

**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  
November 21, 2023 - 9:00 A.M.  
Meeting Minutes**

**1. Call to Order**

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

**2. Roll Call**

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

**Members Present**

Anthony Matonti (Chair)  
Patty Huff (Vice Chair)  
Alan Musico  
Dayna Fendrick  
George Dondanville  
Joe Bonness  
Kim Jacob  
Mark Komanecky  
Michelle Sproviero  
Robert Phelan

**Members Absent**

Andrea Halman

**MPO Staff Present**

Anne McLaughlin, Executive Director  
Sean Kingston, Principal Planner  
Suzanne Miceli, Administrative Support Specialist II

**Others Present**

Michael Tisch, Collier County Transportation  
Engineering Reggie Wilson, Florida Department of Health  
Michelle Avola-Brown, Naples Pathways Coalition  
Tanya Merkle, Florida Department of Transportation  
Matthias Reinhold, member of the public

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

*Ms. Fendrick moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Dondanville. Carried unanimously.*

4. **Approval of the Minutes**

4.A. **Approval of the September 19, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

**Ms. Fendrick** noted that on page 4 “trail town” should be capitalized, and **Ms. Huff** noted that on page 5, it says, “Ms. Huff: Ms. Avola-Brown is now a member of the Florida Bike Association, and the next meeting will be October 14, 2023 in Orlando.” It should say Ms. Avola-Brown is a board member of the Florida Bike Association, not just a member.

*Ms. Fendrick moved to approve the September 19, 2023 minutes, as amended. Seconded by Mr. Musico. Carried unanimously.*

4.B. **Approval of the October 24, 2023 Joint Workshop Minutes**

*Ms. Huff moved to approve the October 24, 2023 minutes. Seconded by Mr. Dondanville. Carried unanimously.*

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

**Mr. Reinhold** said he commutes to his job at the Clerk of Courts using a Class 1 E-Bike (no throttle) and has noticed the need for safety improvements, e.g., bridges over canals to connect roads to make it safer for cyclists. He has seen that the increase of traffic is moving the faster, forcing E-bikes to the sidewalks, and it seems unsafe.

A group discussion followed regarding some safety improvement need areas, and Mr. Reinhold was invited to submit his comments to the Committee so they could be considered in the current Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan update process.

6. **Agency Updates**

A. **FDOT:**

**Ms. Merkle** announced that Collier to Polk Trail was going in front of the Florida Greenways and Trails Council (FGTC) December 6 and 7, 2023, to try and get approval to upgrade the trail to a Priority Trail so that FDOT can use funds toward the trail. FDOT would lay out the master plan for the regional trail system, and then the local governments would take over the design phase.. She said FDOT would start its stakeholder outreach for the master plan process, as well as meet with the numerous state and local agencies, to gather more input for the study. She also mentioned that **Ms. McLaughlin** would be giving a presentation on the Collier to Polk Trail at the FGTC meeting and would be able to share the experience with the Committee afterward. **Ms. Merkle** said that FDOT was working on their central funding application for the initial phases of

the trail, and that they have added State Road 29, Immokalee to Everglades City, to the Collier Polk Regional Trail Corridor. **Ms. Merkle** announced the new Florida Design Manual for 2024 has been updated and distributed, and there were quite a few clarifications for bicycles and bike-ped routes.

**Mr. Dondanville** asked Ms. Merkle if she had information regarding a parking lot being constructed near Jimmy P's restaurant in Naples on US 41 across from Coastland Mall.

**Ms. Merkle** said she would investigate the matter.

**B. MPO:**

**Ms. McLaughlin** announced that she is retiring effective March 9, 2023, that **Mr. Kingston** will assume responsibility for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee and bike/ped planning, and that on December 8, 2023, the MPO Board will interview candidates for the role of Executive Director.

**7. Committee Action**

**A. Endorse Addition of S.R./C.R. 29 to Office of Greenways and Trails (OGT) Priority Shared Use Non-motorized (SUN) Trails Network.**

**Ms. McLaughlin** reported that she is planning to attend the Florida Greenways and Trails Council meeting in Tallahassee, and just received a presentation from FDOT for the Collier to Polk Regional Trail for her to show at the meeting that she will present to the Committee. Senator Kathleen Passidomo has written a letter to the Florida Greenways and Trails Council (FGTC) in support of the addition of S.R. 29 to the OGT's opportunity map. The corridor includes County Road 29 where it connects to Everglades City and extends to Immokalee, where it connects to the Collier to Polk Regional Trail. The FGTC will consider the addition of S.R. 29 and the Collier to Polk Regional Trail Corridor to the Priority SUN Trail Network on December 6, 2023. Ms. McLaughlin will report the outcome to the MPO Board at its meeting on December 8, 2023.

*Ms. McLaughlin gave a presentation on the Collier to Polk Regional Trail Network. [The presentation is available upon request made to the MPO.]*

**Ms. McLaughlin** mentioned that the Call for Projects for the SUN Trail Network closes December 20, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. and that FDOT intends to submit for a PD&E study of the Collier to Polk Regional Trail.

*Mr. Dondanville moved to endorse the addition of S.R./C.R. 29 to Office of Greenways and Trails (OGT) Priority Shared Use Non-motorized (SUN) Trails Network. Seconded by Ms. Fendrick. Carried unanimously.*

**B. Review and Comment on Collier County Road Resurfacing Plan 2024**

**Mr. Kingston:** The County Road Maintenance Division distributed the 2024 Road Resurfacing Map for review and comment to agencies managing projects that involve County roads. The review gives the Committee the opportunity to identify projects where restriping or other minor improvements could better accommodate cyclists and/or pedestrians. Staff recommends that the Committee review and comment on Collier County’s 2024 Road Resurfacing Plan.

**Ms. McLaughlin** explained that she would relay the Committee’s comments to the County.

*A group discussion followed in which Committee members asked about possibilities for bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements on some of the roads.*

**Mr. Tisch** offered to investigate specific facility plans for roads in the current road resurfacing plan and suggested that for future resurfacing plans, County Road Maintenance staff could present the plan to the Committee for input at an earlier stage in the process.

**Mr. Kingston** said design proposals for improved bicycle and pedestrian facilities along roads could be added to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan update.

**Ms. McLaughlin** said a similar policy is included in the current Plan and has been effective in promoting modifications to FDOT and County road maintenance projects.

*This item was presented for review and comment only. The group discussion did not result in any comments requiring additional information or follow-up.*

### **C. Review and Comment on Bike/Ped Projects in FDOT Draft Tentative Work Program FY2025-2029**

**Mr. Kingston** This is to provide the Committee with a briefing and opportunity to review and comment on the bike/ped projects of FDOT’s 2025-2029 Draft Tentative Work Program, which was released on October 18th. There are some changes to the program, including Moving Florida Forward projects with some bike/ped components to them.

**Mr. Kingston** went through some of the details of the FDOT Draft Tentative Work Program FY2025-2029 which can be viewed in detail in the [November 21, 2023 BPAC Agenda](#).

*This item was presented for review and comment only. Although there were several questions asked and answered, no comments were proposed.*

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

None.

#### **9. Member Comments**

None.

**10. Distribution Items**

**A. Approved 2024 Meeting Calendar**

*The 2024 MPO Meeting Calendar, approved by the MPO Board, was distributed to the Committee.*

**12. Next Meeting Date**

*January 16, 2024 – 9:00 a.m. Location: Collier County Government Center, Admin. Bldg. F, IT Training Room, 5th Floor, 3299 Tamiami Trail East, Naples, 34112*

**Ms. McLaughlin** suggested the upcoming Call for Bike-Ped Projects be a topic for the January BPAC agenda.

**13. Adjournment**

**Mr. Matonti** adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.