BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Tuesday, January 25, 2022
Fort Myers Collaboratory
2031 Jackson Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901
10:00 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

The in-person meeting was officially called to order by at approximately 10:00 a.m.

Agenda Item #2 - Roll Call/Introductions

MPO staff called and recorded the roll. There was a quorum. Those in attendance included:

From the BPCC

Armand Regnaert	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Brandon Kaczmarek	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Carl Karakos	City of Fort Myers
Dan Moser	Injury Prevention Coalition
David Wagley	Lee County Department of Community Development
David Wheaton	Member-at-Large
Dennis Petracca	Lee County Sheriff's Office
Gordon Brown	Village of Estero
Henry Burden	Member-at-Large
James Lear	Cape Coral Police Department
Jorge Puente	LeeTran
Lee Waller	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Pimolmas Tan	Cape Coral
Randy Krise	Lee County MPO Citizen Advisory Committee/BPCC Chair
Randy Paniagua	Fort Myers Beach
Scott Stryker	Village of Estero
Simone Behr	Lee County Visitors and Convention Bureau
Teresa Lewis	Member-at-Large

Others in attendance included Ron Gogoi and Don Scott with the Lee County MPO; Betty-Ann Sherer with the Charlotte County – Punta Gorda MPO; Thomas Marquardt and Farhan Butt with Lee County; and Christopher Speese with Atkins for FDOT.

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 23, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Carl Karakos made the motion to approve the November 23, 2021 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 with a call for nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair for 2022. He mentioned the BPCC bylaws do not allow officers to serve consecutive terms in the same office and call for the election of a Chair and Vice-Chair at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the year. He added the bylaws allow the current Vice-Chair to

automatically become the new Chair for the new calendar year if he or she accepts the position. Mr. Dan Moser, the current Vice-Chair declined the acceptance of the position of Chair for 2022 due to personal issues that may prevent him from attending meetings. Chair Randy Krise asked for nominations for Chair. Mr. Moser nominated Ms. Lewis for the position of Chair. Mr. David Wagley nominated Mr. Henry Burden for the position of Chair. Mr. Burden stated he would prefer filling the role of Vice-Chair if nominated.

Mr. Carl Karakos made the motion to elect Ms. Teresa Lewis for BPCC Chair for 2022. Mr. James Lear seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. David Wagley made the motion to elect Mr. Henry Burden for BPCC Vice-Chair for 2022. Mr. Dan Moser seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 - Update on the SR 865 (San Carlos Boulevard) PD&E Study

Mr. Ron Gogoi introduced Mr. Christopher Speese with Atkins for FDOT to present this agenda item as an update on the San Carlos Project Development & Environment Study (PD&E) from south of Estero Boulevard to Summerlin Road project, ahead of a public meeting scheduled for February 3rd. The PD&E Study is anticipated to be completed by Spring of 2022 and Design in Fall of 2022. Mr. Speese provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on safety, project limits, project goals, preferred alternative, evaluation matrix, schedule, funding, contacts, and coordination with other local projects. The presentation can be viewed here: SR 865 Update The committee discussed curbing, lane size, traffic congestion, narrowing lanes, buffers, slowing speeds, speed study, wider bicycle lanes, upcoming public hearing, seasonal fluctuations in speed, context sensitive standards, pedestrians in area, driveways, history of project, prior project manager, barrier placement, breakdown lane, standards on bridges, shoulders on bridges, tourists in area, high speed of electric bicycles, driver behavior, possible lane configurations, providing options and choices for pedestrians and cyclists, current cyclist traffic across bridge, center lane widths and possible configurations, turn lane need, resurfacing in area of Hurricane Pass, future plans for continuation of bicycle lanes/sharrows, FDOT coordination with Fort Myers Beach and Lee County on project, example of McGregor and resurfacing, water quality basins/drainage, landscaping, Beach Park and Ride and LeeTran schedules, and bus shelter requests. Chair Krise thanked Mr. Speese for his presentation.

Agenda Item #7 - Caloosahatchee Bridge Sidewalk Update

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item as an update to the Caloosahatchee Bridge Sidewalk project. The MPO's current FY 2022 through FY 2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is being amended to add the design phase for adding a sidewalk on the US 41 Caloosahatchee Bridge using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds in the current year. He said the amendment was previously not approved by the MPO Board at its November 19th meeting but was brought back before the MPO Board, per their direction to staff at the November meeting, and passed unanimously at the January 21 meeting. Mr. Scott then presented the FDOT Power Point presentation that included slides with information on existing bridge design, demand, future demand, comparison with other bridges, connectivity, equity, benefits, and request. The FDOT presentation can be viewed here: Caloosahatchee Bridge Update The committee discussed funding type, bridge replacement schedule, example of Big Carlos bridge, reasonings for change of vote at MPO Board, current use of bridge by pedestrians and cyclists without facilities, real estate and building in North Fort Myers, corresponding plan for Centennial Park area, inclusion in Greenways and Trails Master Plan/SUN Trail, age of bridge, current shape of bridge, possible configuration, expansion joint, and floating barrier.

Agenda Item #8 - Overview of Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item as an overview of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. He provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, investments, formula funds, competitive program overview, policy overview, safety, equity, resilience, modernization and emerging mobility, other policy issues, modal overview, highway summary, transit summary, multimodal and freight summary, rail summary, aviation summary, seaport summary, implementation, implementation issues, and additional information. His presentation can be viewed here: Overview of Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act The committee discussed funding opportunities, qualifying shovel ready projects, restrictions on use of funding, road widening, adding capacity, carbon reduction program, bicycle/pedestrian and micromobility funding programs, attainment areas, LeeTran funding, competitive grant funding, Vision Zero, Complete Streets Plans, notice of funding opportunities, length of Federal Process, cost increases, Safe Routes to School program, and employee turnover. For more information on the bill go to Bipartisan Infrastructure Law - FHWA | Federal Highway Administration (dot.gov). Mr. Gogoi asked to take Agenda Item #10 before moving on to Agenda #9. Chair Krise agreed to the change.

Agenda Item #10 - Update on Candidate Projects for the 2022 Multimodal Box Fund Priority List

Mr. Gogoi presented this agenda item as an update on the Candidate Projects for the 2022 Multimodal Box Fund Priority List. He provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on the application schedule, project list, MPO request for projects on state highways, new area projects, and intersection improvement projects. His presentation can be viewed here: Multimodal Box Fund Priority List The committee discussed submissions, GAP system, ensuring consistency, letters of support, priority approval by MPO Board, announcements of chosen projects for funding, project management, McGregor bicycle lane feasibility study, Coconut Road widening, and Corkscrew Road project with Estero government control.

Agenda Item #9 - Florida Greenways and Trails Update

Mr. Gogoi presented this agenda item as an update on the Florida Greenways and Trails (FGT). Mr. Gogoi said the SUN Trail Program has so far brought in $12.5 million to Lee County. He provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on the current FGT update, previous updates, priority and opportunity land trails map, and Caloosahatchee downtown multimodal alternative study update. He asked if there were any questions. His presentation can be viewed here: Florida Greenways and Trails Update The link to the Land Trails (Opportunity and Priority Maps) is below: https://fdep.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=2531c4f10b31420692a77b94e35d917b Mr. Gogoi said he would like to see the Caloosahatchee Downtown Multimodal Alternative Study done. He asked for input from the committee. The committee discussed funding, changing the alignment, City of Fort Myers Master Plan, alternative routes through downtown Fort Myers, Midtown project, lack of a completed feasibility study, creation of project by City of Fort Myers to include micromobility, completing the study process for the next cycle, leaving alignment as is for now, waiting to make changes until study is completed, history of alignment, and motion for support.

Mr. Dan Moser made the motion to keep the current OGT Land Priority Trail and SUN Trail alignments in Lee County. Ms. Teresa Lewis seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

The committee briefly discussed action items and preparing for meetings based on the agenda.

Agenda Item #11 - FDOT/MPO/Local Agency Updates

Mr. Carl Karakos presented information on the City of Fort Myers Parking Scopes of Work. The scope information can be viewed here: Parking Scopes The committee discussed addressing parking based on increased capacity, micromobility, enforcement of e-bike regulations, consideration of golf cart use in downtown Fort Myers, Hendry Street pedestrian corridor, presentation of the scopes at committee meetings for input, lack of bicycle parking downtown, ordinance that requires developers to provide bicycle parking, goal of study, feasibility of suggested improvements, timeframes, funding, metrics for success, providing comments on changes/modifications in email form to Mr. Karakos, coming up with feasible plan from cost perspective, and code reflecting reality. Mr. Jorge Puente with LeeTran discussed new bus bays and adding capacity, service changes, and mobility on demand in Bonita. Mr. Armand Regnaert with Lee County Parks discussed JYLP and Able Canal updates. He also introduced the new Lee County Parks and Recreation representative to the BPCC, Mr. Brandon Kaczmarek.

Agenda Item #12 - Public and Member Comments on Items not on the Agenda

There were no public and/or member comments on items not on the agenda.

Agenda Item #13 – Announcements

There were no announcements. Chair Krise welcomed the new Chair and Vice-Chair. Mr. Gogoi noted due to Collaboratory scheduling issues, the March 29 meeting would be held at another location to be determined. He also provided an update on the USBR 15 progress in Lee County. The committee discussed the publication of the new bicycle map, when it was set to be distributed, providing a pdf for website upload by the February meeting, adding an agenda item for safety performance measures, Bike Ped Safety Action Plan, access to Signal 4 Analytics, access to DHSMV crash dashboard, presenting data from Signal 4, redacting data from crash report before presenting to committee, heat maps for high incident locations, and making request to staff for that information.

Agenda Item #14 - Information and Distribution Items

There were no information and/or distribution items.

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

An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed at the following link:
https://soundcloud.com/user-390911534/01-25-2022-bpccmp3?si=e9a14a48917342de97431062428a8f95&utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing

*Action Items †May Require Action

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