

**BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE of the
COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Collier County Growth Management Division
Conference Room 609/610
2800 North Horseshoe Drive
Naples FL 34104**

**January 21, 2020 ---- 9:00 A.M.
Meeting Minutes**

1. Call to Order

Mr. Bonness called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Mr. Ortman called roll and confirmed a quorum was present.

Members Present

Alan Musico, At-Large
Andrea Halman, At-Large
Victor Ordija, At-Large
David Driapsa, At-Large
Reginald Wilson, At-Large
Larry Smith, At-Large
Dayna Fendrick, At-Large

Members Absent

Anthony Matonti, Vice-Chair
Susan Sonnenschein, At-Large
Dr. Mort Friedman, At-Large

MPO Staff

Eric Ortman
Karen Intriago

Others Present

Deborah Chesna, FDOT
Victoria Peters, FDOT
Cathy Faerber, Naples Pathway Coalition
Patty Huff, Florida Bicycle Association
Valerie Nowotnick, Minute Taker
Joe Cramer, Palm River HOA
Zachery Kato, PTNE

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

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

4. **Approval of the November 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Driapsa – for the record, minutes stated that there was no representation for the Naples Park area; wants record to reflect that he is from Naples Park therefore that area has representation.

Ms. Fendrick – requests clarification of her comments on page 3 to reflect there were two comments: (1) EJ ranks for some of the projects combined several areas to arrive at a single EJ rank; (2) Everglades City EJ rank really should have been higher.

Mr. Driapsa – had asked Mr. Ortman to pass out the illustration he created for Vanderbilt Drive; did not see it with the minutes so there was no public record; wants illustration to be part of public record; urged members to remember that there is no bike lane on Vanderbilt Drive. **Mr. Ortman** – illustration was sent to the committee members via email (confirmed by committee members); will include as distribution item at next meeting.

Ms. Fendrick – on page 4 noted that public comment on the topic took place after vote but should have been before the vote.

Ms. Peters asked Mr. Ortman to forward a copy of Mr. Driapsa’s illustration to her.

Mr. Smith moved to approve the November 19, 2019 minutes as modified. Second by Ms. Fendrick. Carried unanimously.

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

None.

6. **Agency Updates**

A. **FDOT**

Ms. Chesna – “Alert Today/Alive Tomorrow” sponsors a statewide coalition with several committees including education, engineering, licensing, driver’s ed. etc. Each committee has a representative from each district. Public service announcements are being televised both statewide and nationally; there will be a commercial during this year’s Super Bowl. **Ms. Halman** – is someone from Immokalee on the coalition; there is specific information from our area that needs to be added such as biking to work. **Ms. Chesna** – not right now; asked Ms. Halman to discuss the needs of her area after the meeting. The committee is putting together educational materials for elected officials at all levels of government on why it is important to create walkable communities.

B. MPO Executive Director

Mr. Ortman – Board has decided to move (re)appointing committee members from consent to regular agenda; immediate impact to three BPAC members: **Mr. Wilson, Mr. Musico,** and **Ms. Fendrick**. Instead of 2-year terms, their terms will expire at the end of March when the Board will review their reappointments. MPO is advertising openings for both the BPAC and CAC. Two applications received for the CAC but none for the BPAC. **Mr. Musico** – should I resubmit my application. **Mr. Ortman** – not necessary at this point. Staff recommending all current members stay on committee because of their institutional knowledge. In March, **Dr. Friedman** and **Mr. Ordija** are coming up for renewal. **Mr. Ordija** is not going to renew his term. **Mr. Ortman** – there will now be an opening on the BPAC committee; will let the committee know if applications need to be updated.

7. Committee Action

A. Election of Officers

Mr. Ortman – BPAC bylaws, last adopted in 2014, provide that at the first meeting of each year in which the committee has a quorum, the committee should elect a Chair and Vice-Chair for that year. Any member of the committee may nominate someone or themselves. Terms are 1 year or until a successor is nominated; asked for nominations.

Mr. Smith nominated Mr. Bonness for Chair. Second by Mr. Musico. Mr. Bonness accepted the nomination. Carried unanimously.

Mr. Bonness nominated Mr. Matonti for Vice-Chair. Second by Ms. Halman. Carried unanimously.

Mr. Ortman indicated that Mr. Matonti, absent today, will be asked if he is willing to accept the Vice-Chair position. If he declines, the committee will hold another election.

B. Endorse Amendment to Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan

Mr. Ortman – Commissioner Solis forwarded an email to Ms. McLaughlin from Dennis O’Keefe with Arthrex. New Arthrex facility being built near the intersection of Goodlette-Frank Road and Immokalee Road. Arthrex requested that the sidewalk on east side of Goodlette-Frank be completed from Vanderbilt Beach Rd to Immokalee Rd. Discussed diagrams contained in the attachments. The County is planning a capital improvement project on Goodlette; the design phase would be the most cost-effective time to make improvements to bicycle/pedestrian facilities. The amendment is just to recognize that the plan considers County or City roadway capital improvements as priorities for potential expansion of the bicycle/pedestrian network. It is a one-sentence amendment. It was an oversight that it was not included during development of the plan and it has the full support of Commissioner Solis. Arthrex employs about 800 people, approximately 250 employees either bike or walk to work. Arthrex may consider incentives to their employees to bike or walk to work should sufficient facilities exist.

Mr. Bonness – does project map show the proposed changes. **Mr. Ortman** – it does not. **Mr. Musico** – the project needs support from the community, the business community and the Commissioners; (2) Master Plan should be a template for any project being done and should be referenced by any builder or contractor.

Mr. Musico moved to endorse the amendment.

Mr. Bonness – there should be a small amendment to not modify the entire map but to add it to the existing map. **Mr. Musico** agreed. **Mr. Ordija** – what about funding for the project. **Mr. Ortman** – there is no funding attached. The amendment is that the Master Plan would consider this and similar projects a priority for consideration of expanding the bicycle and pedestrian network. **Mr. Musico** – the amendment would make the project eligible for funding. **Mr. Driapsa** – would the County be willing to accept funding from Arthrex. It would not be different from accepting funding from communities for landscaping projects. If Arthrex contributed to the cost, it may speed up the process. **Mr. Ortman** stated that is a County decision. **Ms. Halman** – Arthrex has done a lot for our community; we should not ask for funding from them. Discussion concluded.

Second by Ms. Halman.

Ms. Chesna – does the master plan consider buffers between sidewalks and roadways. FDOT has been using sidewalks back to curve but they are moving away from it. **Mr. Ortman** – it is left to the engineers. **Ms. Chesna** – how does the bike plan inform the LRTP? **Mr. Ortman** – the LRTP is the overarching plan dealing with the larger projects. There are \$4.1 million dollars allocated to bicycle and pedestrian projects over a three-year period. **Ms. Chesna** – FDOT encourages community audits to ensure that bicycle and pedestrian needs are being considered.

Ms. Faerber -- have spoken with an Arthrex representative about the Paradise Coast Trail and how it benefits Ave Maria. The sidewalks on Goodlette are not favorable for riding a bicycle. Her suggestion on behalf of the Naples Pathway Coalition – in concert with the amendment – is to have a path that is off the street. **Ms. Fendrick** agreed that the path should be off-street. Committee members discussed this option in support of the idea. **Mr. Bonness** – need to continue to add things to the Master Plan. Suggested an amendment to the Bicycle/Pedestrian map to address deficiencies in the roadways.

Mr. Musico amends his motion to include a map showing the sidewalk and paved shoulder deficiencies on Goodlette Road between Immokalee Road and Vanderbilt Beach Road. Ms. Halman amends her second of the standing motion. Carried unanimously.

Ms. Fendrick moved to suggest that the County consider a separated path when the design for improving Goodlette-Frank is started. Second by Mr. Smith. Carried unanimously.

Mr. Ortman – the amendment will go to TAC, CAC and then the Board for approval.

8. Reports & Presentations

A. **Staff Updates on SUN Trail Application, FDOT Work Program, BPAC 2020 Project Priorities**

Mr. Ortman – the SUN Trail application was prepared by the MPO, signed by the County, and submitted December 20. **Ms. Chesna** confirmed that it is being considered by FDOT. **Ms. Faerber** expressed her disappointment that an application was not submitted for the gap on US41. Committee members discussed the particulars of the actual SUN Trail alignment and whether there were any substantive changes.

Patty Huff – Florida Bicycle Association held their quarterly Board meeting. Dale Allen, Florida Greenways and Trails, gave a presentation on the SUN Trail Network. Things are very positive in Florida. The Governor and FDOT are strongly supporting trails. The committee discussed various topics including funding more bike trails and an emphasis on safety. The new visitor center on 41 is having a grand opening; Everglades City will host its first annual triathlon.

9. Members Comments

Mr. Musico – a lot of public support on Marco for the Collier/San Marco loop. Marco is doing the stretch leaving Marco towards the Goodland Bridge; FDOT is doing Collier, which just leaves the gap on 41. Skeptical that certain projects that were given priority get passed over for other projects.

Ms. Peters addressed committee's concerns regarding the 951 resurfacing project; there are some drainage and environmentally-sensitive issues challenges with the roadway; will give a status update at the next meeting. FDOT is working on the RPMs on 41; she will give a status update next month. **Ms. Fendrick** asked Ms. Peters about scheduling on-site visits for the sidewalk projects that the committee voted on. **Ms. Peters** – FDOT does on-site visits when needed; she will inform Mr. Ortman if any visits are being planned.

10. Distribution Items

N/A.

Next Meeting Date

February 18, 2020 – 9:00 a.m.

Collier County Growth Management Department Conference Rooms 609/610

11. Adjournment

Mr. Bonness asked for motion to adjourn.

Mr. Driapsa moved to adjourn. Second by Mr. Musico. Carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:28 a.m.