



# AGENDA

## BPAC

**Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee**

**IN-PERSON MEETING ONLY**

**Conference Room 609/610 Growth Management Division**

**Planning & Regulation Building**

**2800 N Horseshoe Dr, Naples**

**May 18, 2021**

**9:00 a.m.**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of the April 20, 2021 Meeting Minutes
5. Open to the Public for Comment on Items not on the Agenda
6. Agency Updates
  - A. FDOT
  - B. MPO
7. Committee Action
  - A. Review Proposed US Bike Route 15 Alignments Through Collier County
8. Reports & Presentations (May Require Committee Action)
  - A. n/a
9. Member Comments
10. Distribution Items
  - A. n/a
11. Next Meeting Date

August 17, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.  
*In-Person Meeting*
12. Adjournment

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

*This meeting of the Bicycle & Pathways Advisory Committee (BPAC) to the Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is open to the public and citizen input is encouraged. Any person wishing to speak on any scheduled item may do so upon recognition by the Chairperson. Any person desiring to have an item placed on the agenda shall make a request in writing, with a description and summary of the item, to the MPO Executive Director 14 days prior to the date of the next scheduled meeting of the BPAC. Any person who decides to appeal a decision of this Committee will need a record of the proceedings pertaining thereto, and therefore may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting should contact the Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization 72 hours prior to the meeting by calling (239) 252-5814. The MPO's planning process is conducted in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Related Statutes. Any person or beneficiary who believes that within the MPO's planning process they have been discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, or familial status may file a complaint with the Collier MPO by calling Ms. Anne McLaughlin at (239) 252-5884 or by writing to her at 2885 South Horseshoe Dr., Naples, FL 34104.*

**BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE of the  
COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Virtual Meeting via ZOOM platform  
In-Person Location – 609/610 Conference Room, Growth Management Division  
2800 N Horseshoe Dr  
April 20, 2021 ---- 9:00 A.M.  
Meeting Minutes**

**1. Call to Order**

**Mr. Bonness** called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

**2. Roll Call**

**Ms. McLaughlin** called roll and confirmed a quorum was present in the room.

**Members Present In-Person**

Joe Bonness, Chair  
Alan Musico  
Patty Huff  
Larry Smith  
Andrea Halman  
Anthony Matonti

**Members Present Virtually**

Dayna Fendrick  
Kim Jacob  
Dr. Mort Friedman  
Claudia Keeler

**Members Absent**

**MPO Staff, Present In-Person**

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

**Others Present**

**In-person:**

William Douglass, resident, St. Andrews Blvd.  
Tony Branco, Chairman, Lely MSTU

**Virtual attendees:**

Lorraine Lantz, Collier Transportation Planning  
Trinity Scott, Collier Transportation Planning  
Michael Tish, Collier Transportation Planning

Megan Greer, Blue Zones Project  
Christie Betancourt, Immokalee CRA [joined late]  
Kerry Irons, Adventure Cycling [joined late]  
Lisa McGarrity [signed on as Lisa Rice], President of Lely Civic Association HOA

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

*Mr. Smith moved to approve the agenda. Second by Mr. Musico. Carried unanimously.*

4. **Approval of the March 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

*Mr. Musico moved to approve the March 16, 2021 minutes. Mr. Smith requested correction to his comments under Item 9 Member Comments to read requested that the County “extend existing bike path on Vanderbilt Beach Road from Vanderbilt Drive to Gulf Shore Drive in conjunction with Naples One redevelopment.” Noted that County staff had not reported back to him yet. Second to approve as corrected by Ms. Halman. Carried unanimously.*

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

None.

6. **Agency Updates**

A. **FDOT**

[none - no representative present]

B. **MPO Executive Director**

**Ms. McLaughlin** – this will be the committee’s last hybrid meeting due to reduction in staff; the MPO’s Administrative Assistant has submitted her resignation, last day will be this Friday. With just two staff members remaining, cannot manage the technology required to host hybrid meeting. Only one meeting in May remaining before summer hiatus will be in-person only.

7. **Committee Action**

A. **Endorse Proposed US Bike Route 15 Through Collier County**

**Ms. McLaughlin** – introduced item, for benefit of attendees hearing about USBR 15 for the first time – Adventure Cycling is coordinating nationwide effort to develop US Bicycle Route System, national network of numbered and signed bike routes supported by American Association of State highway and Transportation Officials. USBR 15 currently ends at Madison, FL, just south of Georgia state line. Proposed to extend the route along the west coast of Florida, ultimately connecting with Miami. Revised route enters Collier County from Lee County on Imperial Parkway, continues on Livingston Rd to Golden Gate Pkwy, then Santa Barbara Blvd, to St. Andrews Blvd, connecting to US 41 and continuing east to Miami. Kerry Irons with Adventure

Cycling was expected to give a brief presentation but is not on-line, so graphic from his presentation is displayed for committee's review.

**Mr. Bonness** – as we did last time, we will hear from committee members first then members of the public.

**Mr. Friedman** – trouble hearing what's being said. **Ms. McLaughlin** – unfortunately the audio is something we haven't been able to fix for hybrid meetings.

**Ms. Halman** – has MPO contacted the Miccosukee Tribe concerning US 41 portion of route?

**Ms. McLaughlin** – I have but have not received a response.

**Ms. Halman** – has MPO followed the Government-to-Government policy and communicated with Tribal leaders?

**Ms. McLaughlin** – Not yet. Standard procedure is to contact tribal staff, provide project information and ask whether Government-to-Government consultation is called for. Usually do get a response. Perhaps route is not a concern. Won't have a significant effect. Long distance riders are already using US 41 to travel from Naples to Miami. There is no other route to take. But your concern is well founded. Will reconsider contacting Tribal Chair directly since haven't heard back from staff.

**Ms. Fendrick** – The route uses existing paved facilities on US 41 – not proposing anything new.

There being no further committee comments at this point, **Mr. Bonness** invited members of public present in the room, both of whom had submitted speaker forms to address the committee.

**Mr. Douglas** – resides on St. Andrews Blvd., formerly President of Lely property owner association. Traffic on St. Andrews has been a problem since connection to Santa Barbara was made. Has bike lanes, some speed bumps. Issues caused by drivers speeding and using bike lane to pass slower traffic. Lots of walkers and joggers use bike lanes too. Invited committee members to come out on weekend and see bike packs being rude to people and visa/versa. Residents are very concerned. County must do what needs to be done to make St. Andrews safer for everyone, including cyclists.

**Ms. Halman** - what would make it safer?

**Mr. Douglass** – ever since County opened Santa Barbara have been working on solutions to slow down traffic. County has put in stop signs, speed bumps, cross walks, flashing lights, created bulb-outs at intersections, installed signage saying no trucks over 1,000 tons – but it's not working. Trucks still use road. Met with County 2-3 weeks ago to go over what can be done to slow traffic down and reduce flow of traffic. To County it's a Collector Rd, to them it's residential. What can be done? Limit access, enforce speeds.

**Ms. Fendrick** – appreciates coming to say help us instead of don't designate the bike route.

**Mr. Branco** – Chairman, Lely MSTU [Municipal Service Taxing Unit], responsible for median signage, benches, landscaping, within St. Andrews ROW. Build as residential community access road. Traffic increased since Santa Barbara completed and aligned with St. Andrews, became short cut between East Tamiami and I-75. Very busy road, just 2-miles long, but intersects with 17 cross streets, lined with 195 private driveways. Last month's traffic over 128,000 vehicles, that's over 4,000/day. Speed study, over 1,100 exceeded 41 mph with maximum speed over 70 mph; peak hours exceeded 1400 vehicles/hour that's equivalent to 23/minute, 1 every 2.6 seconds. Homeowners backing out of driveways into oncoming traffic – additional bike traffic will make it worse. [distributed photos of accidents on St. Andrews. Copies available on-request to MPO.] Lely MSTU opposes realignment of USBR 15 with St. Andrews Blvd.

**Ms. McLaughlin** – read email from **Linda Jorgenson** into record along with response from Kerry Irons [received over the weekend]: Your riders must be very brave to wish to use St. Andrews to access Route 41. St. Andrews has one lane with bicycle path in each direction. Over 2,000 cars and trucks use St. Andrews every day. Very few follow speed limit of 25 mph notwithstanding speed bumps. Have clocked vehicles at 77, 75, 67 on down to a few at 25 mph. Excessive speed and drivers use bike lanes as turning lanes. Have about one accident per month. Only one fatality some years ago. **Kerry Irons** response: 2,000 ADT [Average Daily Traffic] is considered relatively quiet road by most cyclists. Experienced long-distance travelers on multi-day, multi-week, multi-month tours typically cover 50-75 miles per day. An additional 10 bicycles per day would be considered significant use of a US Bike Route. Hard to imagine vehicles traveling 80 mph could deal with speed bumps, suggesting speeds in excess of 70 mph somehow typical on road with 25 mph speed limit? Local police would be out in force to deal with this. [Later email] Thanks Linda for speed report. Appears average is slightly less than 30 mph typical for roads with 25 mph limit. Speeds of 30 mph fairly comfortable for experienced cyclists.

**Ms. McGarrity** – reached out to St. Andrews residents, spoke to over 100. Actual idea is great. Residents concerned about traffic. Speed bumps end around Barnes St, from there to US41 still a problem. Only 8 residents said not a favorable thing. She runs 30-40 miles a week, uses bike lanes. Sees Joe Bonness and his group riding. Cars careen into bike path [lanes].

**Ms. Huff** – Am a long-distance rider; drove on St. Andrews; saw bike lanes, flashing signs. Long-distance riders want to ride through areas that are bicycle friendly.

**Ms. Halman** – Could route go through Immokalee? We'd be happy to have route come through, we'll build a bike path.

**Ms. Huff** – Right now SR 82 is not great.

**Ms. Fendrick** – Consider alternate route – Santa Barbara to Radio or Davis to path on 951.

**Mr. Musico** – duplication of routes – NPC [Naples Pathways Coalition] has a [coastal] route, but value to long-distance riders may be a different route. Likes Immokalee idea better.

**Ms. Halman** – Could add Ave Maria [to route].

**Mr. Bonness** – Does Adventure Cycling sponsor events or is this just a mapping exercise?

**Ms. Huff** – No. May put notice in their magazine when it opens. Just a mapping exercise.

**Mr. Bonness** – studies show cyclists have traffic calming effect, may help on St. Andrews Blvd.

**Ms. Huff** – is there a consensus on the route?

**Mr. Matonti** -can more than one route be identified for the corridor?

**Ms. Huff** – one route only.

**Mr. Bonness** – according to USBR map there are states with multiple routes.

**Mr. Matonti** – regarding pathway on 951, there is an elementary school, lots of pedestrian activity surrounding it.

**Mr. Irons** – [came on-line and requested briefing on discussion up to this point.] St. Andrews looks good from cyclist perspective. 2,000 ADT, 30 mph average speed, based on data provided, St. Andrews is a very peaceful road. Additional 2,000 cyclists a year [after designating route] would be a lot, that's roughly 200 throughout the cycling season and that would be a lot, translates to 6 to 12 riders/day [both directions combined total]. St. Andrews looks good, but it's up to the County. Local residents won't see a noticeable difference in ridership. The more bicyclists on a road, the safer the road is for everyone, drivers slow down.

**Mr. Douglass** – could be small segment that only has 2,000 cars per day but last count we were told was 9,000 ADT. Residents concerned about safety.

**Mr. Irons** – half of fatalities [nationwide] involve inexperienced cyclists, intoxication, riding after dark, wrong way riding, veering into traffic. Not a single fatality on USBR System.

**Ms. Halman** – would like to get most current traffic counts from County.

**Mr. Musico** – we should hold a workshop to design the route.

**Patty Huff** – concurs with holding a workshop.

**Mr. Bonness** – this meeting is a workshop.

**Ms. McLaughlin** – committee's next meeting is May 18<sup>th</sup>; nothing else on agenda, can post as workshop if you wish to, but workshops don't usually include action items. Committee can use the regular meeting format as see fit. Will coordinate with County staff to have information on recent traffic counts; will look into construction schedule for SR 82 and report.

**Mr. Bonness** – Suggest we table this to next meeting.

[No further discussion]

**8. Reports & Presentations (May Require Committee Action)**

None.

**9. Members Comments**

**Ms. Huff** – Next meeting will be in-person – can Kerry Irons phone in?

**Ms. McLaughlin** – We have difficulties with speaker phone audio, would have to open up to all members of the public who wish to participate that way and it's hard to manage having people participate by phone without benefit of visuals and in-person meeting. We've never offered it. Cannot take it on now [with limited staff]. Determining the preferred route is a local issue, needs to be determined locally.

**Mr. Smith** – speaking to Mr. Bonness – wants to hear back from Collier County regarding Naples One and extending bike path from Vanderbilt Dr to Gulf Shore. Keep topic on table.

**Ms. McGarrity** – invites committee members to drive down and look at the bike path.

**10. Distribution Items**

None.

**11. Next Meeting Date**

May 18, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.  
In-Person Only

**12. Adjournment**

*The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.*

## ITEM 7A

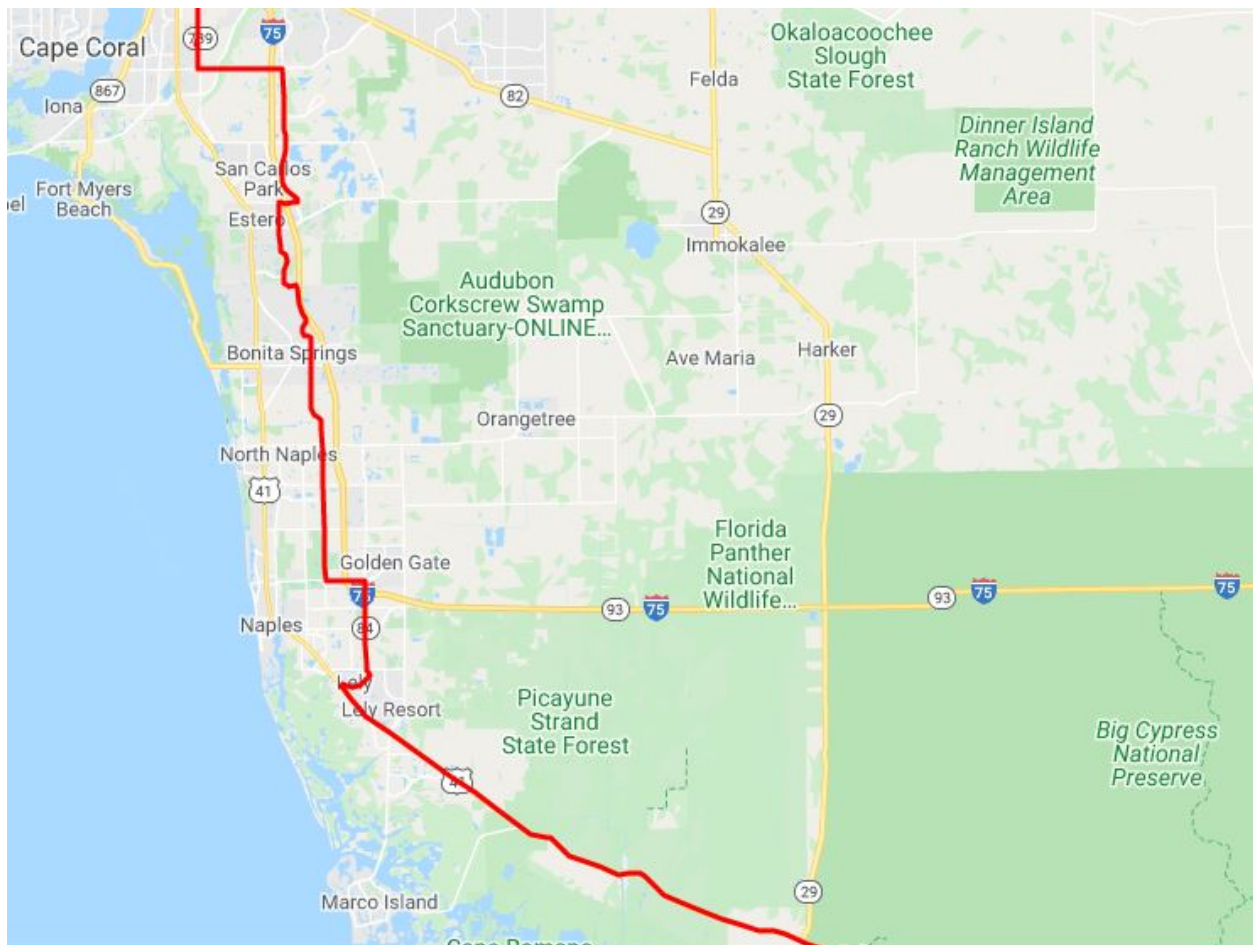
## Review Proposed US Bike Route 15 Alignments Through Collier County

**OBJECTIVE:** For the Committee to continue to review proposed US Bike Route 15 alignments through Collier County.

**CONSIDERATIONS:** Adventure Cycling is coordinating a nationwide effort, providing technical support to the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) to develop the U.S. Bicycle Route System (USBR) – a national network of numbered and signed bicycle routes. USBR 15 currently ends 14 miles from the Georgia state line at Madison, FL. The proposal is to extend the route an additional 496 miles from Madison to Miami. The Board of County Commissioners (BCC) has final approval authority over the portions of the route that involve County-owned roads.

The revised route enters Collier County from Lee County on Imperial Parkway, then continues onto:

- Livingston Rd.
- Golden Gate Pkwy.
- Santa Barbara Blvd.
- St. Andrews Blvd.
- US 41 East to Miami





A map of the entire proposed alignment can be viewed at the following link:  
<https://ridewithgps.com/routes/34634828>

The committee heard concerns from residents, and representatives of the Lely Civic Association Homeowners Association (HOA) and Lely Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) regarding St. Andrews Blvd. at the April meeting. Lely MSTU submitted photos showing damage caused by vehicular crashes (**Attachment 1**)

The committee decided to continue the discussion at the May meeting and requested the following information be provided by staff:

- Recent traffic counts on St. Andrews Blvd (and other potential alternate roadways) – County staff will provide the information using on-line presentation capabilities at the meeting.
- SR 82 Status- Construction phase scheduled in FY 2024, final segment of SR 82 from Hendry County Line to Gator Slough Lane, Draft FY 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program, Project #4308481.

Subsequent to the April meeting, the MPO received a letter from the Lely Country Club Property Owners' Association expressing similar safety concerns (**Attachment 2**). MPO staff responded to the questions raised in the letter (**Attachment 3**).

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** That the Committee continue to review proposed US Bike Route 15 alignments through Collier County.

Prepared By: Anne McLaughlin, MPO Director

Attachment 1: Lely MSTU photos

Attachment 2: Letter from Lely Country Club Property Owners

Attachment 3: MPO response

PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY LELY MSTU AT APRIL 20, 2021 BPAC MEETING – showing damage within the ROW caused by vehicular crashes.









**LELY COUNTRY CLUB  
PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION**

May 1, 2021

Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Anne McLaughlin, Executive Director

Via email: [Anne.McLaughlin@colliercountyfl.gov](mailto:Anne.McLaughlin@colliercountyfl.gov)

Dear Anne:

The Lely Country Club Property Owner's Association represents homeowners living along St. Andrews Boulevard from its intersection at Rattlesnake Hammock Road to the intersection with Forest Hills Boulevard. We were surprised to hear recently that St. Andrews Boulevard was chosen to serve as part of the Collier County segment for US Bike Route 15. I am writing to address some concerns expressed when this matter was discussed by our board of directors at our April meeting.

As you are probably aware, St. Andrews Boulevard has single vehicle travel lanes in each direction. There are also bike lanes and sidewalks on both sides of the road. Villas and single-family homes line both sides of the road. The driveways cut across the bike lanes and exit directly onto the travel lanes. Mail boxes are positioned curbside, so that residents checking mail must stand in the bike lanes.

Although the design of the street would imply it was intended to be a quiet, lightly-traveled residential neighborhood, St. Andrews has become a very busy thoroughfare. Thousands of vehicles travel in both directions daily. A pedestrian was struck and killed by a distracted driver in 2017. In the more recent past, vehicles have punched a hole in one of our monuments, destroyed one of our well houses, and several have run across our medians mowing down palm trees and mailboxes.

St. Andrews lines up directly across from Santa Barbara Boulevard, a six-lane "drag strip" that gets busier by the day. The County has approved the construction of thousands of additional homes and apartments along this busy road, and that will only increase the traffic on St. Andrews Boulevard.

Is it any wonder, then, that our board is reluctant to embrace the selection of St. Andrews Boulevard as part of a bike route that could bring hundreds, or perhaps thousands of additional bikers through our community annually? We find it a bit curious that St. Andrews was chosen over the roads within Lely Resort. The Resort has four-lane roads along with sidewalks. No houses are situated directly along those roadways. All of the communities in the Resort are situated well away from the main boulevards. Curb cuts are fewer and much farther apart than on St. Andrews Boulevard.

Resort Management 2685 Horseshoe Drive, Suite 215, Naples, Florida 34104

At our April board meeting we took no vote in favor or opposed to US Bike Route 15, but my board did ask that I contact you to obtain additional information. Among other things we'd like to know what criteria led to the decision to switch the route from the Resort to St. Andrews Boulevard. We will want to know whether anyone has projected the potential bicycle traffic that may be generated.

Additionally, if the County believes St. Andrews is truly the best route for cyclists, then we'd like to know what the County is willing to do to make our road safer for those cyclists. Simply adding hundreds or thousands of cyclists to our roadway without reducing the number of vehicles traveling our street is a recipe for tragedy.

I would appreciate the opportunity to speak with you sometime in the near future, and would also like to be sure our comments and concerns become a part of the record and are presented to the Board of County Commissioners before they vote on approval of the final route.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Robustelli", followed by a period.

Tom Robustelli, President  
Lely Country Club Property Owners Association, Inc.  
Cell: 207-577-7555

**From:** McLaughlinAnne <[Anne.McLaughlin@colliercountyfl.gov](mailto:Anne.McLaughlin@colliercountyfl.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 11:32 AM  
**To:** Tom Robustelli <[trobustelli@oacpas.net](mailto:trobustelli@oacpas.net)>  
**Cc:** [dudchism@comcast.net](mailto:dudchism@comcast.net); [Jason71771@aol.com](mailto:Jason71771@aol.com); jackie waganer <[jackwag7@gmail.com](mailto:jackwag7@gmail.com)>; 'Wil R' <[wilrudman@comcast.net](mailto:wilrudman@comcast.net)>; [dankokora@embarqmail.com](mailto:dankokora@embarqmail.com); 'LUTZ JACOB' <[ljacob@kent.edu](mailto:ljacob@kent.edu)>; Laura Pascal <[lpascal@resortgroupinc.com](mailto:lpascal@resortgroupinc.com)>; ScottTrinity <[Trinity.Scott@colliercountyfl.gov](mailto:Trinity.Scott@colliercountyfl.gov)>; OteroBrandy <[Brandy.Otero@colliercountyfl.gov](mailto:Brandy.Otero@colliercountyfl.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: US Bike Route 15

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email is from an external source. Confirm this is a trusted sender and use extreme caution when opening attachments or clicking links.

Good morning Mr. Robustelli,

I am writing to acknowledge receipt and to respond to your letter regarding US Bike Route 15 (USBR 15).

First of all, I'd like to thank you for providing written comments and for participating in the MPO's review process for USBR 15. Although the MPO does not have final approval authority over the route alignment – that rests with the Board of County Commissioners – our Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee's (BPAC) has been asked to review and comment on the proposal. To put the review in context, it helps to know that the MPO Board consists of 5 County Commissioners, 2 City of Naples Councilmembers, 1 City of Marco Island and 1 Everglades City Councilmember. The BPAC is a citizen-based committee that provides public input on bicycle and pedestrian related issues within the MPO's jurisdiction. The USBR 15 alignment links together a number of counties across Florida. Because multiple jurisdictions are involved, MPOs are assisting by coordinating the initial review process.

Regarding the questions posed in the letter:

- 1) *What criteria led to the decision to switch the route from the Resort to St. Andrews Blvd?* Andrews Blvd was suggested by BPAC members in response to public comments opposing the alignment on Grand Lely Blvd at a previous meeting. The program's criteria recommends using low-traffic and/or off-road bikeways when available; other considerations include low truck traffic, low posted speeds, availability of wide paved shoulders and bike lanes.
- 2) *Has anyone projected the potential bicycle traffic that may be generated?* Adventure Cycling has stated on the record that their most popular routes attract up to 2,000 cyclists per year. Depending on the length of the cycling season here in Florida, that could generate 5 – 10 additional riders/day.
- 3) *If the County believes St. Andrews is truly the best route for cyclists, then we'd like to know what the County is willing to do to make our road safer for those cyclists. (i.e. reducing the number of vehicles)* – the MPO's Bike/Ped Advisory Committee is evaluating alternatives and seeking public input at this stage. Neither the BCC nor the MPO Board has reviewed or commented on it. MPO and County staff welcome public to comment on any and all alternatives. My understanding is that the County has instituted many traffic calming measures to improve the comfort and safety

of cyclists and pedestrians and is continuing to work with the HOA to consider additional measures.

Also in the letter:

- *Would like the opportunity to speak with you in near future-* I'm available any time today except between 3-4; Wednesday morning, Thursday after 2pm, Friday any time. Let me know what works for you.
- *Please ensure comments and concerns become part of record and presented to BCC before vote on approval* - I will include your letter in the BPAC packet for the May 18<sup>th</sup> committee meeting and in the committee's final report to the MPO Board. All public comments received by the MPO are being shared with County staff.

**PLEASE NOTE: The next BPAC meeting will be held on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at the Collier County Growth Management Division, Planning & Regulation Building, Conference Rooms 609/610, 2800 North Horseshoe Drive, Naples. This will be an in-person meeting. Members of the public are encouraged to attend and will have the opportunity to comment.**

Members of the public can also submit comments directly to me via email or phone. My contact information is provided below.

Regards,

Anne McLaughlin  
Executive Director



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