



JOINT COLLIER AND LEE MPO BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY/COORDINATING COMMITTEE WORKSHOP

Collier County Government Services Center at Heritage Bay Meeting Room 15450 Collier Boulevard, Naples, FL 34120 April 22, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order/Roll Call

The in-person meeting was called to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. by BPAC Chair Anthony Matonti.

MPO staff recorded the roll as those in attendance introduced themselves. There was a quorum. Those in attendance included:

From the Collier BPAC

Anthony Matonti (Chair)	At-Large
Michelle Sproviero	At-Large
Al Musico	At-Large
Joe Bonness	At-Large
Kevin Dohm	At-Large
Mark Komanecky	At-Large
Robert Vigorito	At-Large
Dayna Fendrick	At-Large
Patty Huff	At-Large
David Sutton	At-Large

From the Lee BPCC

Carl Karakos City of Fort Myers

Charles Mills Cape Coral Police Department

David Wheaton At-Large
Jim Meyer City of Sanibel

Robert Imel FHP

Scott Stryker Village of Estero
Sean Gibbons City of Bonita Springs

Simone Behr Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau Lee County Department of Transportation

Others in attendance included Sean Kingston and Suzanne Miceli with the Collier MPO; Don Scott and Ron Gogoi with the Lee County MPO; Michelle Avola Brown with *Naples Pathways Coalition*; Kathy Eastley with Collier County Transportation Planning; Tanya Merkle with FDOT; Deb Orton with *Friends of BERT*; Frank Dirolf with Tarpon Cove Community at Wiggins Pass; Eric Tracey - Bonita Springs Village visitor.

Agenda Item #2 - Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda Item #3 - Election of a Chairperson

Ms. Sproviero made the motion to elect Collier MPO's BPAC Chair Anthony Matonti to chair the workshop. Mr. Musico seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed.

Agenda Item #4 - Public Comments on Items on the Agenda

There were no public comments on items on the agenda.

Agenda Item #5 - Approval of Agenda

Ms. Komanecky made the motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Sutton seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed.

Agenda Item #6 - Florida Department of Transportation

Ms. Merkle announced that SUNTrail project applications had been received by Central Office and that funding would be available for the upcoming fiscal year. The Collier to Polk Regional Trail project was under way.

Funding was available under the Non-Motorized Traffic Monitoring program for counters for the SUNTrail Network - 275 count sites, 259 of which will be on the SUNTrail. Counters will be able to differentiate between scooters, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

6 counters had been installed in Lee County and 4 in Collier County. There are 33 proposed sites in Collier, 20 of which have been evaluated and 6 proposed sites in Lee, 6 of which have been evaluated. FDOT is working to accommodate everyone with additional funds through these counters.

For safety, looking to see how people are responding to and what usage is like for rapid flashing beacons in Immokalee and are placing in some mid-block crossings on SR 82. There is a PD&E for the Livingston SUN Trail alignment at Radio Road and are commencing negotiations with Florida Power and Light regarding siting on their easement.

Agenda Item #7 - Reports and Presentations

A. Shared-Use Nonmotorized (SUN) Trail Project Updates

Mr. Kingston presented the SUN Trail Network in Collier County including the Collier to Polk and the Gulf Coast Trails. Mr. Gogoi presented the same for Lee County, also including two regional trail networks including the Gulf Coast and Caloosahatchee Sugar Trails. Both gave project phase status for each and for segments within. Mr. Karakos added an update to project commencement within the Lee County MPO presentation. Discussions arose regarding various projects within the network. Mr. Stryker reminded the Committee that SUN Trail is intended to be an off-road trail and to be beside the road as a last resort. It is to be funded, billed, and managed primarily by local government, not with State SUN Trail dollars which are intended to connect its gaps where possible. Mr. Gogoi mentioned that Mr. Stryker is a member of the Florida Greenways and Trails Council. Their presentations can be viewed at the following link: SUN Trail

B. Bonita-Estero Rail Trail (BERT) Update

BERT is a proposed 14.9-mile-long trail along the Seminole Gulf Rail Corridor within the SUN Trail Network between Lee and Collier Counties. Ms. Orton gave a presentation on BERT's administrative and funding progress and project development. Committee members had comments and questions of which Ms. Orton contributed her answers to. She also provided booklets on BERT. Her presentation is available at the following link: BERT

C. Local Micromobility Regulation Updates

Mr. Kingston reported on how Collier County had proposed an amendment to the Pedestrian Safety Ordinance with Board action scheduled to take place on April 22nd, at the same time as this Committee being held. An amendment to this Ordinance was formerly presented to the Collier BPAC in 2023 with the MPO Board choosing not to pursue it that April. Ms. Eastley announced that the Ordinance had been approved with some changes. Mr. Kingston reviewed the highlights of the ordinance as attached in the agenda. A discussion arose about adopting ordinances especially related to micromobility in their own communities, their enforcement, and education.

Mr. Gogoi provided a presentation about local micromobility ordinances, regulation, and the launching of the SPIN micromobility program in Lee County. A discussion arose regarding how these are being responded to and implemented. His presentation is available at the following link: Lee County micromobility regulation update

D. Legislative Updates

Michelle Avola-Brown gave a presentation Hands Free Florida on the State's legislative efforts toward preventing distracted driving. Her presentation is available at the following link: <u>Hands-Free Florida</u>

Ms. Scott gave a presentation with an update of the proposed 2025 State transportation-related legislation. His presentation is available at the following link: Legislative Bills

Agenda Item #8 - Members' Comments

Ms. Huff said the Florida Greenways and Trails Council (FGTC) and Friends of BERT visited Everglades City April 10 and 11 to provide a presentation because it is considered a Trail Town. Ms. Huff encouraged other jurisdictions to apply for the status. Mr. Stryker concurred, elaborating on their benefits.

Led by Mr. Bonness, a group discussion arose about the height of bridges along SUN Trail.

Agenda Item #9 - Information Items

A. Deletions of bicycle and pedestrian projects in the TIP from the elimination of CARU/CARB funds

Mr. Kingston presented how FDOT removed Carbon Reduction funding from the Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) and described which projects were affected by this, how the funds were reallocated to some projects and which projects were removed. Mr. Gogoi shared the same for projects in Lee County. Their presentation is available at the following link: <u>CARB Elimination</u>

B. RSW Terminal Expansion Simulation Video

Mr. Gogoi gave a presentation on the RSW terminal expansion which included a video shown within the presentation. The presentation is available at the following link: RSW Terminal Expansion

Agenda Item #10 - Adjournment of Joint BPCC Workshop

Mr. Scott Stryker made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Chair Anthony Matonti seconded the motion at approximately 12:31 p.m.

An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed at the following link: Joint BPAC/BPCC April 22

All meetings of the Joint Lee County and Collier County MPO BPCC are 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. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting should contact Ms. Calandra Barraco at the Lee County MPO at (239) 330-2243; or Ms. Suzanne Miceli at the Collier County MPO at (239) 252-5814, 48 hours prior to the meeting; if you are hearing or speech impaired, call (800) 955-8770 Voice (800) 955-8771 TDD. Or, e-mail cbarraco@leempo.com or Suzanne.Miceli@colliercountyfl.gov

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 either the Lee County MPO Title VI Coordinator Calandra Barraco at (239) 330-2243 or by writing Ms. Barraco at P.O. Box 150045, Cape Coral, Florida 33915-0045 or the Collier MPO Title VI Coordinator, Ms. Suzanne Miceli at (239) 252-5814 or by writing Ms. Miceli at 2885 South Horseshoe Dr., Naples, Florida 34104.

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 proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.