

**BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN COORDINATING  
COMMITTEE**

10:00 a.m., September 25, 2018  
Fort Myers Regional Library, Room A  
1651 Lee Street, 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 by Chair Dan Moser 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 Department of Community Development
Arnold Valdez	LeeTran
Carl Karakos	City of Fort Myers
Dan Moser	Injury Prevention Coalition
David Wagley	Lee County Department of Community Development
Isobel Hitchcock	Member-at-Large
James Lear	Cape Coral Police Department
Jason Lamey	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Jodi Walborn	Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital/Safe Routes to School
Lee Waller	Lee County Parks and Recreation
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 Ron Gogoi, Don Scott, and Brian Raimondo with the Lee County MPO; David Agacinski with FDOT; Daniel Flynn with Grady Minor; John Majka; Mark Bertoncini with VHB; Kim Garrett with Lee County Parks and Recreation; David Murphy with Lee County DOT; and Diana Giraldo with Streets Alive of Southwest Florida.

**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 28, 2018 Minutes**

**Mr. Carl Karakos made the motion to approve the August 28, 2018 BPCC Meeting Minutes. Ms. Pim Tan seconded the motion. There were no objections. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Agenda Item #5 - Kismet Parkway SUN Trail Design Presentation**

Ms. Pim Tan, with the City of Cape Coral, presented this non-action item as an update on the Kismet Parkway Sun Trail funded design project. She said the 30% design has now been completed for the approximate six and a half mile project. She introduced Mr. Mark Bertoncini from VHB, Cape Coral's consultant on the Kismet project. He discussed the design, showing a slide presentation, for the Kismet project including the current network and where the Kismet project fits in, the project limits, the project objective, the design constraints, planned community outreach, criteria used per Sun Trail and AASHTO

requirements, typical sections to maintain a twelve foot trail, right of way constraints, intersection crossings, and bridges. Mr. Bertoncini then reviewed a map of the project path. He said the City of Cape Coral is also researching putting in a trail head west of Del Prado. Mr. Bertoncini introduced Mr. Daniel Flynn with Grady Minor to discuss the drainage constraints. Mr. Flynn reviewed the current conditions, drainage options and design, and temporary drainage systems. There was a question as to how many outfalls were located along the trail. Mr. Flynn said there are approximately thirty. Mr. Bertoncini said an environmental assessment had been done and there were none within the confines of the corridor that would be impacted by the project. He then reviewed construction cost estimates for the phases. Mr. Gogoi asked if this amount was the same as submitted to Sun Trail. Ms. Pim Tan said no, this cost was higher. Mr. David Agacinski said he was aware of the increase and had submitted the City's request for additional funds to FDOT Central Office. To a question by Chair Moser as to whether the City would be able to cover the shortfall with local funds, in case funds were not forthcoming from FDOT, Ms. Tan said the City may have to downsize the project limits. Mr. Bertoncini mentioned there would be a project stakeholder meeting later in the evening. He said there would also be a public meeting in October. He said the final design should be completed in April of 2019 with Phase One construction beginning around fall of 2019. Mr. Karakos asked Mr. Agacinski if it was common to see SUN Trail awarded projects around the state come in below projected costs. Mr. Agacinski said until preliminary design is done, there isn't a realistic estimate of cost, so increase in construction costs is expected. Mr. Scott commented costs may also go up due to new tariffs. The full presentation can be found here: <http://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/SUN-Trail-Stakeholder-Presentation-9-25-18.pdf>

#### **Agenda Item #6 - JYLP Trailhead Concept Plan Presentation**

Mr. Jason Lamey with Lee County Parks and Recreation presented this non-action agenda item on the JYLP Trailhead Concept Plan. He noted Lee County is in the process of purchasing an abutting 7.3-acre property off of Six Mile Cypress Parkway that could serve as a trailhead for JYLP. He showed a map of the site location and discussed the plan to incorporate the trailhead. He then reviewed the property zoning, a preliminary concept plan, and project timeline with design beginning in 2019. He noted there were gopher tortoises on the property that will be relocated per FWC requirements. There was a question on the choice of property due to its narrow size. Mr. Lamey said there were not many choices and this was the best fit. Mr. Karakos asked if there would be lighting. Mr. Lamey said it is not planned except near the restroom facility. There was a brief discussion on the parking lot design. Mr. Lamey commented that the property is much lower than the existing trail and most trees will need to be removed to adjust the elevation. The discussion continued on lighting and park closures at night due to ordinances. Chair Moser thanked Mr. Lamey for his presentation.

#### **Agenda Item #7- Discussion on Electric Bikes and their Impacts**

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this non-action item on electric bikes and scooters. He began with a few slides to provide background information including current statistics regarding use and sale, legislation around the country, and classes of electric bicycles. There was a brief discussion on the differences between the various classes as defined in model legislation. Mr. Gogoi then discussed the Florida statutes and local laws that regulated their operation on roadways. A discussion followed on the difficulty of telling if the bicycles are under electric power or human propelled when they are being operated on sidewalks. Chair Moser commented on the way the laws are being diluted to allow for electric bicycles and stated that the speeds are a problem. Mr. Scott noted that experience and sidewalk design are also important factors. Mr. Gogoi mentioned that electric motor power and electric powered speed in some bicycles would require licensing and registration as mopeds or motor cycles. He also highlighted the safety aspect by providing crash statistics related. He said because of the safety aspects Fort Myers Beach passed an ordinance that prohibits their use on sidewalks and the sands. There was a discussion on the validity of this ordinance on Estero Boulevard as it is a county owned roadway. Mr. Gogoi then discussed the reasons for increasing popularity of shared electric bicycles and scooters

service programs. He discussed registration and licensing issues with the Department of Motor Vehicles regarding electric scooters. He said companies have released them in City streets through shared programs without proper permission necessitating the passing of legislation to deal with them. He noted there are low user and maintenance costs for these that add to their attractiveness. He shared a map of the cities that currently have dockless shared electric scooter mobility programs. He then commented that In Florida, the City of Coral Gables launched a pilot program in August that allows Spin to operate dockless electric scooters on a limited number of city streets. He said the City of Miami is working on a 6 month pilot program that will allow the scooters to be operated downtown, in Brickell and in Coconut Grove. He said the companies are going to places they know will show support. A discussion followed on safety concerns, issues related to leaving the rented scooters/bicycles anywhere in the street, maintenance, and repairs. There was question regarding the ability of electric bicycles to be attached to LeeTran buses like regular bicycles. Mr. Arnold Valdez said that the regulations only specify size, and it can't have a gas motor. Ms. Salli Kirkland said the electric bicycles allow spouses with different abilities to ride together. Mr. Scott said he tried to make the case for pathways with FDOT by calling out electric bicycles and scooters to the already growing list of users on bike ped facilities.

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

Mr. David Agacinski with FDOT gave the FDOT report. He said FDOT is holding Mobility Week October 27 – November 3. He said they are trying to partner with local organizations that are holding existing events. He said to let him know if there were any additional events.

Mr. Arnold Valdez with LeeTran gave the LeeTran report. He said the schedules have been finalized for the November bus season with the trolleys downtown resuming November 8 and the Beach Service resuming January 3. He said there was a slight decline in ridership following the national trend.

Lee County had nothing to report.

Mr. Karakos with the City of Fort Myers said the downtown signal removal will be in approximately two weeks with completion in a month. He said Hanson Street extension Hanson/Veronica roundabout will begin October 1. He noted the City of Fort Myers received Safe Routes to School funding for its Clifford Street project. He said all improvements were completed at Franklin Park. He commented that he spoke with Mr. David Wheeler regarding implementation of the school zone program that will take place over the next three years, and the need to prioritize the projects with Ms. Dawn Huff from the Lee County School District.

Ms. Tan with the City of Cape Coral said Cape Coral had just submitted the final plan for the flashing beacon package to FDOT. She said the 47th Terrace Complete Street project should be completed by the end of the year. Chair Moser reminded Ms. Tan that renewal is soon for Bike Friendly Community designation. Ms. Tan said she would speak with Ms. Persides Zambrano about it.

Ms. Simone Behr with the Visitors and Convention Bureau said the Island Hopper Songwriter Festival is underway in Downtown Fort Myers all week and then will move to Fort Myers Beach Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. She said all venues are close together and walkable. She said this Saturday is also National Bike Your Park day and this will also be promoted on social media.

Mr. Scott said FDOT attended the Collier MPO Board meeting to discuss SR 82 with County and MPO staff and reported there will be an eight-foot concrete sidewalk instead of planned asphalt pathway.

### **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 - Topics for next meeting**

There were no topics suggested for next meeting.

**Agenda Item #12 - Information and Distribution Items**

There were no information and distribution items.

**The meeting was adjourned at noon.**

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