

Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee
Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Tuesday, February 27, 2024
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 January 23, 2024 Meeting Minutes
5. Presentation of FDOT's Vision Zero Action Plan for Lee County On-System Roadways (FDOT)
6. Review and Comment on Scope of Services for Caloosahatchee Alternative Downtown Multimodal Study (Ron Gogoi)
7. City of Fort Myers Complete Streets Policy and Implementation Presentation (Nicole Monahan Setzer)
8. Presentation of the City of Cape Coral Draft Multimodal Plan (Laura Dodd)
9. Report on FGTC's Reprioritization of Florida Regional Trails (Ron Gogoi)
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

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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

Alisha Cody	Cape Coral Police Department
Brandon Kaczmarek	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Carl Karakos	City of Fort Myers
David Fender	Injury Prevention Coalition
David Wagley	Lee County Department of Community Development
Dennis Petracca	Lee County Sheriff's Office
Henry Burden	Member-at-Large
Jim Meyer	City of Sanibel
Lee Waller	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Olivia Cassidy	LeeTran
Randy Krise	Citizen Advisory Committee
Scott Stryker	Village of Estero
Sean Gibbons	City of Bonita Springs
Simone Behr	Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau
Teresa Lewis	Member-at-Large/Vice-Chair
Thomas Marquardt	Lee County Department of Transportation
Tracey Thornton	Lee Health Trauma

Others in attendance included Ron Gogoi and Don Scott with the Lee County MPO; Erica McCaughey with FDOT; and a Cape Coral Police Department Officer.

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 November 28, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Sean Gibbons made the motion to approve the November 28, 2023 Meeting Minutes. Ms. Teresa Lewis seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - *Election of New Officers

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this agenda item for the Election of New Officers. He mentioned the BPCC bylaws call for the election of a Chair and Vice-Chair to be held at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the year. He added the bylaws were recently amended to allow officers to serve consecutive terms

in the same office. The current Chair is Henry Burden and Vice-Chair is Teresa Lewis. Any voting member or their alternate may nominate another voting member to be an officer and a list of those primary members who attend meetings on a regular basis was attached to the agenda packet and [posted to the MPO website](#).

Mr. Henry Burden made the motion to elect Mr. Randy Krise as Chair and Mr. Scott Striker as Vice-Chair of the BPCC. Mr. Carl Karakos seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Krise presided as Chair over the remainder of the meeting.

Agenda Item #6 - City of Bonita Springs Complete Streets Policy and Implementation Presentation

Mr. Sean Gibbons presented this agenda item on the City of Bonita Springs Complete Streets Policy and Implementation. His Power Point presentation can be viewed here: [Bonita Complete Streets](#)

Agenda Item #7 - Presentation of the City of Cape Coral Draft Multimodal Plan

This agenda item was deferred to the next meeting.

Agenda Item #8 - Report on the Status of the Lee County MPO SS4A Comprehensive Safety Action Plan and the Preliminary Crash Statistics for 2023

Mr. Don Scott reported that the MPO received 7 proposals for the Lee County MPO Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Comprehensive Safety Action Plan RFP and that staff would be holding a meeting of the selection committee to review the proposals and select a consultant. He then provided a breakdown of the Preliminary Crash Statistics for 2023 and also reported Lee County's performance of its 2022 Safety targets. His Power Point presentation can be viewed here: [SS4A and Crash Stats](#)

Agenda Item #9 - Report on the Transportation Related Legislation

Mr. Scott provided a status update of the Transportation Related Legislation that was reported at the November meeting and also reported on new legislation including one that impacted MPOs directly, another that called for development of a Strategic Infrastructure Investment Plan, etc. His Power Point presentation can be viewed here: [Transportation Legislation](#)

Agenda Item #10 - Report on the Call for Proposals for Lee MPO TALU and SU Box Funds

Mr. Ron Gogoi reported on the schedule of submission of new proposals for Lee MPO TALU and SU Box Funds for inclusion in FDOT's FY 2026 – FY 2029 Work Program and shared a preliminary list of candidate projects. He also provided a report on 2024 legislative appropriation requests from local governments in Lee County. His Power Point presentation is available at the following link: [Call for Proposals](#)

Agenda Item #11 - Report on the Joint MPO Application for a SW Florida Passenger Rail Study Priority Request

Mr. Gogoi provided a report on a Joint MPO request for a Southwest Florida Passenger Rail Study Priority. His report also covered the history of passenger rail in SW Florida, recent rail vision strategies from FRA and Amtrak, and the potential alignment for SW Inter City Rail on I 75. His Power Point presentation can be viewed at the following link: [Passenger Rail Study Priority Request](#)

Agenda Item #12 - Local Agency/FDOT/MPO Updates

Mr. Karakos provided an update on the City of Fort Myers proposed roundabout at Challenger and Winker Avenue, and the proposed JYLP bridge at Colonial. Ms. Olivia Cassidy provided an update on the LeeTran Lehigh Park-and-Ride transfer facility. Mr. Kaczmarek reported that a SUN Trail funding request for JYLP Enhancement request was submitted by County Parks. Mr. Jim Meyer commented on the Sanibel bridge reopening and traffic. Mr. Sean Gibbons provided information on a City of Bonita Springs resolution creating a no through truck zone on Old 41 in Downtown Bonita Springs. Mr. Gogoi provided an update on the Florida Gulf Coast Trail logo competition and the installation of a continuous bike/ped count station at John Yarbrough Linear Park. His slides can be viewed at the following link: [MPO Updates](#)

Agenda Item #13 - 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 #14 - Announcements

Mr. Karakos announced the City of Fort Myers Traffic Engineer Nicole Monahan's marriage and subsequent name change to Nicole Setzer.

Agenda Item #15 - Topics for next meeting

The topics for the next meeting included the deferred Cape Coral Multimodal Plan presentation and a Complete Streets presentation from City of Fort Myers.

Agenda Item #16 - Information and Distribution Items

There were no information and/or distribution items.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:03 p.m.

An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed at the following link: [BPCC January 23, 2024](#)

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PRESENTATION OF FDOT'S VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN FOR LEE COUNTY

DISCUSSION:

FDOT District 1 has been working on a Vision Zero Action Plan covering the state highways in Lee County since early summer 2023. A draft Collision Profile Analysis was completed at the end of December 2023.

FDOT will provide a presentation of the work completed so far as part of this project at the February 27th BPCC meeting. At this meeting, MPO staff will also report on the selection committee rankings of the firms that submitted proposals in response to the Lee MPO SS4A Action Plan RFP, and the name of the firm that staff is negotiating a contract with.

REVIEW AND COMMENT ON SCOPE OF SERVICES FOR CALOOSAHATCHEE ALTERNATIVE DOWNTOWN MULTIMODAL STUDY

DISCUSSION ITEM

The Lee County SUN Trail Network in Fort Myers and North Fort Myers currently includes an alignment along Fowler Street and Evans Avenue, north of Hanson Street. This alignment bypasses most of the attractions in the City's Downtown River District as well as the main hub of the proposed Midtown. Additionally, Fowler Street in North Fort Myers from the Edison Bridge to SR 78 is a constrained high volume facility with only 5' wide sidewalks.

The MPO received SUN Trail funds this year to conduct a study in FY 2024 to determine an alternate SUN Trail Route connecting the City of Fort Myers with North Fort Myers. The anticipated route will traverse through Central Fort Myers, Midtown, and the Downtown River District before crossing the River to North Fort Myers. This Route will meet up with the rest of the SUN Trail Network to the south at the JYLP Trail Extension beginning at Hanson Street, and to the north at the existing Shared Use Path on North Tamiami Trail, north of Pine Island Road (SR 78).

Staff is developing a draft scope of services for the BPCC to review and comment. A Request for Proposals to conduct the study will be advertised in June 2024 with the project expected to commence in mid to late July.

The draft scope will be transmitted electronically to committee members for review by Thursday, February 22nd. The scope will be presented at the February 27th BPCC Meeting.

CITY OF FORT MYERS COMPLETE STREETS POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION PRESENTATION

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION:

This item is included in the agenda as part of the committee request for discussions on Complete Streets and to get a sense of how the various local government jurisdictions in Lee County are doing in adopting and implementing Complete Streets Policy.

This is the second in the presentation series that will be provided over the next few months with City Engineer Nicole Monahan Setzer presenting the City of Fort Myers Complete Streets Policy and Implementation at the February 27th BPCC meeting. The City of Cape Coral and Lee County are expected to be presenting at the March 26th and April 23rd meetings, respectively.

PRESENTATION OF THE CITY OF CAPE CORAL MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION:

The City of Cape Coral is nearing completion of its first ever Multimodal Plan. A Public Workshop on the Plan was held on January 25th at the Cape Coral City Hall at 1015 Cultural Park Boulevard. BPC member and City of Cape Coral Principal Planner Laura Dodd will be presenting the Plan at the February 27th BPC meeting where she will also be sharing comments from the public workshop and taking input from the committee.

REPORT ON FGTC'S RE-RANKING OF FLORIDA REGIONAL TRAIL SYSTEMS

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION:

In 2014, Florida Greenways and Trail Council adopted the Regional Trail System Rankings in Florida resulting with the top two regional trail systems directly receiving 2/3rd of the annually available SUN Trail Program funds from FDOT for implementation. The remaining 1/3rd of the available funds were awarded to successful applicants individual trail segments through a competitive grant process.

The top two regional trail systems are Coast to Coast Trail and the St. John's River Loop with more than 80% of the Coast to Coast Trail completed.

There are 14 regional trail systems in Florida now including 7 new trails. The Office of Greenways and Trails staff will be ranking these trail systems for FGTC review and adoption of priorities.

MPO staff will be presenting the list of regional trail systems and criteria and will be reporting on the next steps at the February 27th BPCC meeting.