

Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee
Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Tuesday, May 23, 2023
Fort Myers Collaboratory
2031 Jackson Street,
Fort Myers, FL 33901



10:00 a.m.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call/Introductions
3. Public Comments on Items on the Agenda
4. *Approval of the March 28, 2023 Meeting Minutes
5. Recommendation of TA/SUCARU Multi Modal Project Priorities (Ron Gogoi)
6. Recommendation of SUN Trail Priorities (Ron Gogoi)
7. Discussion of Candidate Locations for Cycle Tracks (Ron Gogoi)
8. MPO Resolution to Opt Out of Set Aside for Safe and Accessible Transportation Options
9. Approved Legislative Bills and Appropriation Project Requests
10. Local Agency/FDOT/MPO Updates
11. Public and Member Comments on Items not on the agenda
12. Announcements
13. Topics for next meeting
14. Information and Distribution Items

Adjournment

*Action Items *May Require Action

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Calandra Barraco with the Lee County MPO at 239-330-2243 or by email at cbarraco@leempo.com at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired call (800) 955-8770 Voice / (800) 955-8771 TDD. The MPO's planning process is conducted in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes. Any person or beneficiary who believes they have been discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, or familial status may file a complaint with the Lee County MPO Title VI Coordinator, Calandra Barraco, at 239-330-2243, or in writing at P.O. Box 150045, Cape Coral, Florida 33915-0045.

Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee
Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Tuesday, March 28, 2023
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 BPCC 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 BPCC

Carl Karakos	City of Fort Myers
David Wagley	Lee County Department of Community Development
Flor Lemmer	Town of Fort Myers Beach
Henry Burden	Member-at-Large/Chair
James Lear	Cape Coral Police Department
Jodi Walborn	Blue Zones Project
Laura Dodd	City of Cape Coral
Lee Waller	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Nicole Monahan	City of Fort Myers
Rachel Pierce	City of Sanibel
Simone Behr	Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau
Syndi Bultman	Lee Health Trauma
Teresa Lewis	Member-at-Large/Vice-Chair
Tracey Thornton	Lee Health Trauma

Others in attendance included Ron Gogoi with the Lee County MPO; Tanya Merkle with FDOT; and Steve Neff and Jadon Hull with AIM Engineering.

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

There were no public comments on items on the agenda. Chair Burden

Agenda Item #4 - *Approval of February 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Syndi Bultman made the motion to approve the February 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes. Ms. Rachel Pierce seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - Cape PD Traffic Safety Subgrant Update

Master Sgt. James Lear provided a Power Point presentation on this agenda item that can be viewed at the following link: [Cape PD Traffic and Safety Subgrant](#)

Agenda Item #6 - Safe Streets for All Award

Mr. Gogoi provided a Power Point presentation on the Safe Streets for All Grant Award on behalf of Don Scott that can be viewed at the following link: [Safe Streets for All](#)

Agenda Item #7 - Midtown Development Update

AIM Engineering provided a Power Point presentation on the Midtown Development update that can be viewed at the following link: [Midtown Development Update](#). There was a discussion on the protected bike lanes in Midtown roadways and why cycle tracks may not be an appropriate solution given the constraints and unique needs in the area.

Agenda Item #8 - FY 23 – FY 24 State Appropriations Project Requests and Bills

Mr. Gogoi provided a quick update on State Appropriations Project Requests and Bills from the FY 2023/24 legislative session. The PowerPoint presentation that can be accessed at the following link: [State Appropriations Project Requests and Bills](#)

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

Ms. Merkle informed the committee that a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB) will go live at the intersection of US 41 and Maravilla Road by the end of April, and that she was working on getting out information TIP cards on this traffic control device. She also stated that she was evaluating and recommending priorities for SUN trail applications received in response to the call for proposals last year, and will be submitting those recommendations to FDOT Central Office by the middle of April. Mr. Karakos mentioned that a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon is not warranted at the North Colonial crossing at Veronica Shoemaker Parkway as it is a 4 lane roadway and that he will be engaging a consultant to see if they could justify installing a PHB at that location. He also mentioned that the City will be installing a raised crosswalk at the McGregor/Edison Home. He felt that the raised crosswalk and the existing traffic signal at that location will force motorists to slow down. Mr. Gogoi provided an update on the candidate projects for TA/SU/CARU fund multimodal priorities, and called attention to the preliminary priority orders for the projects. The slide on the projects can be viewed at the following link: [Updates](#)

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

Chair Burden called out attention to Mr. John Majka's [public comment](#) received via email and that was handed out by staff prior to the start of the meeting, and he mentioned that it will be part of the records as a comment. He asked for any comments from committee members on the handout. There were none.

Agenda Item #11 – Announcements

Mr. Gogoi referred to the announcements included in the agenda packet and [posted to the MPO website](#) for the SR 865 and US 41 public meetings.

Agenda Item #12 - Topics for next meeting

There were no topics suggested for the next meeting.

Agenda Item #13 - Information and Distribution Items

The Information and Distribution items included the FDOT Public Transit Did You Know March 2023 that was in the agenda packet and [posted to the MPO website](#).

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

An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed at the following link: [BPCC March 28, 2023](#)

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Calandra Barraco with the Lee County MPO at 239-330-2243 or by email at cbarraco@leempo.com at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired call (800) 955-8770 Voice / (800) 955-8771 TDD. The MPO's planning process is conducted in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes. Any person or beneficiary who believes they have been discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, or familial status may file a complaint with the Lee County MPO Title VI Coordinator, Calandra Barraco, at 239-330-2243, or in writing at P.O. Box 150045, Cape Coral, Florida 33915-0045.

RECOMMENDATION OF TA/SU/CARU MULTIMODAL FUND PRIORITIES

ACTION ITEM: *Review the MPO staff suggested priorities and recommend that the MPO Board approve these priorities.*

A total of twelve (12) projects have been identified for consideration of Lee MPO Multimodal TA/SU/CARU funds during the development of the FY 2025 – FY 2029 Draft Tentative Work Program by FDOT. They include three (3) unfunded phases from last year and nine (9) new projects. The projects have already been vetted at the March 28th BPCC, and at the May 4th TAC and CAC meetings. MPO staff has now finalized the list of projects and have recommended project priorities (**Attachment A**).

At the May 23rd BPCC meeting, staff will provide updates on the projects following which the committee will be asked to recommend MPO approval of the staff suggested priorities.

**RECOMMENDED TA/SU/CRP PRIORITIES
BPC 5/23/2023**

Applicant	Roadway/Proect	From	To	Length (Mile)	Proposed Improvements	Side	Phase Funded	Requested Phase	Cost	Recommended Priorities
LCBOCC	Daniels Pkwy	Corporate Lakes Blvd	SR 82	1.31	Install 8' Sidewalk	North Side	PE	CST PE Shortfall	\$2,520,369 \$275,515	1
Estero	Coconut Road	US 41	Via Coconut Pt	0.3	Install 8' Sidewalk	North Side	PE	CST	\$440,913	2
Estero	Corkscrew Rd Pathway	US 41	Koreshan State Park	0.25	Install 10' SUP	North Side	PE	CST	\$608,723.00	3
FMB	FMB Bus Shelters	@ various locations along Estero Blvd		N/A	Acquisition and Placement of 8 Bus Shelters		N/A	Acquisition/ Installation	\$260,000	4
MPO	Caloosahatchee D'town Multimodal Alt Study	Hanson St @ Palm Ave	Littleton Rd @ US 41	10	Conduct SUN Trail Alignment Feasibility Study	N/A	N/A	Planning	\$800,000	5
FM	Complete Streets Study	Fowler St	First St	1.15	Conduct complete streets study along the Seaboard and Second Streets	N/A	N/A	Planning	\$300,000	6
MPO	SR 82	Michigan Link	Ortiz	0.86	Install 8' Sidewalk	North Side	N/A	PE & CST	X	7
MPO	San Carlos Blvd	Kelly Road	Gulf Point St	0.36	Install 8' Sidewalk	East Side	N/A	PE & CST	X	8
MPO	SR 82	Michigan Link	Ortiz	0.86	Replace existing sidewalk with 10' asphalt SUP	South Side	N/A	PE	X	9
FM	Forum Blvd	Champion Ring Rd	Dr. MLK Jr. Blvd	1	Install 10' SUP	West Side	N/A	CST	\$523,493	10
MPO	US 41	French Creek Lane	Charlotte County Line	1.14	Install 8' Sidewalk	West Side	N/A	PE	X	11
MPO	San Carlos Blvd	Summerlin Rd	Kelly Road	1.05	Replace existing sidewalk with 8' or more asphalt SUP	West Side	N/A	PE	X	9
MPO	San Carlos Blvd	Summerlin Rd	Kelly Road	1.05	Build sidewalk	East Side	N/A	Feasibility Study		12

Notes:

X - FDOT to provide LRE Costs

RECOMMENDATION OF SUN TRAIL PRIORITIES

ACTION ITEM: *Review the staff suggested SUN Trail priorities and recommend that the MPO Board approve the priorities.*

With the approval of SB 106/HB 915 by the Governor on April 11, it is expected that FDOT will issue a Call for Proposals for SUN Trail Program funds in June of this year. The bill's approval has increased annual funding for the development of the SUN Trail Network from \$25 million to \$50 million, and has also made available \$200 million in FY 2024 for advancement of project phases in the Work Program, and funding of new SUN Trail projects and project phases. The bill will become effective on July 1, 2023.

In anticipation of the availability of new SUN Trail funds and call for proposals, the MPO staff has developed a list of new SUN Trail priorities (**Attachment A**), which includes the three unfunded projects from last year's priority list and three (3) new projects. The new projects include a shared use path on SR 80 east of Buckingham Rd to Charleston Park, enhancement of the existing bike ped facility on a segment of the JYLP Linear Park, south of Daniels Parkway, and a shared use path on Littleton Road from US 41 to Business 41. The JYLP enhancement calls for replacing the ½ mile long 5' wide concrete sidewalk with a 12' wide shared use path, and replacing the two canal crossings at either end with a wider bridge deck.

The inclusion of a priority to add a shared use path on the south side of Littleton Road has resulted from coordination efforts with Lee County Community Development's Infrastructure Planning and LCDOT staff regarding the need to address the SUN Trail gap in North Fort Myers.

**RECOMMENDED 2023 LEE MPO SUN TRAIL PRIORITIES
BPC 5/23/2023**

FM #	Project	From	To	Improvement Type	Length (miles)	Programmed Phase	Next Phase	PDC Estimate	SunTrail Fund Request	Local Match	Recommended Priority
<i>PROJECTS WITH ONGOING/COMPLETED PRE CONSTRUCTION PHASES</i>											
440341-1	Kismet Pkwy Multi Use Trail	Del Prado Blvd	NE 24th Avenue	Multi Use Trail	1.0	PE	CST +CEI	\$2,963,389	\$2,963,389	\$0	1
<i>RESUBMITTED PROJECTS WITH NO PRE-CONSTRUCTION PHASES FUNDED</i>											
NA	CR 865 Multi Use Trail	Little Hickory Pass Bridge	Big Carlos Bridge	Multi Use Trail (North Side)	3.84	NA	PE CST+CEI	\$545,095 \$3,482,554.00	\$4,027,649	\$0	2
NA	Caloosahatchee Downtown Multimodal Alternative Study	JYLP Trail at Hanson St	Littleton Rd at US 41	Study to evaluate alternative trail alignment and develop bike ped design concepts & treatments	6.67	NA	Study	\$800,000	\$600,000	\$200,000	3
NA	JYLP	North Canal Crossing next to Daniels Pkwy Trailhead	South Ten Mile Canal Crossing	Replace 5' sidewalk with 12' shared use path; Replace two existing canal crossings with wider bridge decks	0.50	NA	PE + CST			\$0	4
NA	Littleton Rd	US 41	North Tamiami Trail/Business 41	Shared Use Path	0.66	NA	PE + CST			\$0	5
NA	SR 80	Buckingham Rd	Broadway Ave	Shared Use Path (North Side)	8.04	NA	PE + CST			\$0	6
		Broadway Ave	Silk Bay Blvd/1st St	Shared Use Path (South Side)	1.71	NA					

Note:

DISCUSSION OF CANDIDATE LOCATIONS FOR CYCLE TRACKS

MPO staff is considering including a project priority for installation of a protected cycle track during the new funding cycle in 2024, and feels we should start the conversation now regarding identifying a suitable location in Lee County.

Currently, there are no cycle tracks in Lee County and there is only one in District 1 on a local roadway in Lakeland.

Lee County has led the way in implementing innovative strategies such as the construction of the State's very first Continuous Flow Intersection (CFI) (at the Gunnery and SR 82 intersection of) and the very first Two Stage Left Turn Boxes (at the Treeline and Daniels intersection). More CFIs will be coming online in Lee County as well as a Diverging Diamond Interchange.

At the May 23rd BPCC meeting, staff will share criteria on cycle tracks, typical unit costs and initiate a discussion among the committee members on ideal locations to implement a protected cycle track. Input from local government representatives are necessary as local governments are responsible for maintaining such facilities, if they are built on off system (local) roadways.

MPO RESOLUTION TO OPT OUT OF A SET ASIDE FOR SAFE AND ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

INFORMATION ITEM:

The Infrastructure Implementation and Jobs Act (IIJA) requires states and MPOs to spend at least 2.5% of State Planning and Research (SPR) and MPO Planning (PL) Funds on Complete Streets Activities. Accordingly, each MPO in Florida received \$25,291 for Complete Streets activities as part of their PL funds allocations for FY 2023.

However, MPOs around the state are already implementing Complete Streets principles through existing policies, plans, or programs and spending more than that. Lee MPO is no different as we have been funding complete streets related studies and have been regularly funding project development phases that embrace complete streets principles. We agree with FDOT that Complete Streets is a priority and not a specific type of project, and follow their comprehensive 360° approach to transportation planning, design, and construction by supporting solutions for communities based on the needs of all roadway users.

Section 11206(e) of IIJA allows states and MPOs to opt out of the Complete Streets funding requirement in a fiscal year. FHWA guidance to states and MPOs for opting out of this requirement requires:

- *States must submit a consolidated opt out request package to FHWA by July 1 of each year.*
- *States must obtain the necessary written supporting attestation(s) from each MPO.*

Consistent with that opt out provision, FDOT is preparing a request package to submit to FHWA by July 1, 2023 to opt out from this requirement from the current fiscal year. The package will document FDOT and MPO Complete Streets activities in FYs 2022 and 2023. **Attached** for BPCC review and comment is the template of the resolution FDOT would like MPOs to adopt.

RESOLUTION NO. XXX

A RESOLUTION OF THE NAME OF MPO SUPPORTING THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PROPOSAL TO OPT OUT OF THE 2.5% SET ASIDE OF PL FUNDS FOR INCREASING SAFE AND ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS.

WHEREAS, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Section 11206 requires each MPO to use at least 2.5% of its PL funds on specified planning activities to increase safe and accessible options for multiple travel modes for people of all ages and abilities; and

WHEREAS, a state or MPO may opt out of the requirement if the state or MPO has Complete Streets standards and policies in place and has developed an up-to-date Complete Streets prioritization plan that identifies a specific list of Complete Streets projects to improve safety, mobility, or accessibility of a street; and

WHEREAS, for this requirement, the term “Complete Streets standards or policies” means standards or policies that ensure the safe and adequate accommodation of all users of the transportation system, including pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation users, children, older individuals, individuals with disabilities, motorists, and freight vehicles; and

WHEREAS, a Complete Streets program ensures the mobility of people and goods, supports economic development, preserves the quality of our environment and communities; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets principles encourage the planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of transportation systems that promote safe and convenient travel for people of all ages and abilities by a variety of transportation modes; and

WHEREAS, the Complete Streets program is incorporated in all Department projects and offers safe, convenient, and connected roadways that accommodate the mobility needs of all users and modes of transportation, is critical to livability and offers the state a competitive economic advantage and creates economic growth; and

WHEREAS, the Department has determined that all 27 MPOs in Florida are incorporating, either directly or by policy, Complete Streets efforts into their planning processes; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NAME OF MPO

Fully supports the Florida Department of Transportation in its effort to opt out of the Federal requirement for MPOs to set aside at least 2.5% of its PL funds on specified planning activities to increase safe and accessible options for multiple travel modes for people of all ages and abilities.

PASSED and DULY ADOPTED by the NAME OF MPO on DATE.

Attest:

NAME OF MPO

By: _____

By: _____

MPO DIRECTOR

MPO CHAIR

APPROVED BILLS AND STATE APPROPRIATION REQUESTS

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEM:

The FY 23 – FY 24 Florida Legislative Session ended on May 5th. At the May 23rd BPCC meeting, MPO staff will report on whether the legislative bills that we have been tracking were approved by the Legislature and the Governor.

Staff will also report on the status of the seven (7) Appropriation Project Requests that were submitted by various local governments in Lee County and whether they survived the Governor's veto pen.