

BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization

Tuesday, August 23, 2022

Fort Myers Collaboratory

2031 Jackson Street,

Fort Myers, FL 33901

10:00 a.m.



Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order

The in-person meeting was called to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. by BPC Vice-Chair Henry Burden

Agenda Item #2 - Roll Call/Introductions

MPO staff recorded the roll as those in attendance introduced themselves. There was a quorum. Those in attendance included:

From the BPC

Carl Karakos	City of Fort Myers
Colleen Bennett	Lee County Department of Community Development
David Rivera	Lee County School District Transportation
David Wheaton	Member-at-Large
Henry Burden	Member-at-Large/Vice-Chair
James Lear	Cape Coral Police Department
Lee Waller	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Pim Tan	City of Cape Coral
Rachel Pierce	City of Sanibel
Randy Krise	Lee MPO Citizen Advisory Committee
Scott Stryker	Village of Estero
Simone Behr	Lee County VCB
Syndi Bultman	Lee Health Trauma Services

Others in attendance included Ron Gogoi and Don Scott with the Lee County MPO; Chief William Dalton with the Sanibel Police Department; Scott Philips with Collier County; 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 - *June 28, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Randy Krise made the motion to approve the June 28, 2022 Meeting Minutes. Ms. Rachel Pierce seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - Proposed Collier County SUN Trail Alignment Changes

Mr. Scott Philips presented the proposed Collier County SUN Trail Alignment Changes. Graphics of the revised Collier MPO SUN Trail alignment and the original SUN Trail alignment were earlier attached to the agenda packet and [posted in the MPO website](#). A PowerPoint including the same graphics was presented by Mr. Philips to explain the SUN Trail network updates and the proposed Paradise Coast Trail in Collier County. The PowerPoint also included a slide on the Lee portion of the SUN Trail network

which Mr. Gogoi used to provide information on gaps in the SUN Trail network at the county lines and interim and long term connections between Lee and Collier County. The presentation can be viewed here: [SUN Trail](#) The committee discussed the earlier bike route alignment in Collier County on US 41 to Miami across the Everglades, history of issues crossing the Everglades due to tribal concerns, and how that route to the east coast was replaced by the SR 80 route to Palm Beach County. The committee also discussed current SUN Trail gaps in Lee County and the need to conduct a study to identify an alternative SUN Trail alignment across the Caloosahatchee River into Downtown Fort Myers. There was also a discussion on trail markings or SUN Trail Route signage in future.

Agenda Item #6 - Crash/Speed/Micromobility Management on Sanibel Pathways

Chief William Dalton of the City of Sanibel Police Department provided a brief history of Sanibel pathways and the pathway network, traffic increase challenges during season, dealing with micromobility challenges and enforcement, average speed, signage needed for enforcement, education and warnings being given to seasonal pathway users, review of 2021 Sanibel crash data, heavy use of shared use path, incidences small in comparison to traffic volume on pathways, addressing legal and enforcement challenges, and creation of new ranger positions in Sanibel. The presentation was followed by a discussion on speed signage, ordinances, enforcement, businesses renting e-bikes, excessive speeds by professional cyclists, formation of a group to address micromobility decisions in Sanibel, micromobility issues in City of Fort Myers, prohibition of certain micromobility devices on Sanibel beaches, Sanibel pathway widths and variations, accident ratios for bicycles versus micromobility devices, difficulty in differentiating between various types of electric bikes, issues with businesses selling micromobility devices and lack of regulation, E scooter and Class II and III E bike use on Sanibel roadways, crosswalk painting, crashes that occur related to driveways along Periwinkle, miseducation of bicyclists and drivers, enforcement at midblock crossings or corners, Sanibel school year traffic enforcement and involvement, complaints, and seasonal nature of complaints.

Agenda Item #7 - Overview of the 2022 Dangerous By Design Report

Mr. Don Scott presented an overview of the 2022 Dangerous By Design Report. He provided a Power Point presentation that included slides on US Pedestrian Fatalities, Top 20 State Rankings, Comparison of Current Metro Area Rankings to Past List, States with Largest Increase, Long Term Trends in Fatalities, Top 20 Metro Rankings, Average Fatality Rate Comparison, Areas with Largest Increase, and Metro Area Rankings List. His presentation can be accessed here: [Dangerous By Design](#) The committee discussed the need for consideration of seasonal population in the ranking process, using fatality rates this time instead of Pedestrian Danger Index, large amount of walkers in Florida that did not get counted in previous editions, different types of data used, differences between this version and previous versions, difficulty in reproduction of data used to validate the rankings, reviewing actual reports, definition of crashes by the state, trauma alerts and data recorded, lack of nationwide standard for reporting, data mining issues, issues with roadway design, difficulty in retrofitting all roads, quality of existing roadways, Florida road characteristics, accuracy of base data, examination of demographics of cities/states.

Agenda Item #8 - Traffic Crash Related Trauma Injuries

Ms. Syndi Bultman with Lee Health provided a presentation that examined patient data from Florida Trauma Centers since January 2019 that primarily covered trauma injuries brought on by traffic crashes and general costs associated with such crashes. Her presentation included slides with information on the Lee Health Trauma Center, National Traffic Crash Data, National Key Findings, Injury Data by County, Local Injury Admissions and Alerts, MPO Data on Lee County Motor Vehicle and Bike/Ped Serious Injuries and Fatalities, Comparative Data for Lee/Collier/Charlotte, Drinking/Distracted/Drug Data for Lee/Collier/Charlotte, Trauma Center/Registry Data, Red Light Running and Failure to Yield Data, Florida Crash Costs, US Crash Cost, and National Data. The presentation can be found at the

following link: [Lee Health Trauma](#). The committee discussed reasons crashes in Lee County are higher than surrounding counties, separation of bicycle and pedestrian data, and Signal 4 Analytics data.

Agenda Item #10 - Public and Member Comments on Items not on the Agenda

Mr. Scott Stryker provided a brief presentation on the Downtown Connector bicycle route. He discussed information on connecting downtown Fort Myers and downtown Bonita Springs via a proposed bike route, naming this route, and establishing signage along the route. He referred to the following graphic: [Downtown Connector Route Graphic](#). The committee discussed apps for bicycle trails, distribution of the bicycle maps, creating an interactive map for City of Fort Myers bicycle network and including other areas/counties, ease of use of signs as opposed to apps or maps, navigation of county on designated path, Gulf Coast Trail and SUN Trail systems, different names of same route, providing trail markers on roadways along designated bicycle route, USBR 15 configuration and discussion on signage, expense borne by local governments for sign, parts of route signed from TIGER grant wayfinding project, Cape Coral signage, maintenance issues, permitting issues across jurisdictions, life of signage, funding requirements and process, background for sidewalks and facilities on map, utility of paper maps, use of QR codes, changing target audience, updating apps with audio directions, and providing ways for pedestrians and bicyclists to navigate Lee County.

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

There were no FDOT/MPO/Local Agency Updates.

Agenda Item #11 – Announcements

The announcements included information on an upcoming District 1 virtual SRTS workshop at 1 p.m., Cape Coral SRTS award, a Burnt Store PD&E Study Public meeting flyer, Song Hopper concerts, moving November meeting due to Thanksgiving, agenda items for September BPC meeting, and changes by the MPO Board during ratification of the amended bylaws. Vice-Chair Burden commented on the SR 80 project and progress.

Agenda Item #12 - Information and Distribution Items

The information and distribution items included the MPO Board Ratified Amended BPC bylaws and the Fourth Edition Bicycle Maps.

Ms. Rachel Pierce made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Scott Stryker seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.

An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed at the following link: [August 23, 2022 BPC Audio](#)

***Action Items *May Require Action**

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