

**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.**

## **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 BPC 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

Brandon Kaczmarek	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Clarissa Diaz	LeeTran
David Wagley	Lee County Department of Community Development
Farhan Butt	Lee County Department of Community Development
Henry Burden	Member-at-Large/Chair
Jennifer Hagen	Member-at-Large
Jodi Walborn	Blue Zones
Lee Waller	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Randy Krise	CAC
Scott Stryker	Village of Estero
Simone Behr	Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau
Syndi Bultman	Lee Health Trauma
Teresa Lewis	Member-at-Large/Vice-Chair

Others in attendance included Ron Gogoi and Don Scott with the Lee County MPO; Thomas Marquardt with Lee County Department of Transportation; George Schwigk with Cape Coral Police Department; and Nick Duncan with the Lee County Sheriff's Office.

### **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 March 28, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

**Ms. Teresa Lewis made the motion to approve the March 28, 2023 Meeting Minutes. Ms. Syndi Bultman seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item #5 - Recommendation of TA/SU/CARU Multimodal Project Priorities**

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented a table of the recommended TA/SU/CARU Multimodal Project Priorities and reported that the San Carlos project to enhance the existing sidewalk on the west side from Summerlin to Kelly Road has been removed as staff determined there is a need for sidewalks on both sides. Staff will be doing some modelling analysis as part of the 2050 Transportation Plan Update to justify the need for widening the segment from Linda Loma to Kelly 4 lanes and adding a bike/ped facility on the east

side. Staff has added a new project in the priority list that calls for a sidewalk on the east side from Summerlin to Linda Loma. This segment has 4 travel lanes and there is sufficient right of way on the east side to add a 8' sidewalk. His presentation can be viewed at the following link: [TA/SU/CARU Priorities](#)

**Ms. Teresa Lewis made the motion to recommend MPO Board approval of the TA/SU/CARU Multimodal Project Priorities. Ms. Syndi Bultman seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Agenda Item #6 - Discussion of SUN Trail Priorities**

Mr. Gogoi clarified that he would like to discuss the SUN Trail the Office of Greenways and Trails Council approved the proposed changes to the SUN Trail Network including the changes that were requested by the Collier MPO. The Collier MPO changes include the alignment crossing at the Lee and Collier County line with the new alignment now including Old 41 from Bonita Beach Road to Veterans Memorial Boulevard, Veterans Memorial Boulevard from Old 41 to Livingston Road. The changes to Livingston Road calls for a shared use path on the FP&L corridor with additional alignment changes in Collier including the removal of the alignment in Rookery Bay and adding the Rattlesnake Hammock Road from Rick King Memorial Parkway to Collier Boulevard. Going back to the SUN Trail priorities, Mr. Gogoi informed the committee that \$200 million will be available in FY 2025 for funding the unfunded projects from last year, pay for cost increases to funded projects, and advancing already funded project phases. The SUN Trail solicitation by FDOT for which the new priorities are being developed will be in October not June.

The committee then discussed the projects in the priority list. Mr. Wagley and Mr. Marquardt reported on proposed improvements and the status of programmed facilities on Littleton Road. The committee asked Mr. Gogoi to leave out the request for replacement of the canal crossings from the JYLP enhancement project and instead add a request for a direct crossing of Daniels Parkway using either a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon or an overpass. Mr. Stryker made the argument that if JYLP is touted as a linear park then there has to be a safe and direct crossing over Daniels Parkway. Mr. Gogoi said he would coordinate with LCDOT and County Parks and will provide an update on the committee request when he brings the priorities back for approval. His presentation can be viewed at the following link: [SUN Trail Priorities](#)

#### **Agenda Item #7 - Discussion of Candidate Locations for Cycle Tracks**

Mr. Gogoi stated that he anticipated this discussion to be the first of many to identify a location for protected bicycle lanes that the MPO will be funding and including among the priorities next year. He provided two examples of existing protected bicycle lanes and one which was underway as part of a repaving project. He also reported design requirements under the Florida Design Manual and the Florida Green Book and shared two candidate locations within the City of Fort Myers offered by City Engineer and BPC member Carl Karakos who could not be at the meeting. He asked committee members for suggestions for candidate locations or later by email that he could run it by local governments or FDOT. His presentation can be viewed at the following link: [Cycle Tracks](#).

Mr. Gogoi asked the Chair if Mr. Don's Scott item on legislative bills could be moved up next. Chair Burden agreed.

#### **Agenda Item #9 - Approved Legislative Bills and Appropriation Project Requests**

Mr. Scott provided an update on Approved Legislative Bills and Appropriation Requests. His presentation can be viewed at the following link: [Legislative Bills and Appropriations](#) Mr. Gogoi asked

the Chair if Agenda Item #10 for Local Agency/FDOT/MPO Updates could be taken next, and he said that he will get to item 8 after that. Chair Burden agreed.

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

Ms. Clarissa Diaz with LeeTran provided LeeTran updates. Mr. Gogoi discussed cross sections on the improvements proposed under the SR 78 4-lane PD&E Study from I 75 to SR 31, and the proposed Alico Extension. Mr. Thomas Marquardt with Lee County Department of Transportation provided a brief report on the May 11<sup>th</sup> Alico Extension public meeting. Mr. Gogoi and Mr. Marquardt also reported on the status of the Pine Island Road Shared Use Path Feasibility Study, the Matlacha Permanent Repairs and the bridge replacement project on Little Pine Island Road.

### **Agenda Item #8 - MPO Resolution to Opt Out of Set Aside for Safe and Accessible Transportation Options (Complete Streets)**

Mr. Gogoi explained the calculations used for Set Aside for Safe and Accessible Transportation Options, provided a background on the Set Aside requirement, and the FDOT initiated opt out provision. He also said this is another name for Complete Streets. He reported that the Lee MPO may very well be already meeting more than the set aside for FY 2023 using the MPO allocated Planning Funds (PL) and the SU/TALU funds. He shared a table on the Complete Street related activities that the Lee MPO have undertaken in 2022. Mr. Gogoi's presentation can be viewed here: [MPO Opt Out](#)

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

Mr. Scott Stryker commented on the need for pathways on US 41 in south Lee County. Mr. Gogoi said FDOT was going to present on the US 41/Bonita Beach Road project at the next BPCC meeting and one of the alternatives include 12' shared use paths on both sides of 41 for a very short stretch around the intersection.

### **Agenda Item #12 - Announcements**

There were no announcements.

### **Agenda Item #13 - Topics for next meeting**

Chair Burden asked for topics for next meeting to be sent to Mr. Gogoi.

### **Agenda Item #14 - Information and Distribution Items**

The information and distribution was [posted to the MPO website](#) and provided to the BPCC via email prior to the meeting.

Ms. Jennifer Hagen commented on Resilient Lee Task Force Meetings and the discussion on trails.

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

**An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed at the following link: [BPCC May 23, 2023](#)**

\*Action Items    \*May Require Action

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