

# BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization

Tuesday, September 27, 2022

Fort Myers Collaboratory

2031 Jackson Street,

Fort Myers, FL 33901

10:00 a.m.



## AGENDA

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1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call/Introductions**
3. **Public Comments on Items on the Agenda**
4. \*Amendment of the April 26, 2022 Meeting Minutes
5. \*Approval of the August 23, 2022 Meeting Minutes
6. Burnt Store Road PD&E Study Presentation (FDOT)
7. SR 739 Corridor Improvements Presentation (FDOT)
8. RSA Recommendations for San Carlos Blvd from Kelly Road to Linda Loma (Ron Gogoi)
9. Update on Lee MPO's Reconnecting Communities Pilot Planning and Safe Street for All Grant Applications (Don Scott)
10. Fatality Crash Corridors in Lee County (Ron Gogoi)
11. FDOT/MPO/Local Agency Updates
12. Public and Member Comments on Items not on the Agenda
13. Topics for next meeting
14. Announcements
15. Information and Distribution Items

## Adjournment

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\*Action Items    \*May Require Action

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# BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Fort Myers Collaboratory

2031 Jackson Street,

Fort Myers, FL 33901

10:00 a.m.



## Meeting Minutes

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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
Henry Burden	Member-at-Large/Vice-Chair
Joel DeGuzman	Lee County School District
Jorge Puente	LeeTran
Lee Waller	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Pimolmas Tan	City of Cape Coral
Rachel Pierce	City of Sanibel
Randy Paniagua	Fort Myers Beach
Simone Behr	Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau
Teresa Lewis	Member-at-Large/Chair

Others in attendance included Ron Gogoi with the Lee County MPO; Noah Bourk with Lee Health Trauma; Thomas Marquardt with Lee County DOT; Master Sergeant James Lear; Jodi Walborn with the Blue Zones Project SWFL; Deborah Chesna with FDOT; and a member of the public John Majka.

Chair Lewis asked the newest BPCC member, Ms. Rachel Pierce, to introduce herself. Ms. Pierce provided a brief introduction.

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

Mr. John Majka provided a public comment on the meeting minutes.

### Agenda Item #4 - \*March 29, 2022 Meeting Minutes

**Mr. Henry Burden made the motion to approve the March 29, 2022 Meeting Minutes. Mr. David Wheaton seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

### Agenda Item #5 - \*BPCC Bylaws Amendment

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this agenda item for the review and amendment of the proposed bylaws changes. He explained MPO staff is proposing amendments to the BPCC bylaws in response to questions raised by a municipality on how unexcused or long absences in BPCC meetings by non-staff citizen members appointed by that municipality are addressed as the municipality has pointed out the absence of such guidelines in the current bylaws. He further commented that the City of Sanibel and Village of Estero have historically appointed residents from their respective communities who are not

employed by either jurisdiction due to unavailability of staff persons to serve on the BPC. He noted in the past, the Town of Fort Myers Beach had also once appointed a non-staff resident to serve on the BPC, and so has the City of Bonita Springs when it was first incorporated. He added that whenever municipalities have chosen this route, staff has asked them to get interested candidates to complete the same application used by our At Large Members, yet the bylaws have not reflected this unique need, nor do the bylaws carry guidelines on how to address unexcused absences. He continued that staff has therefore made the proposed changes to the bylaws to address this issue as well as adding the Blue Zone Project as a non-voting member while also expanding the responsibilities of the BPC to incorporate micromobility/emerging technologies/bike map production. Mr. Gogoi also reviewed the new section on *Public Comment Procedure for Meeting and Workshops* that has been added to allow a 3 minute time limit to each speaker and also allows the Chair to modify the three minute time limit to a speaker at a specific meeting with the approval of a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority vote of the members present. The revised bylaws were attached to the agenda packet, posted to the MPO website, and shown as slides at the meeting. They can also be viewed here: [BPC BYLAWS AMENDMENT](#) The committee discussed topics covered for public speaking, typical agenda items that call for public comments, correcting an error in the bylaws calling out five municipalities instead of six in section four part C, public comment time limits, procedure at other meetings for public comments, adding types of micromobility vehicles, spelling out acronyms, adding glossary or definitions, using widely accepted definitions, suspending bylaws vote to next meeting for additional review until the bylaws are approved.

**Mr. Henry Burden motioned to table the Bylaws amendment until the next meeting. Mr. David Wagley seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

The committee discussed the changes being made to the bylaws, reasons for tabling the bylaws, providing additional time for review, bringing a clean document back along with the markup for approval at the next meeting, summary of changes being made, and possibility withdrawing the tabling of the item.

#### **Agenda Item #6 - FDOT D1 Pedestrian Bicycle Coordinator Report**

Ms. Deborah Chesna with FDOT presented this agenda item to report on the ongoing bicycle pedestrian activities taking place in Florida and in the District. She provided a report on the progress of US BR 15 designation and an update on the SUN Trail Program. She reported that inflation has resulted in an increase of project costs and that there will be a call for new SUN Trail projects. She asked local governments to review a map of the SUN trail map that shows the status of each segment and provide updated information. A link to the map will be made available to the committee. Mr. Burden asked the reason behind not including the existing multi use path on US 70 in the SUN Trail network. Mr. Gogoi said that he will include an agenda item in an upcoming meeting to discuss new Trail proposals to submit for SUN Trail funds.

#### **Agenda Item #7 - Lee MPO Funding Allocations for FY 2022**

Mr. Gogoi presented this agenda item on the Lee MPO funding allocations for FY 2022 that was tabled from the prior meeting on March 29, 2022. He provided a brief background and then gave a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on Statewide Appropriations, Lee MPO SU and TA Allocations and District One Fund Distribution, MPO Planning (PL) funds, and Competitive Grant Programs. His presentation can be viewed here: [Funding Allocations](#) The committee discussed the new carbon reduction formula program, RAISE, and the Healthy Street discretionary grant programs for undertaking bike ped projects, whether discretionary grants covered stormwater drainage work, Chair Lewis felt that there should be a requirement and a standard in Lee County for implementation of green bike lanes which ensued a discussion on the maintenance cost of such facilities to local governments. Mr. Gogoi then invited Master Sergeant James Lear with the Cape Coral Police Department (CCPD) to provide a presentation on three state safety sub grants they received for FY

2022. Master Sergeant Lear noted Sergeant Alisha Cody had also assisted with the grants and presentation information. He reported that CCPD received high visibility enforcement grant for impaired driving, speeding and aggressive driving, and bicycle pedestrian education and enforcement. A history of crashes in Cape Coral resulting from impaired driving and speeding was provided along with where the City ranked among the 34 Cities with populations over 75,000 for such crashes, number of grant operations conducted, the amount of grants awarded, number of stops and citations issued, and arrests made were also provided as part of the presentation. His presentation is available under [CCPD Grants](#) The committee discussed effects of marijuana on driving, the high risk roadways where crashes occurred and complaints of aggressive and impaired driving were reported, and the availability of funds in Lee County.

### **Agenda Item #8 - Town of Fort Myers Beach Margaritaville Update**

Mr. Gogoi provided an update on the Town of Fort Myers Beach Margaritaville Development with assistance from Mr. Randy Paniagua. Mr. Gogoi reported that he coordinated with the Town and TPL to prepare this update. He showed slides which included aerial pictures of the construction in progress, a resort rendering, project schedule, and resort features. The presentation can be viewed here: [Margaritaville Presentation](#) Mr. Gogoi also played a video developed by TPL for this presentation. The video shown can be accessed on the Margaritaville Facebook page at the following link: [Margaritaville Video](#) The committee discussed roadway improvements implemented on Fort Myers Beach, location of bicycle lanes or sharrows, separation of facilities, drunk driving crash resulting in pedestrian death, width of sidewalks, emphasis on law enforcement, variation of speed with time of day, current enforcement, roadway and intersection improvements to be implemented across Times Square as part of the San Carlos Improvement project, beach access changes, additional parking spots, off beach parking, Park and Ride and LeeTran tram services, seasonal changes, examining trends in tourism to determine tram schedule, ensuring business owners know about Park and Ride services, and signage.

### **Agenda Item #9 - Appointment of a Member to the MPO's Traffic Management Operations Committee**

Mr. Gogoi stated that the BPCCC bylaws call for a representative from this committee to serve on the MPO's Traffic Management Operations Committee (TMOC). Participation of a BPCCC member is to provide input and ensure coordination on proposals discussed at TMOC meetings that impact is non-motorized traffic. Mr. Gogoi added that Mr. Dan Moser was the primary member from the BPCCC on this committee with Mr. David Wheaton as the current alternate. Mr. Gogoi said with Mr. Moser leaving the BPCCC, the committee needs to appoint a primary member unless the current alternate, Mr. Wheaton agrees to serve as the primary representative. Mr. Wheaton asked to remain as alternate due to other existing committee commitments. Mr. Gogoi noted that the intent of this bylaws requirement is to pick a representative from among at-large members only as they are able to speak more freely. Chair Lewis asked about the frequency of TMOC meetings. Mr. Gogoi replied the meetings were held every other month. He asked for volunteers. Chair Lewis volunteered.

**Mr. Henry Burden nominated Ms. Teresa Lewis as the primary representative for the TMOC meeting. Mr. David Wheaton seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.**

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

Mr. Carl Karakos with the City of Fort Myers mentioned the first week of June is slated for the conversion of First and Second Streets. Ms. Simone Behr with the Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau announced the annual travel rally would be held on May 3 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Ms. Jodi Walborn with Blue Zones of SWFL mentioned May is bicycle month and noted activities planned by Blue Zones

SWFL. Mr. Jorge Puente with LeeTran mentioned ridership, the mobility on demand project in Bonita Springs, and service changes. Chair Lewis mentioned the Ride of Silence being held on May 18.

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

Mr. John Majka, a member of the public, requested a formal presentation on the SR 80 project as an agenda item. There was brief discussion on the topic of the presentation, outlining the topic and presenting to staff, ensuring interest of group, and ensuring presentation is specific and relevant. Mr. Majka also expressed his concerns regarding the ongoing construction of SR 80 bicycle facilities showing some slides and a picture. Mr. Majka's slides and picture can be viewed here: [Mr. Majka Slides](#) The picture shown by Mr. Majka can be viewed here: [Mr. Majka Picture](#)

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

There were no announcements.

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

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:06 p.m.

An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed here: [https://soundcloud.com/user-390911534/04-26-2022-bpccmp3?utm\\_source=clipboard&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=social\\_sharing](https://soundcloud.com/user-390911534/04-26-2022-bpccmp3?utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing)

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# 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

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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 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](#)**

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

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## **BURNT STORE ROAD PD&E STUDY PRESENTATION**

A Project Development & Environmental (PD&E) Study of Burnt Store Road from Van Buren Parkway to just north of the Charlotte County line has been under way since January 1, 2020. The study will evaluate alternatives to widen this segment of Burnt Store Road from a two lane undivided roadway to a four-lane divided roadway. The study also includes evaluation of bridge options over the Gator Slough Canal. The current estimated completion date is late summer 2023.

An in-person alternatives public workshop was held on August 30<sup>th</sup> followed by an online workshop on September 1<sup>st</sup> to gather public input and comments on the alternatives and analyses completed to date. As part of this public involvement process, FDOT will also be making a presentation at the September 27<sup>th</sup> BPCC meeting. Concept Plan Rollout and other documents can be viewed at the URL below:

<http://www.swflroads.com/burntstorerd/vanburentocharlottectyline/>.

## **SR 739 CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS PRESENTATION**

FDOT, District One, is designing improvements to SR 739 from the Caloosahatchee River to north of SR 78 in Lee County. The project was requested by the FDOT District One Traffic Safety Department and is intended to improve safety, enhance traffic flow, and reduce crashes. These improvements will be implemented during a resurfacing project along the corridor within the same project limits, programmed in FY 2024.

An in person public meeting was held on September 15<sup>th</sup> to gather comments and input. A virtual option was also available to provide comments. A presentation to the BPCC will also be provided at the September 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. However, the presentation is tentative, as staff is waiting on a confirmation.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE RSA CONDUCTED ON SAN CARLOS BOULEVARD FROM LINDA LOMA TO KELLY ROAD**

FDOT's Adopted Work Program (WP) and the Lee MPO's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) includes a median modification safety project on San Carlos Boulevard from Linda Loma Drive to Kelly Road. The design phase is underway and the construction phase is funded in FY 2025. As a precursor to this project, FDOT completed a Road Safety Audit (RSA) of this segment and has come up with recommendations that will be implemented during construction of the median modification project. MPO staff will provide an update on the RSA recommendations.

## **UPDATE ON A RECONNECTING COMMUNITIES PILOT PLANNING GRANT AND SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL GRANT**

The Housing Authority of Fort Myers received a \$30 million Choice Neighborhood grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Edison Avenue - Dunbar area (one of only five grants awarded in the country). **Attached** is a map of the neighborhood investment area. As part of the improvements, there have been issues raised with safely accessing the amenities that are being built and crossing SR 82. During their discussions about improvements in the area, HUD advised the Housing Authority to contact the MPO about going after a Reconnecting Communities Grant to address the issues. Staff will provide an update on the proposed grant application.

Staff will also provide an update on the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) grant application.

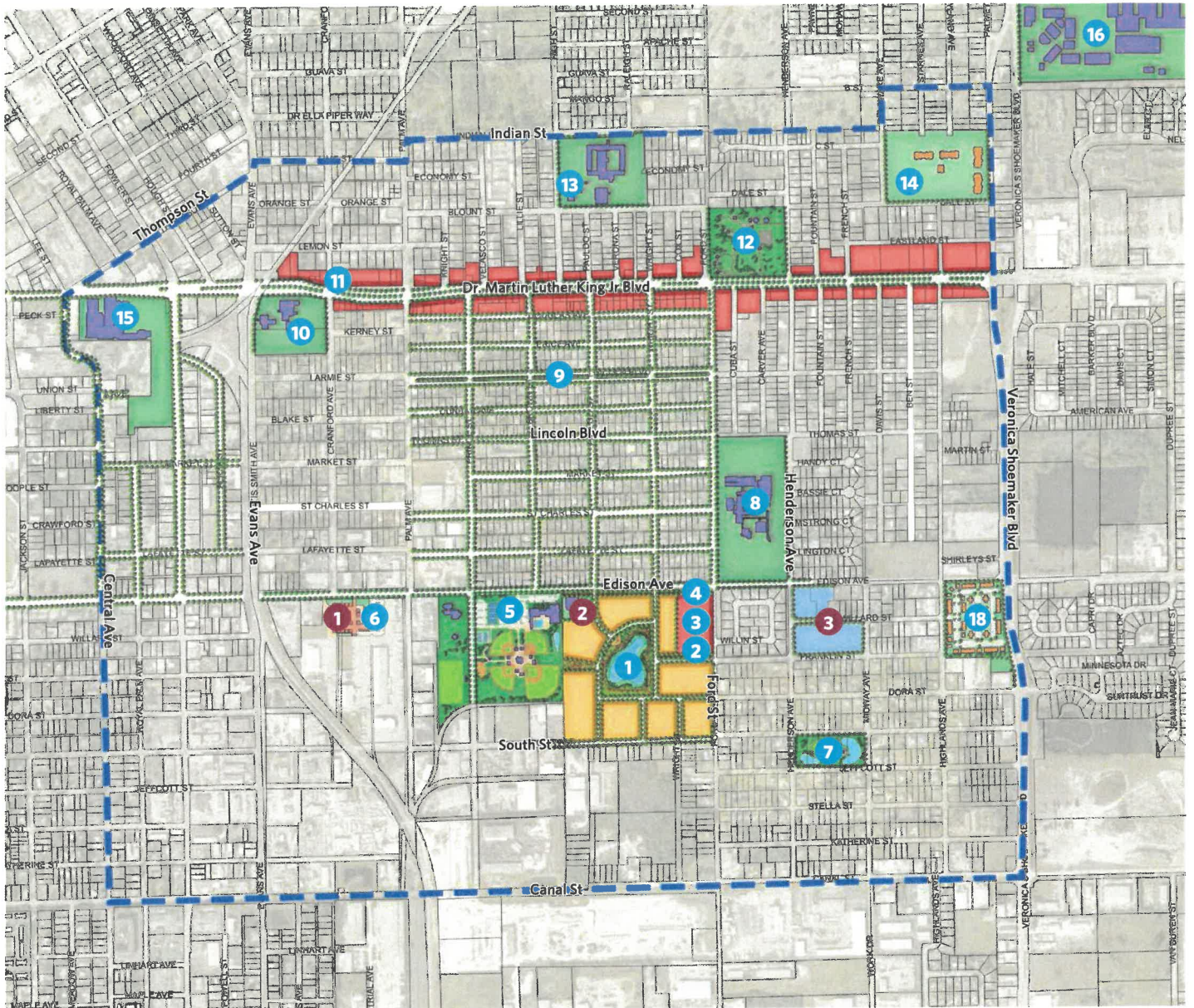


Fig 5. Neighborhood Investment Map



Fig 6. Off-Site Housing Site on Cleveland Avenue

- NEIGHBORHOOD BOUNDARY
- PUBLIC OPEN SPACE
- INSTITUTIONAL USE
- COMMERCIAL USE
- RESIDENTIAL USE

INVESTMENTS

- 1 Southward Village, Transformed
- 2 Future Community Grocery Store
- 3 Future Fifth Third Bank Branch
- 4 Community Retail
- 5 Fort Myers STARS Complex
- 6 Farmer's Market Restaurant
- 7 Cityview Park
- 8 Franklin Park Elementary School
- 9 Future Lincoln Boulevard Redevelopment
- 10 IMAG Science Center
- 11 McCollum Hall
- 12 Roberto Clemente Park
- 13 Dunbar Community School
- 14 East Pointe Place
- 15 Future Fort Myers Police Department
- 16 Fort Myers Technical College
- 17 Cleveland Avenue Housing
- 18 Towles Garden Housing

CRITICAL COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS

- 1 Future State Farmer's Market Activation
- 2 Dr. Carrie D. Robinson Center
- 3 Future Urban Farm

## **FATALITY CRASH CORRIDORS IN LEE COUNTY**

At the September 27<sup>th</sup> BPCC meeting, MPO staff will present statewide trends of bicycle/pedestrian fatalities and serious injuries, FDOT District 1 top ten fatality crash corridors from 2017 through 2021 (this includes five in Lee County), and an analysis of fatal and serious injury crashes in Lee County from 1/1/2019 through 6/30/22.