

**BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE of the
COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Virtual Meeting via ZOOM platform
August 18, 2020 ---- 9:00 A.M.
Meeting Minutes**

1. Call to Order

Mr. Bonness called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Ms. McLaughlin called roll and confirmed a quorum was present.

Members Present

Joe Bonness, Chair
Anthony Matonti, Vice-Chair
Alan Musico, At-Large
Andrea Halman, At-Large
Patty Huff, At-Large
Kim Jacob, At-Large
Dayna Fendrick, At-Large
Susan Sonnenschein, At-Large

Members Absent

Dr. Mort Friedman, At-Large
David Driapsa, At-Large
Larry Smith, At-Large

MPO Staff

Anne McLaughlin, Executive Director
Brandy Otero, Principal Planner
Karen Intriago, Administrative Assistant

Others Present

Victoria Peters, FDOT
Deborah Chesna, FDOT
Lorraine Lantz, Collier County Transportation Planning/TAC Chair
Eric Ortman, Blue Zones Project
Valerie Nowotnick, Minute Taker

3. Approval of the Agenda

Ms. Halman moved to approve the agenda. Second by Ms. Huff. Carried unanimously.

4. Approval of the May 19, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Fendrick moved to approve the May 19, 2020 minutes. Second by Ms. Halman. Carried unanimously.

5. Open to the Public for Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

Mr. Ortman – update from Blue Zones re: Bike To Work Day. September 22, 2020. Discussed various stops and activities at each stop location.

6. Agency Updates

A. FDOT

Ms. Peters - Working diligently and vetting the priority projects. Trying to get them into the next cycle of the upcoming work program. Draft tentative may be issued in November or December. **Ms. Chesna** – discussed statewide continuous count program. Certain counties chosen to put continuous counter on trails to assist in counting pedestrians using facilities. Two per district – possibly more once program is updated and are based on safety. Collier County is not on list but that signifies not high crash rates. Can put suggestions on FDOT website. SunTrail is also soliciting for projects in fall – open in September and will close in December. **Mr. Bonness** – are other municipalities and counties considered in bike/ped statistics. **Ms. Chesna** – will get info and report back. Brief discussion regarding locations of other counters within region. **Ms. Huff** – can 2-mile gap be submitted for upcoming SunTrail project. **Ms. McLaughlin** – Collier County would need to agree to sign the FDOT maintenance agreement before the MPO can finalize a submittal. In the past, has worked with Trinity Scott (FDOT) on issue. Collier County has specific concerns with the wording of the maintenance agreement. Discussion among members and FDOT representatives regarding how to move forward on getting support from Collier County to move forward.

B. MPO Executive Director

Ms. McLaughlin – working on Long Range Transportation Plan. Opportunities to get involved if interested. Wiki map loaded on LRTP page of the website to receive suggestions. First draft available of needs plan. Just finished certification review with FDOT, FHWA, etc. They commented that the 2040 LRTP was not sufficiently multimodal. So we need to broaden the reviewers and solicit more suggestions to enhance the multimodal aspect of the 2045 LRTP.. Also acknowledged proposal from safety coalition involving bike/ped safety education for drivers and riders. Blue Zones is leading charge. Naples Pathways Coalition is also involved. Local Road Safety Plan is close to being published and recommends formation of coalition pertaining to safety education. Will update committee once proposal is more closely reviewed. **Ms. Halman** – have other committees met during summer months to discuss the Long Range Transportation Plan. **Ms. McLaughlin** – CAC and TAC committees have met to assist with development of Needs and Cost Feasible roadway networks for modeling. Will share future meeting notices.

7. Committee Action

A. Review and Comment on Collier County FY20-25 Resurfacing Plan

Ms. McLaughlin – reviewed comments that were provided at May meeting. Discussed attachments in agenda packet. Commented on conversation with Tony Khawaja, Traffic Operations Director and Chair of the Congestion Management Committee (CMC) concerning repaving plan in response to **Mr. Bonness** comments. Also mentioned narrowing vehicular lanes to expand cycle lanes. County does not support lower than 11 ft. in width due to commercial traffic, busses, etc. utilizing roads. However, FDOT is reducing lane width to 10 ft on US 41 near Davis Blvd. and Shadowlawn, County will monitor to see if successful. Discussed lane markings for bike lanes as a way to preserve them; if there is insufficient right-of-way at intersections, may not have sufficient room to incorporate bike lanes whether signed or not. Everglades Blvd. widening project – do not have answer on bike lanes. County standard is to include shoulders on rural roads. Modifications to establish bike lanes would have to be specifically requested as bike/ped project due to need for increased funding. **Mr. Bonness** – often shoulders are paved larger than required for bike lanes. **Ms. McLaughlin** – discussed remaining projects on list pertaining to bike lane construction. **Ms. Lantz** – new road projects are incorporating design features for right-of-way. Collier County is considering all suggestions and determining feasibility to add onto current repaving plan and future construction projects. Extensive discussion with committee members as to projects being reviewed and considered for bike/ped lanes to be added into construction.

B. Update on 2020 Bike/Ped Project Priorities and Reconsideration of 91st Ave N Sidewalk Project

Ms. McLaughlin – referenced agenda packet explanation of project. Project was dropped from bike/ped priorities list. Anticipated there would be a reconsideration of priorities such as the Freedom Park Pedestrian Bridge from a cost and feasibility standpoint, due to environmental issues and cost of mitigation. Tried to get onto Naples City Council agenda but was not successful. Councilman McCabe is supportive of project remaining on priority list. Will probably seek public involvement on overall project scope. Collier County would most likely have to manage the project because Golden Gate Parkway is a County Road. Regarding 91st Ave N Sidewalk project, Collier County Transportation Planning Division just submitted it as congestion management project. The Congestion Management Committee will review preliminary submittals in September. **Ms. Lantz** – consultant did feasibility study and recommended sidewalk on 91st Ave. Will be parallel facility to Vanderbilt Beach Road and connects to US 41. Not sure about points, ranking, or funding availability. **Mr. Musico** – if congestion management does not work out, will it be reconsidered for BPAC projects. **Ms. Lantz** – if it fits for SU money, it will be included. **Ms. Fendrick** – would bike lanes be considered as well. **Ms. Lantz** – consultant recommended sidewalk on south side only. Interaction with driveways (on north side) was a safety concern for bike lanes due to mailboxes, etc. **Ms. Chesna** – discussed choice of concrete or asphalt for bike/ped lanes. Use of amenity and connectivity are primarily considered when determining inclusion in project. Mentioning facility type would be very helpful to include in future requests. **Ms. Jacob** – congestion between Mercato and general growth in North Naples is a serious issue. Concrete is best option and encourages pedestrian rather than cars with safety as the primary factor. Lengthy discussion among members about viability of bike lanes in area, preference on concrete or asphalt materials for projects, and resubmission of 91st Avenue N. sidewalk project.

Mr. Musico – two comments. MPO Board making decision as to continuing 5-year rotating allocation schedule. Should we make recommendation to continue schedule. **Ms. McLaughlin** – plan is expiring. Appears to be working satisfactorily. Will need to ask the Board if they want to continue it.

Mr. Musico moved to make recommendation to MPO Board to continue 5-year rotating allocation schedule. Ms. Fendrick seconded. Carried unanimously.

Mr. Musico – second item of discussion. Call for projects for approval in 2022 – applications would be due in July 2021. Call for projects came out April 1 with due date of July 31 in 2020. Not enough time to complete application. Suggested if call for projects is needed – notice should go out sooner. **Ms. McLaughlin** – notices can go out sooner but 2-step process: (1) eligibility; (2) application. Should not do application (including expenses associated with preparing application) unless eligibility is determined first. **Mr. Musico** – suggested increasing lead time and be more diligent about reviewing and approving them sooner. **Ms. Peters** – bike/ped application can be filled out ahead of time. Department uses TA funds in conjunction with SU funds. Will be a new application form in the future and it will be distributed to committee. Detailed explanation of application process and funding opportunities. Submitted through GAP system. Brief discussion on clarifying types of applications and what will be required. **Ms. Fendrick** – inquiry about call for projects already being in place for next cycle in terms of budget. **Ms. McLaughlin** – FDOT has been generous and helpful in funding construction of bike/ped projects. Using SU funds to initiate projects (design phase). FDOT has provided additional funding sources to assist with construction. **Ms. Peters** – bike/ped projects are reviewed under Transportation Alternative (TA) funds first then supplement with SU funding. Explained funding origins and application to specific transportation projects. **Ms. McLaughlin** – suggested reviewing TIP plan – funding sources for bike/ped projects have included SA, TA, TALU, DDR (state). Continued discussion regarding how funds are used, construction projects in pipeline, and how allocations are distributed.

8. Reports & Presentations (May Require Committee Action)

None.

9. Members Comments

Ms. Huff – Everglades City participated in certification process. Very interesting and educational.

10. Distribution Items

None.

11. Next Meeting Date

September 15, 2020 – 9:00 a.m.
Will be virtual

12. **Adjournment**

Mr. Bonness asked for motion to adjourn. Ms. Sonnenschein moved to adjourn. Mr. Musico seconded. Unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 a.m.