

**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
August 20, 2024 - 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*)
Michelle Sproviero (*Vice-Chair*)
Alan Musico
Andrea Halman
Dayna Fendrick
Joe Bonness
Kevin Dohm
Mark Komanecky
Robert Phelan
Kim Jacob
Robert Vigorito

Members Absent

Patty Huff

MPO Staff Present

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

Others Present

Michelle Avola-Brown, Naples Pathways Coalition
Lorraine Lantz, Collier County Transportation Planning
Kathy Eastley, Collier County Transportation Planning
Michelle Scavone, Collier County Solid Waste
Anthony Arfuso, Capital Engineering Solutions
Victor Nguyen, Capital Engineering Solutions
Josh Eaton, Capital Engineering Solutions
James Taylor, Public
Josh Easton, Public
Timothy Archer, Public
Justin Martin, City of Marco Island

3. Approval of the Agenda

A request was made to move item 7.B. after 7.C. to accommodate Capital Consultants to be present for their presentation.

Mr. Bonness moved to approve the modified agenda. Seconded by Mr. Musico. Carried unanimously.

4. Approval of the Minutes

4.A. Approval of the May 21, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Musico moved to approve a revised version of the May 21, 2024 minutes. Seconded by Ms. Sproviero. Carried unanimously.

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

None.

6. Agency Updates

A. FDOT:

It was noted that FDOT was not present, but Committee members were encouraged to reach out to FDOT's Tanya Merkle if they had questions or issues.

B. MPO:

Ms. McLaughlin thanked those Committee members who participated in the informational video for Collier MPO's federal review. She said she received positive feedback during the site visit, and would receive the formal report in the fall. She said Safe Streets for All Safety Action (SS4A) Plan was kicking off with the first meeting of the newly formed, Steering Committee meeting scheduled for August 28, 2024. The Safety Action Plan would have bicycle/ped elements, and MPO's usual committee review process would still continue via BPAC, TAC, and CAC cycles and public notice

On August 14, FDOT contacted the MPO, with concerns about the FY25-29 work program. State and federal funds for all phases of priority projects through construction would be limited to using only Surface Transportation Block Grant – Urban (SU) funds. SU funds were available in FY25 to cover cost increases, but there were some projects programmed for design in FY26-27 in which there would not be enough SU funds available to meet the escalating construction costs for the construction phase. MPO staff would work to identify more funding sources for projected construction costs over the next 5-7 years and report back to the committee.

7. Committee Action

A. Endorse Amendment to FY 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Collier Alternate Bike Lane Project, City of Marco Island

Mr. Musico explained that due to high vehicular traffic on Collier Blvd and busy pedestrian traffic on the sidewalk that runs parallel to Collier Blvd, the Collier Alternate Bike Lane project would close the gap of the existing bike lane going one block inward from Collier Blvd. The initial cost of the project had previously been approved by BPAC, and since then construction costs had escalated, especially because of the need to relocate underground utilities. The decision was made to complete only the southside section of the project where it seemed most needed, in light of the incredible cost increases. The request was to endorse an Amendment to further funding to complete that part of the project.

A group discussion followed, and the question arose as to whether it was the local municipality's obligation to fund the moving of utilities. It was ascertained by MPO that project funding was available, and that if the funds were not used on the project, they would not be made for use on other projects. **Ms. Halman** disagreed with the further use of funds for this project.

Mr. Martin explained that there was no local funding available for moving the utilities.

Mr. Musico moved to endorse Amendment to FY 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Collier Alternate Bike Lane Project, City of Marco Island Seconded by Mr. Phelan.

Ms. Halman, Ms. Sproviero, and Mr. Boness dissented.

Motion carried

B. Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan – Review and Comment on Draft Vision and Goals Statement; Map Status Update, Next Steps

Mr. Kingston said the Draft Vision and Goals statement was being presented for comment and review, which included input from three Committee members. The online interactive map had been released for committee review and comment last May, and the MPO would publicly announce the map in the August eNewsletter. He said the next steps would be creating a Draft Evaluation Criteria and Scoring Matrix for BPAC review and comment in September, a virtual public meeting/open house or workshop, and the release of an Existing Conditions, Issues and Opportunities, Vision and Goals, Draft Evaluation Criteria planned for October. There would be a second public survey developed for the virtual public meeting.

This item was presented for review and comment only.

8. Reports & Presentations (May Require Committee Action)

A. Call for Bicycle for Projects - Agency Presentation, Committee Review and Comment

Mr. Kingston said that Bicycle-Pedestrian projects were slated by MPO Board policy to receive a programming amount for FY31 of approximately \$5.7 million in combination with Transportation Alternative - Urban (TALU), Surface Transportation Block Grant – Urban (SU) and Carbon Reduction Program – Urban (CARU) funds. The City of Marco Island submitted a project by the July 20th due date, for a total funding request of \$1.9 million. Everglades City submitted a project on August 1st, having been granted a time extension by MPO staff, but since FDOT found that important design details were missing from the application, the project would not be slated for this programmed funding.

Mr. Musico went over the Marco Island project details and map which can be viewed in the August 20, 2024 BPAC Agenda

Ms. Fendrick said she and **Ms. Huff** would be working together to get details in order for future project funding for the Everglades City project.

9. Member Comments

Ms. Fendrick said that she noticed that Complete Streets was missing shade trees and asked why Complete Streets design doesn't include shade trees.

Ms. McLaughlin responded by saying that plans used to include landscaping, but that is no longer included in the funding availability, and **Ms. Lantz** said that beautification projects seem to now be directed toward local and private funding.

Ms. Sproviero wanted to bring attention to an area on Collier Blvd where there is a turn around at Isle of Capri that has become a dumping ground for building materials, and bicyclists have to ride in the street because of it.

A group discussion followed, and it was noted that police have tried to monitor the area, but the dumping occurs at all hours. It was also noted that it is not managed by the County, but it is the responsibility of a private contractor. The question of which entity monitors the private contractor arose.

Mr. Taylor explained that he had attempted to reach out to the private contractor who has not been responsive to inquiries about the debris.

Ms. McLaughlin said she would reach out to FDOT's Tanya Merkle about the situation.

Mr. Komaneky asked if anyone knew why construction costs had risen so much, as the increase percentage seemed unwarranted.

A group discussion followed regarding inflation, and **Ms. McLaughlin** said she would reach out to FDOT's Tanya Merkle for more detailed information about construction cost increases.

12. Next Meeting Date

September 17, 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

Mr. Matonti adjourned the meeting at 11:01 a.m.