

BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN COORDINATING COMMITTEE

10:00 a.m., May 28, 2019
SW Florida Community Foundation Collaboratory
2031 Jackson Street, Suite 100, Fort Myers, FL 33901
239-244-2220



MEETING MINUTES

Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order

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

Agenda Item #2 - Roll Call/Introductions

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

From the BPC

Andy Getch	Lee County Community Development
Carl Karakos	City of Fort Myers
Dan Moser	Injury Prevention Coalition
Danny Gray	Cape Coral Police Department
David Wagley	Lee County Community Development
David Wheaton	Member-at-Large
Dawn Huff	LeeTran
Diane Holm	Injury Prevention Coalition
Dominic Konieczki	Lee County Sheriff's Office
Doug Saxton	Village of Estero
Isobel Hitchcock	Member-at-Large
Jennifer Hagen	Member-at-Large
Lee Waller	Lee County Parks
Mark Tesoro	Lee Health Trauma Center
Persides Zambrano	City of Cape Coral
Randy Krise	Citizen Advisory Committee
Salli Kirkland	City of Sanibel
Simone Behr	Visitor and Convention Bureau

Others in attendance included Don Scott and Ron Gogoi with the Lee County MPO; David Murphy with Lee County DOT; Chris Keller with Tindale Oliver; Michael Tisch and David Agacinski with FDOT; and a member of the public John Majka.

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

There was a brief discussion on the public comment section of the minutes from the previous meeting.

Agenda Item #4 - *Approval of the April 23, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Dan Moser made the motion to approve the April 23, 2019 BPC Meeting Minutes. Mr. Doug Saxton seconded the motion. There were no objections. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - *Review and Recommend MPO Priorities for MPO Allocated TA and SU Box Funds

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this agenda item to review and recommend MPO priorities for MPO Allocated TA and SU Box funds. Mr. Gogoi said there are three categories of projects – transit, traffic operations, and bike ped. He added the new bike ped projects were scored using the MPO Evaluation Criteria (**Attachment B**) so they could be evaluated against the unfunded bike ped projects from last year. He continued these rankings were then used in determining the priority order of all the bike ped projects. He reviewed the priorities that were shown in **Attachment A** of the agenda packet and as a slide at the meeting. Mr. Gogoi mentioned the Bonita Springs US 41 projects and asked if points should be taken off as there are existing bike ped facilities and a precedent should be set for future projects. A brief discussion followed on the current facilities in Bonita along US 41 and how to address existing facilities in the evaluation criteria. A committee member asked about resurfacing projects and the new standards for wider bicycle lanes. Mr. David Agacinski explained the new standards. Mr. Scott mentioned a discussion he had with L. K. Nandam about pathways and maintenance. He noted that Mr. Nandam had intentions to attend the local bike ped meetings and further explain. Mr. Gogoi suggested adding the revision of the criteria as a stand-alone item to a future meeting. A discussion followed on the actual design of the Bonita project. Mr. Moser suggested since subtracting points would still place the projects at the top of the list to just add the re-evaluation of criteria to another meeting. Mr. Gogoi then mentioned the priority list includes a category that has a request (the Richmond Avenue Pedestrian Bridge) that involves swapping the funds from a funded project (Queens Avenue Sidewalk that could not move forward due to the drainage costs) in the FDOT Work Program. He continued with his presentation on the project priorities and funding sources. He mentioned among the project priorities are three traffic operations projects (Priorities 7, 8 and 9) which are eligible only for multimodal SU box funds. He discussed the funding amount for SU funds and the \$5 million of SU funds being used for the Big Carlos Bridge over the next few years. He mentioned other projects on the list, phases that need funding, and possible funding. He asked if the committee was amenable to the staff recommended priorities. A brief discussion followed on the Marsh Avenue project limits and adding language to indicate it was only gaps being filled. Chair Hagen asked if the priorities should also be tabled to the June meeting with the re-evaluation of the criteria or if a vote was needed now. Mr. Gogoi said it would be best to keep them separate.

Mr. Dan Moser made the motion to accept the priorities as presented. Mr. Carl Karakos seconded the motion.

Mr. Karakos asked when the funding will be decided. Mr. Gogoi said it would be after September when the work program was developed. A brief discussion followed on funding and ensuring design was completed. Chair Hagen noted there was a motion and asked for a vote.

There were no objections, and the motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 - *Review and Recommend MPO Priorities for SUN Trail Funds

Mr. Gogoi presented this agenda item to review the staff suggested priorities for SUN Trail funds and then recommend MPO priorities. He first gave an update on the ongoing SUN Trail projects including showing maps of the state and local network. He noted some of the projects have been impacted due to maintenance issues with FDOT. He discussed phases and cost estimates of projects including Colonial, Kismet, JYLP, and Rails to Trails in Bonita. He noted the importance of local match for approval of projects through SUN Trail. Mr. Agacinski confirmed that local match is helpful. A brief discussion followed on the trail list hierarchy in Florida. Mr. Karakos suggested splitting the JYLP project into two phases to avoid potential issues with design and the overpass. Ms. Zambrano commented that was what Cape did with the Kismet Trail. Mr. Moser expressed concern for possibly wasting money on design for projects that never happen. Mr. Gogoi referred to the priority list and asked for a motion

if the committee agrees with the order. Ms. Zambrano said Cape Coral is also working on other projects to compliment the Kismet SUN Trail project. Chair Hagen noted this was an action item and asked if there was a motion.

Ms. Dawn Huff made the motion to recommend the MPO staff recommended priorities for SUN Trail Funds. Mr. Randy Krise seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Agacinski mentioned Central Office is hesitant to approve projects for SUN trail funds that have bridges due to the high construction cost of the bridges. A brief discussion followed on the potential bridge/overpass for the JYLP project.

Agenda Item #7 - City of Sanibel Shared Use Path Master Plan Presentation

Mr. Christopher Keller with Tindale Oliver gave a brief presentation on the City of Sanibel's Shared Use Master Plan Update. His presentation included Power Point slides on the existing pathways/conditions, bringing the old plan up to date, gathering user feedback, project schedule, elements of the update process, incidents/crashes on pathways, and field reviews. There was a brief discussion on the data and reporting of incidents and crashes along the pathways. Mr. Keller continued his presentation with slides on community engagement efforts, website, online survey, sample survey questions/results, wikimap, and challenges. There was a brief discussion on the challenges reported in the study. Mr. Keller continued his presentation with information on additional challenges, consistency in signage/markings, recommendations for safety, opportunities for quality of service enhancements, suggestions for improvements to quality, recommendations for connectivity, and next steps. He said the final presentation to Sanibel City Council can be expected in July or August. A committee member asked about the location of a picture in the slide presentation. Mr. Keller replied it was taken under the causeway. Chair Hagen asked if there were any additional questions. There were none. Chair Hagen thanked Mr. Keller for his presentation.

Agenda Item #8 - City of Fort Myers Project Updates

Mr. Carl Karakos gave a presentation of the ongoing City of Fort Myers Projects. The projects that were covered included John Yarbrough Linear Park Trail Extension, Winkler Canal pathway, Carrell Canal trail, Ray V. Pottorf school sidewalks, Allen Park Elementary sidewalk, Hanson Street extension, Veronica Shoemaker and Ortiz Avenue roundabout, First/Second Street one-way to two-way conversions, Edison Avenue Realignment, McGregor/Virginia roundabout, McGregor and Hill Avenue crosswalks, Gardner's Park project, and the Midtown project. Ms. Zambrano asked if Mr. Karakos was coordinating with LeeTran. Mr. Karakos replied yes. Mr. Moser asked about bike lanes on First Street. Mr. Karakos said the feasibility will be examined in phase two of the project. A brief discussion followed on the Edison Avenue realignment, Virginia Avenue, and the impact of the recently started CityWalk project. Vice-Chair Dan Moser took over the meeting as Chair Hagen had to leave.

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

Mr. Agacinski with FDOT noted that although it is unclear when the next call for applications will be, in order to be considered for SUN Trails funds, projects must be on the SUN Trail map and listed as an MPO priority. He urged interested municipalities to coordinate with MPO staff. He also announced that he was promoted from bike ped to the project management division at the Southwest Area Office. He said until his previous bike ped position is filled, he will still be covering this position. There was a brief discussion on the current positions and staff in the Southwest Area Office and Bartow Offices of FDOT.

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.

Ms. Zambrano asked if any committee members had received interest or inquiries on bike/scooter rentals. Vice-Chair Moser noted he was addressing this topic in an article. He urged the local municipalities to set up guidelines and regulations with relation to micromobility devices. A brief discussion followed on the topic of micromobility devices and their implementation. Ms. Zambrano said she would keep the committee updated.

Agenda Item #11 – Announcements

Vice-Chair Moser announced there would be a summer camp given by Fort Myers Schwinn. Ms. Diane Holm handed out information.

Agenda Item #12 - Topics for the June 25, 2019 meeting

There were no topics suggested for the next meeting.

Agenda Item #13 - Information and Distribution Items

The information and distribution items included a brochure on a summer camp being offered at Fort Myers Schwinn.

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

*Action Items +May Require Action

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