

**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 19, 2024 - 9:00 A.M.
Meeting Minutes**

1. Call to Order

Mr. Matonti called the meeting to order at 9:01 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
Joe Bonness
Kevin Dohm
Mark Komanecky
Robert Phelan
Robert Vigorito

Members Absent

Dayna Fendrick
Patty Huff

MPO Staff Present

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

Others Present

Michelle Avola-Brown, Naples Pathways Coalition
Kathy Eastley, Collier County Transportation Planning
Anthony Arfuso, Capitol
Victor Nguyen, Capitol

3. Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Matonti said that the agenda had been amended since Committee distribution to include a revised scoring sheet for item 7.A. and the addition of walk-on item, 8.A., Review Bike/Ped Projects in FDOT's FY 2026-2030 Draft Tentative Five-year Work Program.

Mr. Dohm moved to approve the amended agenda. Seconded by Mr. Komanecky. Carried unanimously.

4. Approval of the Minutes

4.A. Approval of the October 15, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Musico moved to approve the October 15, 2024 minutes. Seconded by Mr. Dohm. Carried unanimously.

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

None.

6. Agency Updates

A. FDOT:

Ms. McLaughlin said she received an update from FDOT’s Tanya Merkle that the Department issued a call for SUN Trail projects beginning October 8, 2024 and closing on December 19, 2024. **Ms. McLaughlin** noted that the Florida Power and Light (FPL) Easement adjacent to Livingston Rd and the entire Collier to Polk Trail are in the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study phase, so projects on those alignments would not be eligible until those studies were completed. Upon completion of the PD&Es, applications could be submitted to implement the recommended next phase of development. Collier MPO will notify local agency staff about the call for project applications.

The FPL Easement along Livingston had originally been submitted as a feasibility study. She recently communicated to FDOT that Collier MPO had additional 2025 Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (SU) funding available to advance the study to a more comprehensive PD&E, and that would most likely occur.

At Naples Pathway Coalition’s (NPC) request, Collier MPO has been exploring funding for another update to the Joint NPC/MPO bicycle and pedestrian facility maps and a purchase order was expected in the near future.

B. MPO:

Mr. Matonti said he was in attendance when Collier MPO recently met with the Miccosukee and Seminole tribes to discuss the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan update. The meeting with the Miccosukee Tribe was virtual with the tribe’s representative said the Tribe would like to see US 41 raised as a twenty-mile bridge as the road is not sufficient for the flow of the river. The tribe was not opposed bike-ped projects, but the US 41 water flow issue is more important to them.

The meeting with the Seminole Tribe was held in Immokalee in-person, with MPO’s consultants in attendance as well. Tribal members were present and expressed that they would like to be involved with the BPMP update process and contribute feedback. The restoration of the Everglades and the tribe’s interest to conserve the wildlife areas along SR29 were also discussed.

7. Committee Action

A. Bicycle and Pedestrian Call for Projects – Endorse 2025 Project Priority Recommendation

Mr. Kingston said that a single 2025 project priority application was submitted by The City of Marco Island for the 6th Avenue - Elkcam Circle Shared-Use Path project and was complete and eligible for funding. The project was presented at the August 20, 2024 BPAC meeting. A corrected version of the preliminary scoring was distributed. Staff recommended that the Committee endorse the City of Marco Island project as a single project priority recommendation for 2025, given that it was the only bike-ped project submittal of the year.

Mr. Musico moved to endorse the 2025 Bicycle and Pedestrian Call for Projects – Project Priority Recommendation. Seconded by Mr. Dohm. Ms. Halman dissented. Motion passed.

Ms. Halman expressed that she believed more projects could have been considered in Immokalee.

B. Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP) – Presentation from Capital Consulting Solutions on Changes to Evaluation Criteria and Final Committee Comments Before Preparation of First Draft

Mr. Kingston said that MPO’s consultant for the Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP), Capital Solutions, had revised the BPMP project prioritization evaluation criteria for local and regional projects following the receipt of feedback from the Committee at the September BPAC meeting, the Miccosukee and Seminole Tribes meetings, and a virtual BPMP Update public workshop.

Mr. Arfuso provided a presentation which can be viewed in the November 19, 2024 BPAC Agenda.

A group discussion followed, and the Committee provided feedback, which included: project scoring needs to include project necessity for safety guided by crash reports, add language to confirm the Committee’s safety intentions behind the scoring, define costs with inflation projections in the timeline, add language to address possible costs for utilities modifications within the infrastructure of the project, promote studies to show areas where sidewalk projects would have the greatest impact, and add language for the scoring matrix criteria to be more comprehensive and have more flexibility.

This item was presented for comment only.

8. Reports & Presentations (May Require Committee Action)

A. Review Bike/Ped Projects in FDOT’s FY 2026-2030 Draft Tentative Five-year Work Program

Mr. Kingston said Collier MPO received the work program the day before the meeting. He had done some analysis of the program, which displayed the Roll Forward projects in FDOT’s work program that were also in the MPO’s Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). FDOT had communicated that they would be distributing a Summary of Changes in the near future. The Committee could check out the TIP webpage on the Collier MPO website for more details.

Ms. McLaughlin invited the Committee to send any further comments to her or **Mr. Kingston** for inclusion in the presentation of the item to the MPO Board.

This item was presented for comment only.

9. Member Comments

Mr. Vigorito invited the Committee to the Naples Pathways Coalition (NPC) Happy Hour, a member “meet and greet”, fund raiser, and discussion about what NPC was working on, in Lely on December 16, 2024.

Ms. Halman said she saw **Ms. Avola-Brown** on the news the night before regarding a fatal car accident. **Ms. Avola-Brown** said it was a head-on collision on SR 82, and that the news asked her input about the accident to promote safety on the roads. She was asked if she thought the accident was due to distracted driving. Her comment was that it would be difficult to speculate, but that most drivers are distracted as well as speeding, which is a dangerous combination. It was also unknown if alcohol was involved. **Ms. Halman** said that since SR 82 was widened, accidents have increased.

Mr. Kingston said the Committee could also send any comments via email regarding MPO’s Safety Action Plan and he would forward to MPO’s Safety Action Plan consultant.

Mr. Matonti shared one of his favorite quotes, “Amor fati,” which means, “love of fate,” saying that as members of BPAC, the Committee had a responsibility to provide the best possible case scenario for community. He thanked Committee for their work and wished everyone a happy holiday season.

10. Distribution Items

None.

11. Topics for Next Meeting

None.

12. Next Meeting Date

January 21, 2025 – 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 10:18 a.m.