

**BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE of the
COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Collier County Government Center, Administration Building (F)
IT Training Room, Fifth Floor
3299 Tamiami Trail East, Naples, FL, 34112
January 16, 2024 - 9:00 A.M.
Meeting Minutes**

1. Call to Order

Ms. Huff called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

2. Roll Call

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

Members Present

Anthony Matonti (Chair) *(arrived during item 8.A.)*

Patty Huff *(Vice Chair until item 7.A.)*

Alan Musico

Andrea Halman

Dayna Fendrick

George Dondanville

Joe Bonness

Kim Jacob

Michelle Sproviero *(appointed Vice Chair as of item 7.A.) (arrived during item 6.B.)*

Robert Phelan

Members Absent

Mark Komanecky

MPO Staff Present

Sean Kingston, Principal Planner

Suzanne Miceli, Administrative Support Specialist II

Others Present

Lorraine Lantz, Collier County Transportation Planning Manager

Tanya Merkle, Florida Department of Transportation *(arrived during item 8.A.)*

Reggie Wilson, Florida Department of Health

Michelle Avola-Brown, Naples Pathways Coalition *(arrived during item 7.A.)*

Kevin Dohm, Marco Island Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

3. Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Kingston explained that there was a walk-on agenda item, 7.A., and that the agenda would be amended to reflect the addition of the item.

Mr. Dondanville moved to approve the agenda, as amended. Seconded by Mr. Musico. Carried unanimously.

4. Approval of the Minutes

4.A. Approval of the November 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes

It was noted that Ms. Halman was listed both on the present and absent list. She was absent. Staff confirmed that the error would be corrected.

Mr. Dondanville moved to approve the November 21, 2023 minutes, as amended. Seconded by Mr. Musico. Carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Musico introduced **Mr. Dohm** as an interested applicant to the MPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee.

6. Agency Updates

A. FDOT:

A representative of FDOT was not present for this item.

B. MPO:

Mr. Kingston announced that the prospective incoming MPO Executive Director had withdrawn her application, Ms. McLaughlin's contract was scheduled to end on March 9, 2024, and that it would be discussed at the February 9, 2024 MPO Board meeting.

He also mentioned that the Work Order for the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) by Jacobs Engineering and the Work Order for Safe Streets 4 All (SS4A) by TY Lin were being presented for approval at the February 9, 2024 MPO Board meeting. SS4A is a federal grant which

MPO was awarded to be applied toward studies that will assist in the creation of safer streets for the County.

7. Committee Action

A. *Walk-on Item* – Elect a Chair and Vice Chair for calendar year 2024.

Mr. Kingston stated that this item was for the Committee to elect a Chair and Vice-Chair for calendar year 2024, and that the BPAC Bylaws require that the Committee elect a Chair and Vice-Chair at the first regularly scheduled meeting of each year when a quorum is attained. Any Committee member may nominate or be nominated as Chair/Vice-Chair. Elections shall be decided by the majority vote of Committee members present. The Chair and Vice-Chair shall serve a one-year term or until a successor is elected. At the time, **Mr. Matonti** served as Chair, and **Ms. Huff** was the Vice-Chair. Mr. Kingston mentioned that **Mr. Matonti** had called MPO staff the week prior to relay that he would be arriving later to the meeting and that he was willing to continue his role as Chair if so nominated.

Ms. Huff mentioned that she would like to step down from her role as Vice Chair. **Ms. Sproviero** volunteered to fill the role of Vice Chair for 2024.

Ms. Huff called the vote to reelect Mr. Matonti as BPAC Chair. Passed unanimously.

Ms. Huff called the vote to elect Ms. Sproviero as BPAC Vice Chair. Passed unanimously.

As newly appointed Vice Chair, Ms. Sproviero assumed the role of Acting Chair in Mr. Matonti's absence and lead the remainder of the meeting.

B. Endorse Collier to Polk Regional Trail PD&E as a Priority for SUN Trail Funding

Mr. Kingston stated that this item was for the Committee to endorse the Collier to Polk Regional Trail Project Development and Environmental (PD&E) Study for SUN Trail funding. The Committee previously endorsed, and the MPO Board approved, the submittal of the Collier to Polk Regional Trail addition to the SUN Trail priority trail network. The Florida Greenways and Trails Council approved the addition to the state's SUN Trail network on December 6, 2023. FDOT applied for SUN Trail funding to conduct a PD&E Study for the Collier to Polk Trail to meet the December 20, 2023 deadline. The project must be formally approved as an MPO priority to receive SUN Trail funding. FDOT estimates the cost of the PD&E to be \$6.3 million. Staff recommends that the Committee endorse the Collier to Polk Regional Trail PD&E as a priority for SUN Trail funding.

The Committee reviewed the map which can be viewed in the [January 16, 2024 BPAC Agenda](#).

Mr. Musico moved to endorse Collier to Polk Regional Trail PD&E as a Priority for SUN Trail Funding. Seconded by Mr. Bonness. Carried unanimously.

C. Review and Comment on 2024-2025 Call for Bike-Ped Projects

Mr. Kingston mentioned that it was the kick-off meeting for the 2025 Call for Projects for the Committee to review and comment on the application process, schedule, and forms. The submittal process and timeline were presented, showing events following this, including agency project submittal deadline in July with BPAC review in August and rating and ranking in November followed by TAC and CAC review and endorsement in January. The process for issuing a Call for Projects is established in Chapter 7 – Policies and Implementation of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP). The relevant sections are Funding Priorities and Evaluation Criteria, on pages 67-69. The 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) – Cost Feasible Plan anticipated that \$5.7 million would be available for programming bike/ped priority projects on a rotational basis. FDOT’s recent revenue projections for the 2050 LRTP indicate a nominal reduction to \$5.2 million.

The Committee reviewed a table showing the schedule of funding that can be viewed in the [January 16, 2024 BPAC Agenda](#).

Ms. Halman commented that utilizing the term “non-motorized” in the Concept Sheet Applications excludes e-bikes, and that she believes the use of e-bikes is a safety concern that needs to be addressed in the projects. She asked that during voting her concern be noted.

A group discussion followed, and it was agreed to include considerations for e-bikes and motorized bicycles in the upcoming Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan and use that as the standard moving forward.

Mr. Musico moved to approve the Bike-Ped Projects application packet. Seconded by Ms. Halman, noting her concern regarding the term “non-motorized”. Carried unanimously.

8. Reports & Presentations (May Require Committee Action)

A. Update on FDOT Bike-Ped Count Program Locations in Collier County

Mr. Kingston said the item was being presented for the Committee to receive a report on

FDOT's Statewide Bike-Ped Count Program, specifically two locations within Collier County. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Transportation Data and Analytics (TDA) Office began the development of a Statewide Non-Motorized Traffic Monitoring Program (NMTMP) in May 2018 with a need to provide bicycle and pedestrian (non-motorized) volume counts, supporting statistics and information to new and existing data customers. TDA intends to develop the NMTMP like the Motorized Traffic Monitoring Program so the data can be used for the same types of analyses such as Safety studies, planning and programming of FDOT facilities, road and trail maintenance and enhancements. TDA aims to collect statistically valid bicycle and pedestrian (nonmotorized) volume data so that statistics can be calculated and published annually. The data reports can be accessed at [Statewide Non-Motorized Traffic Monitoring Program \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com) which is updated monthly.

Mr. Kingston continued by saying that Jotan Borms, FDOT's Bike and Pedestrian Data Collection Coordinator, recently contacted Collier MPO to follow-up on two continuous bike-ped count locations which MPO proposed when first approached by FDOT in 2018. The first location is the Rich King Greenway, south of Davis Blvd. FDOT views counts in this location on southwest Florida's SUN Trail alignment as highly valuable to the statewide data collection efforts. Permanent counters consist of a passive Infra-red unit housed in a stand-alone post next to the trail and inductive loops embedded in the path. The Collier County Parks and Recreation granted permission in December contingent upon FPL approval, and FPL had given approval since the January 16, 2024 BPAC Agenda was distributed.

Mr. Kingston stated that the other location is on Gordon River Greenway, which was installed on December 3, 2023. Since the certification report didn't show any remarks, the data starting from December 4, 2023 can be saved and used.

The Committee reviewed the Rolling Month Daily Volumes graph for the counter at Gordon River Greenway, which can be viewed in the [January 16, 2024 BPAC Agenda](#), and a group discussion followed regarding other pedestrian and bicycle crossing locations where a traffic counter might be beneficial.

9. Member Comments

Ms. Huff mentioned that she would like to receive a copy of the Collier to Polk Regional Trail presentation that Ms. McLaughlin presented at the November 21, 2023 meeting. She also mentioned that Everglades City has been working on sidewalk improvements between the bridge north to the circle, and that the improvement project was expected to be finished by the Seafood Festival, February 2-4, 2024. She inquired about the schedule for the road project aspect of State Road 29 and mentioned that the bike lanes had already been resurfaced and improved with satisfactory results.

Ms. Merkle said she would look into getting the schedule for the road project aspect of State Road 29.

Mr. Dondanville announced that it was his last meeting, as he and his family were moving out of the area.

The Committee thanked him for his service and wished him well.

10. Distribution Items

None.

12. Next Meeting Date

February 20, 2024 – 9:00 a.m. Location: Collier County Government Center, Admin. Bldg. F, IT Training Room, 5th Floor, 3299 Tamiami Trail East, Naples, 34112

13. Adjournment

Ms. Sproviero adjourned the meeting at 10:08 a.m.