-Chair generally moves up to Chair, but she will not be able to attend many of the meetings. He said she would still accept the Chair position if the Vice-Chair would be willing to take over in her absence. Chair Moser asked if this was acceptable to the committee. The committee agreed. Chair Moser asked if there were any other nominations. There were none.

**Mr. Doug Saxton made the motion for Ms. Jennifer Hagen to be Chair and Mr. Dan Moser to be Vice-Chair. Ms. Isobel Hitchcock seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion carried unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item #7 - \*MPO Recommendation on SR 80 Sidewalk from Shoreland Drive to Buckingham Road**

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item on the SR 80 sidewalk from Shoreland Drive to Buckingham Road. He noted only the SU funds of \$222,000 would come back to Lee County if the project is cancelled. Mr. Scott referenced the issue of cost per mile for the north side versus the south side would not be addressed until the next work program cycle. Mr. Scott said the MPO Board had directed him to locate projects that the SU funds could be used on. Mr. Scott added the project has to be one that FDOT has reviewed. He said all of the projects that fit the criteria have construction costs over \$222,000. He said it could be used on design for one of the projects on the list. Chair Moser asked for clarification. Mr. Scott explained the MPO Board asked for a recommendation for a project that the funding from the cancelled SR 80 project could be used on. Mr. Scott said the full SR 80 project cost of \$2.8 million will not come back to Lee County, only \$222,000 will. Chair Moser questioned the reasoning behind not doing this project. Mr. Scott said the committee could recommend to keep the project based on the drastic loss of funds and the need for the project. Chair Moser asked why the project would be off the table. Mr. Scott explained that at an MPO Board meeting, Commissioner Hamman had requested a list of projects that could be done instead of the SR 80 project due to the driveway issues of a local business owner. Chair Moser pointed out the SR 80 project area isn't even in Commissioner Hamman's district. Mr. Scott said it was Commissioner Mann's district. Mr. Ron Gogoi added that at the last MPO Board meeting, the MPO Chair told the business owner that he needed to take up the issue with FDOT. Chair Moser expressed his concern that both sides of SR 80 require facilities and the entire project shouldn't be cancelled due to lack of compromise on a single driveway. Chair Moser noted there are more homes on the north side of the road. Mr. Gogoi said a lot of money has already been spent on this project, and it is a much needed project on a high volume arterial road. The discussion continued on the driveway issues and how they could be resolved.

**Mr. Dave Wheaton made the motion to keep the SR 80 project as is. Ms. Isobel Hitchcock seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item #8 - \*Approval of Public Outreach Scope for Two Stage Left Turn Bicycle Box**

Mr. Gogoi presented this agenda item for the approval of the Public Outreach Scope for the Two-Stage Left-Turn Bicycle Box. The draft scope was attached to the agenda packet. Mr. Gogoi said he developed the scope to contract a public involvement consultant to develop a flyer to notify and educate the motoring public and the cycling community about this new bicycle treatment in Lee County, and how to navigate them. He added the flyer will be published at least two months prior to the turn boxes becoming operational. Mr. Gogoi said this will be done in coordination with FDOT and the hired consultant. He said the consultant will be responsible for dissemination of the flyer and coordination with a television station as well for production and release of a video. Mr. Gogoi said the project would be paid for with MPO funds, and he would like to hire one of the current MPO GPC subconsultants. Chair Moser asked for additional signage to be added to the motion. Mr. Karakos suggested also gearing the education toward students.

**Mr. Carl Karakos made the motion to approve the Public Outreach Scope for the Two-Stage Left-Turn Bicycle Box with the addition of signage for the roadway. Ms. Salli Kirkland seconded the motion.**

Ms. Kirkland suggested using an interactive map with a video that shows how to navigate specific intersections. Mr. Wheaton suggested the bicycle boxes would be better at Six Mile and Daniels but understood the reason for this location choice due to the resurfacing project. A brief discussion followed on data collection and placement of studies. Mr. David Agacinski suggested adding Lee County DOT to the scope. Mr. Gogoi said they could be

added if they would like. Mr. David Murphy said he would check on that as Lee County agreed to repaint the boxes green so they are involved. A brief discussion followed on the maintenance of the paint and the reasoning for choosing this location. Mr. Getch said he didn't see an issue with adding "coordinating with Lee County" to the scope.

**There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Gogoi asked Mr. Scott to discuss the legislative agenda item #10 as he was still downloading a file for #9.

#### **Agenda Item #10 - Overview of Current Transportation Related Legislative Issues**

Mr. Scott handed out the latest version of the MPOAC Legislative Update. He reviewed some of the issues including micromobility and electric vehicles on pathways and texting while driving. He said all of the new wording is in red. He mentioned the autonomous vehicle legislation that would be allow them to operate on roadways without an operator. He further discussed the possible micromobility issues including preemption, roadway/pathway design, increased injuries, enforcement problems, and insurance regulations. Mr. Scott and Chair Moser agreed that, similar to last year, most of these legislative issues will not pass. There was a brief discussion on the distracted driving legislation, possible maintenance related legislation, and the legislation to dissolve the Florida Transportation Commission. Mr. Scott also mentioned the sea level rise legislation put forth by Democrats that was also brought up at the Executive Committee meeting.

#### **Agenda Item #9 - Discussion of Bonita's US 41 Shared Use Path Funding Request**

Mr. Gogoi presented this agenda item to discuss the request for replacement of existing sidewalk on the west side of US 41 from Bonita Beach Road to Pelican Colony Boulevard with a 12' wide shared use path. He said the City of Bonita Springs project has been divided into two phases, as shown in Attachment A of the agenda packet and as a slide at the meeting, due to the high construction cost. He noted Phase I is from north of Bonita Bay Blvd/W Terry St to Pelican Colony Boulevard. He said the west side was chosen due to fewer driveways and more shops. He added Phase II is from Bonita Beach Road to Bonita Bay Boulevard/W Terry Street. Mr. Gogoi said there are existing sidewalks on both sides of the roadway, but the City would like them to be replaced with shared use paths. He said the application deadline for this year has passed, but FDOT said they will accept additional applications after the deadline. He reviewed the screening questions/evaluation scores for the project, and said it meets the criteria. Mr. Karakos asked about submitting the Winkler Canal project for this type of funding. Mr. Gogoi said he can. There was a brief discussion on the safety of riding a bicycle on US 41 and adding shared use paths to surrounding areas. Mr. Gogoi said he has been coordinating with FDOT for the acceptance of this project since it is after the deadline. Chair Moser suggested this pathway isn't serving those who need it but may rather be catering to the gated neighborhoods. Mr. Andy Getch asked if the City of Bonita will maintain. Mr. Gogoi replied yes.

#### **Agenda Item #11 - FDOT/MPO/Local Agency Updates**

Mr. Scott, Mr. Gogoi, and Collaboratory staff attempted to resolve technology issues related to the telephone conferencing system in order to facilitate a call from FDOT staff regarding the Able Canal Pathway Project. Chair Moser asked why this was not on the agenda. Mr. Gogoi said the project manager requested to make a presentation at the TAC and CAC before this item went to the MPO Board, not realizing it would also need to go through the BPCC. While they continued working on the technical issues, Mr. Gogoi suggested Mr. Doug Saxton could provide an update on the Village of Estero's Bike Ped Master Plan. Mr. Saxton said there was a good turnout at the recent public workshop. He said they also held their second public advisory meeting. He added Jacobs and Alta are currently working on priorities. He mentioned the interactive map and comments from that will be gathered for the next few weeks. He said the Capital Improvement Program will be released in August and the public officials will have an opportunity to fund priorities. Ms. Salli Kirkland reported on the Update to the Sanibel Shared Use Master Plan. She said there was a community meeting last week in addition to the interactive map and surveys online and in the field. Mr. Gogoi discussed the comments and attendance for both the Village of Estero and City of Sanibel. Mr. Scott suggested bringing in some of the comments at the next meeting. Mr. Karakos asked about the City of Fort Myers Bike Ped update. Mr. Scott said he would find out when the City of Fort Myers Bike Ped update could start. Chair Moser asked if Cape Coral's Bike Ped Plan was completed. Ms. Pim Tan said it was. Chair Moser said the application process for Bike Friendly City application would begin soon. Chair Moser asked if LeeTran had any updates. Ms. Dawn Huff said there were none. There was a brief

discussion on the pathway versus sidewalk maintenance requirement changes with respect to the LRTP. Mr. Scott said he would bring back information as it becomes available. Chair Moser mentioned the need for an updated bike map. Mr. Scott said funding isn't the main issue, gathering data and agreeing on what should be included and in which format is. Mr. Gogoi was unable to connect the conference call with FDOT's project manager for the Able Canal Pathway project. Chair Moser asked if Mr. Agacinski could give the presentation. Mr. Scott said at the public hearing, the preferred alternative was on the north side. Mr. Scott said this will go to the Board of County Commissioners for determination. Mr. Gogoi said the presentation on screen was the one shown at the public hearing. He said this was not an action item, rather just an information item to update the MPO committees. Mr. Gogoi discussed the next steps in this process noting this is a county project and will ultimately be up to the County Commissioners. Chair Moser asked if the TAC and CAC has weighed in on this project. Mr. Gogoi said both committees had provided input during FDOT presentations. Mr. Gogoi said at the public hearing the no build alternative was still an option. The committee discussed the pathway options that were presented and reviewed the presentation slides. Chair Moser asked for an update if new information is provided. Mr. Gogoi agreed.

### **Agenda Item #12 - Public and Member Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

Chair Moser asked if future meetings will be held in this location instead of the library. Mr. Gogoi said that is yet to be decided.

### **Agenda Item #13 – Announcements**

There were no announcements.

### **Agenda Item #14 - Topics for next meeting**

There were no topics suggested for next meeting.

### **Agenda Item #15 - Information and Distribution Items**

The information and distribution item included in the packet was an updated roster. Mr. Scott also handed out the latest MPOAC Legislative Update.

### **The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.**

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

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