

BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN COORDINATING COMMITTEE

10:00 a.m., September 24, 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 by Chair Jennifer Hagen at approximately 10:00 a.m.

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 Community Development
Carl Karakos	City of Fort Myers
Dan Moser	Injury Prevention Coalition
David Wagley	Lee County Community Development
David Wheaton	Member-at-Large
Dawn Huff	LeeTran
Dominic Konieczki	Lee County Sheriff's Office
Jennifer Hagen	Member-at-Large
Lee Waller	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Mark Tesoro	Lee Health Trauma Center
Pim Tan	Cape Coral
Salli Kirkland	City of Sanibel
Simone Behr	Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau

Others in attendance included Ron Gogoi and Don Scott with the Lee County MPO; Robert Paquin with Jacobs; Jorge Puente with LeeTran; Joe Bonness with the Collier BPAC; Catherine Faerber with the Naples Pathway Coalition; Eric Ortman with the Collier MPO; and Michael Tisch 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 - *Approval of the August 27, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Vice-Chair Dan Moser made the motion to approve the August 27, 2019 Meeting Minutes. Mr. David Wheaton seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - Pine Island Road Trail PD&E Study

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this agenda item with a slide show presentation on the PD&E Study for the Pine Island Road Trail from Stringfellow Road to Veterans Pkwy/Burnt Store Road that is scheduled to commence after July 1, 2020. He gave a brief history/background of the project, noting the Design is programmed in FY 2023. He introduced Mr. Michael Tisch with FDOT who provided additional information on the project including environmental concerns that might require a feasibility study. Mr. Gogoi recommended a full PD&E study for the project to determine the combination of shared use path and existing sidewalks that would work best within the environmental constraints. The committee briefly discussed the project including history of the roadway and different ways to address the beginning phases of the project. Several committee members noted there was public, elected official, and county staff support for this project. The committee then further discussed the background of the project including the environmental concerns and how to show committee support for the project to keep it moving forward. Mr. Gogoi asked for a clarification from Mr. Getch that Lee County was requesting a feasibility study within the entire limits of the project, and not what FDOT staff was suggesting which was a feasibility study from Veterans Parkway to Matlacha Bridge, and a PD&E Study from the bridge to Stringfellow Road. Mr. Getch replied yes. Chair Hagen asked if there were any other questions or comments. There were none.

Walk-on Item – US 41 Resurfacing Project/Bike Lane and Keyholes Discussion

Mr. Gogoi introduced this walk-on agenda item as a discussion on the US 41 resurfacing project from Hickory Drive to Emerson Square Boulevard and FDOT's decision not to include buffered bike lanes and keyhole lanes in the project. Mr. Gogoi called out earlier successful coordination efforts between FDOT and MPO that led to the placement of bike lanes along US 41 from Alico Road to Michael Rippe Parkway, and the programming of an MPO retrofit project for bike lanes/keyholes on US 41 from south of Metro Extension to San Carlos Boulevard. In 2015 when the construction cost for this project increased considerably, staff and BPCC asked FDOT to implement the bike lanes and keyholes as part of a future resurfacing/3R project. He mentioned that a 3R project from Hickory Drive to Emerson Square Boulevard that covered the same project limits has been funded but FDOT would not include the bicycle key holes. FDOT has provided funding constraints and new policy direction as reasons for refusing these improvements. The committee then discussed the project and how to address their concerns. Mr. Moser suggested FDOT should consider reducing the travel lanes from 12' to 11' wide and this would allow construction of 5' wide keyhole lanes within the existing pavement width and keep the project within budget. He also suggested lowering posted speed limit from 50 mph to 45 mph. Mr. Gogoi said he would email the BPCC comments to FDOT and bring back the item for discussion at the next meeting. Chair Hagen asked the committee to send questions to Mr. Gogoi to bring to the attention of Ms. Chesna with FDOT.

Agenda Item #6 - Lee MPO Bike Ped Safety Action Plan Update

Mr. Gogoi introduced Mr. Robert Paquin with Jacobs to present this agenda item on the Lee MPO Bike Ped Safety Action Plan Update. Mr. Paquin gave a Power Point presentation that included information on scope, schedule, analytical process, data collection, risk factors, risk-based approach, counter measures, project development, and next steps. During the presentation the committee discussed the issues of underreporting accidents, cyclists on

sidewalks, source of data, data analysis, proactive/reactive measures, and addition of estimate for incidents not reported. Chair Hagen asked if the presentation would be available to the committee members, Mr. Gogoi replied yes and added there will be another presentation given to the committee when the report is completed.

Agenda Item #7 - NPC Paradise Coast Trail Vision

Mr. Gogoi introduced Ms. Catherine Faerber with the Naples Pathway Coalition to present this agenda item on the Paradise Coast Trail Vision. Ms. Faerber introduced Mr. Joe Bonness, a member of the Collier BPAC. She then gave a Power Point presentation that included information on the background of the trail, status of the trail, funding, project schedule, project alignment/connection, and proposed length of 70 miles. Mr. Bonness further explained the purpose of the trail, its alignment, and possible connections to other trails. The committee discussed the current SUN Trail alignment, rail corridor, and connections with Lee County. Mr. Gogoi then discussed how the proposed trail and a recent planning decision (removal of the proposed Rookery Bay shared use paths from the Collier MPO Bike Ped Plan) will require future changes to the existing SUN trail Network in Collier County. The committee discussed the Rookery Bay pathways and funding. Mr. Eric Ortman with the Collier MPO gave a brief presentation that included information on the current SUN Trail alignment, current bike lanes, Paradise Coast Trail vision, existing on road Coastal Paradise route, gap in current SUN Trail system, and current green way network. The committee discussed current and proposed trail connections in Collier County. Chair Hagen asked if there were any additional comments or questions. There were none.

Agenda Item #8 - FDOT/MPO/Local Agency Updates

Several committee members mentioned Walk to School day would be held in October. Ms. Salli Kirkland mentioned Sanibel was working on an ordinance related to e-bikes and micromobility scooters. Mr. Tisch mentioned mobility week and the tentative work program e-public hearing. There was a brief discussion on the work program. Ms. Pim Tan commented on the progress of the Cape Coral SUN Trail project. Mr. Karakos commented on e-scooters in Fort Myers. Mr. Gogoi mentioned the City of Fort Myers will be submitting a SUN Trail application for construction. Mr. Jorge Puente with LeeTran mentioned time changes being made to LeeTran routes. Ms. Dawn Huff noted that Mr. Puente would now be representing LeeTran at the BPC meetings. A brief discussion on e-bikes/micromobility followed. Mr. Andy Getch with Lee County mentioned the update of the Safe Routes to Schools application for the Richmond Avenue Bridge and also the update of the SUN Trail application for Estero Boulevard Causeway. A committee member mentioned National Bike Your Park Day and the Island Hopper Songwriter Festival.

Agenda Item #9 - 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 #10 – Announcements

There were no announcements.

Agenda Item #11 - Information and Distribution Items

There were no information and distribution items.

Chair Hagen noted the next meeting would be October 29, 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:05 p.m.

***Action Items *May Require Action**

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