

# BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization

Tuesday, June 28, 2022, 10:00 a.m.

Fort Myers Collaboratory

2031 Jackson Street,

Fort Myers, FL 33901



## Meeting Minutes

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

The in-person meeting was called to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. by BPCC Chair Teresa Lewis.

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

**MPO staff called and recorded the roll. There was a quorum. Those in attendance included:**

#### **From the BPCC**

Brandon Kaczmarek	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Carl Karakos	City of Fort Myers
David Wagley	Lee County Department of Community Development
David Wheaton	Member-at-Large
Dawn Huff	LeeTran
Diane Holm	Injury Prevention Coalition
Farhan Butt	Lee County Department of Community Development
Henry Burden	Member-at-Large/Vice-Chair
James Lear	Cape Coral Police Department
Jennifer Hagen	Member-at-Large
Jorge Puente	LeeTran
Lee Waller	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Nancy Crocker	Lee County School District
Pim Tan	City of Cape Coral
Rachel Pierce	City of Sanibel
Randy Krise	Lee MPO Citizen Advisory Committee
Scott Stryker	Village of Estero
Sean Gibbons	City of Bonita Springs
Syndi Bultman	Lee Health Trauma Services
Teresa Lewis	Member-at-Large/Chair
Tracey Walton	Lee Health Trauma Services

Others in attendance included Ron Gogoi and Don Scott with the Lee County MPO; Thomas Marquardt with Lee County DOT; Clarissa Marino Diaz with LeeTran; Jodi Walborn with the Blue Zones Project SWFL; Michael Tisch with Collier County; Victoria Peters with FDOT; LCSO detail Deputy.

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

There were no public comments on items on the agenda.

### **Agenda Item #4 - \*May 24, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

**Mr. Henry Burden made the motion to approve the May 24, 2022 Meeting Minutes. Ms. Syndi Bultman seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item #5 - School District of Lee County Update**

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this agenda item prepared by Mr. Joel DeGuzman with the School District of Lee County as an update on School District activities. The Power Point presentation included slides with information on the school district's ten year plan, project methodology, project findings, current west area sub zones, west zone project recommendations, current east area sub zones, east zone project recommendations, current south area sub zones, south zone project recommendations, capacity projects, next steps, and contact information. The presentation can be viewed here: [Lee County School District Update](#) The committee discussed calculations used for the presentation, zone configurations, student projections, Innovation School, FGCU partnership, new schools locations, pathways to schools, school zone speed limits, safer pick-up and drop-off concerns, traffic concerns around schools, developer involvement, bus routes/stops, development codes, use of impact fees, coordination between entities, and attorney actions.

### **Agenda Item #6 - Discussion of SRTS Project Proposals**

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this agenda item for discussion on the potential Safe Routes to School (SRTS) projects in anticipation of the 2022 call for projects for SRTS Program funds. He provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on SRTS program highlights/overview, responsibilities for school district and applicant, list of potential projects to consider, and maps of the potential project areas. His presentation can be viewed here: [SRTS Presentation](#) The committee discussed involvement of the local entities, Lee County BOCC project considerations, applications, updating the cost estimates/dates/signatures on resubmittals, and coordination on application and analysis.

### **Agenda Item #7 - Immokalee Tiger Grant Presentation**

Mr. Mike Tisch with Collier County presented this agenda item on the status of the Immokalee TIGER Grant. He then provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on grant overview, grant process, the location of Immokalee and the project in Collier County, project implementations of sidewalks and streetlights, additional drainage needed, additional funding provided by Collier County, planned bus stops, proposals and firm selection process, approval process for selection committee rankings, funding, preliminary study on bicyclist and pedestrian traffic, intersection lighting locations, new transfer station for transit, His presentation can be viewed here: [Immokalee TIGER Grant](#) The committee discussed locations of jobs for Immokalee residents, planned pathways and sidewalk widths, advertising/solicitation for project, design/build project process, increase of project costs, project limits and infrastructure, SR 29 widening project, University of Florida extension services in Immokalee, possibility of Wi-Fi at transit station, phase two of transit station which is being completed by Collier Area Transit, outside of the grant, and project date.

### **Agenda Item #8 - Rail Trail Study Public Meeting Report**

Mr. Gogoi presented this agenda item as a report on the recent Rail Trail Public Meeting. He provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on public involvement, public meeting summary, public comment summary, rankings of alternatives, and public meeting photographs. His presentation can be viewed here: [Rail Trail Presentation](#) The committee discussed the cost differences between alternatives, rail banking, advantages of using existing rail for trail platform, commuter rail possibility, different land needs/right-of-way needs for different rail and transit options, leasing a 20' ft corridor (Rail With Trail option) as opposed to buying the entire right of way width (Rail to Trail option), appraisal, agreements, next steps, one-year pause by Seminole Gulf before coming back to the table to negotiate, appraisal price of \$70 million, use of corridor factor in the calculation, the benefit of a sales tax like the Legacy Trail, possible use of grant funding, funding of construction, Conservation 2020 example, reasoning behind terminating the trail at Alico, and definition of an active railroad.

### **Agenda Item #9 - Summary of April Florida Greenways and Trails Council Meeting**

BPCC member Scott Stryker, who also serves as a member of the Florida Greenways and Trails Council (FGTC), presented a summary of the recent FGTC meeting held on April 6<sup>th</sup> in St. Petersburg that he had attended. His Power Point presentation included slides with information on an overview of the Council, benefits of trails, updates to the FGTS five year plan, goals of previous five year plan, workshops held, meeting frequency, types of trails, trail towns in Florida, connecting trails, creating a trail network, and providing additional update after October meeting. The presentation can be viewed here: [FGTC Presentation](#) The committee discussed events to promote trails, attendees of meetings, moving meeting locations, types of representatives appointed, representatives from each area, ability of residents to champion projects from our area by attending meetings, Sanibel ideally suited to apply for a trail town designation, benefit of being a trail town, application process for becoming a trail town, process for appointment to Council, types of trail substrates, promoting official routes, and education of users.

### **Agenda Item #13 - Information and Distribution Items**

Mr. Gogoi asked to discuss this non-agenda item on SR 80 issues prior to Agenda Item #10/Local Agency Updates. He provided information on pictures he had taken regarding drainage issues after heavy rain and noted he also sent the pictures to FDOT staff. He showed additional pictures on configurations of the route along SR 80 including angles, stop bars, and inconsistencies. The pictures provided by Mr. Gogoi at the meeting can be viewed here: [SR 80 Presentation](#) The committee discussed who the pictures were sent to in FDOT, stop bar inconsistencies, angles of route, providing information to project manager of construction, approval of the design, coordination with FDOT, comfortable bicycle speed on route, and fixing the areas of concern.

### **Agenda Item #10 - FDOT/MPO/Local Agency Updates**

Ms. Victoria Peters with FDOT mentioned the Work Program process and cycle. The committee briefly discussed FDOT staff changes, Cape Coral SUN Trail limit changes, coordination with FDOT staff on SUN Trail changes, FDOT contact emails, and time frame for Work Program requests. Mr. Carl Karakos provided an update on the First and Second Street projects in Fort Myers.

### **Agenda Item #11 - Public and Member Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

There were no public comments on items on the agenda.

### **Agenda Item #12 – Announcements**

Ms. Dawn Huff with LeeTran reported LeeTran staffing changes. Chair Lewis noted there was no meeting in July. The committee briefly discussed a presentation that will be provided by the City of Sanibel at the August meeting.

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

**An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed at the following link: [June 28, 2022 BPCC Audio](#)**

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

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