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
October 21, 2025 - 9:00 A.M.
Meeting Minutes

1. <u>Call to Order</u>

Mr. Matonti called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m..

2. Roll Call

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

Members Present

Anthony Matonti (Chair)

Alan Musico

Dayna Fendrick

Kevin Dohm

David Sutton

David Costello

Patty Huff

Robert Phelan

Victoria Holmes (entered at Item 6.)

Members Absent

Michelle Sproviero (Vice-Chair) Joe Bonness

Robert Vigorito

MPO Staff Present

Anne McLaughlin, Executive Director Sean Kingston, Principal Planner

Suzanne Miceli, Operations Support Specialist

Others Present

Lorraine Lantz, Collier County Transportation Planning
Kathy Eastley, Collier County Transportation Planning
Bonita Schwan, Marco Island City Council and MPO Board member
Tanya Merkle, FDOT
Adam Rose, FDOT
Linda Hess, WGI

3. Approval of the Agenda

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

4. Approval of the September 16, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Musico moved to approve the September 16, 2025 minutes. Seconded by *Mr. Dohm.* Carried unanimously.

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

No public comments were made.

6. Agency Updates

A. FDOT

Ms. Merkle announced that she is not anticipating SUN Trail applications for this cycle as there have been many projects in the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) phase and that the Department is constrained with limited funds and trying to move existing projects forward. **Ms.** Huff asked if the funding this year is being attributed to current projects. **Ms.** Merkle affirmed this.

B. MPO

Mr. Kingston announced the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP) was approved and adopted by the MPO Board at their October meeting. The adoption of the Long Range Transportation Plan in December will affect the funding for bicycle and pedestrian projects, now through Transportation Alternative funds (TALU). There will be a discussion at a following BPAC regarding the distribution of funding and how often the call for projects process will take place.

7. Committee Action

None.

8. Reports & Presentations (May Require Committee Action)

A. FDOT Presentation on Livingston FPL Trail Extension PD&E Study

Ms. Hess and **Mr. Rose** gave a presentation on the Livingston Florida Power and Light Trail Extension PD&E Study from Radio Road to the Collier County/Lee County border which can be viewed in the meeting materials.

The committee expressed interest in coordination with FPL for their access to the power lines. Mr. Matonti asked how wide the existing sidewalk is and Ms. Huff asked which side of the street Alternative 1 would be on. Ms. Hess answered that existing sidewalk width varies and that Alternative 1 would be on the west side. Ms. Huff commented that US Bike Route 15 would benefit from the 11.5 miles this trail would contribute for long-distance cyclists. Mr. Matonti asked if the PD&E is being funded by SUN Trail and Ms. Hess affirmed this. Mr. Sutton expressed concern with the noise of the electrical lines during rain and the general concept of a trail under lines. Ms. Fendrick asked what the traffic counts were on Rich King Memorial Greenway, as it too is under lines and could show how many people may use the trail. Ms. Merkle reported that there was a peak of 614 people on 6/7/24, and that average annual daily walking traffic is 69 and bicycling of 162. Mr. Musico expressed no concern with a trail near electrical lines. Mr. Matonti and Ms. Fendrick expressed a need for shade and Ms. Huff access for emergencies. Mr. Rose answered that these would be considered during the design phase.

Ms. Merkle added that landscaping includes maintenance costs which would need to come from County

funding. The project team explained after being asked by the committee the different means of funding for the different alternatives. There is an unknown factor with the right of way impacts to private parcels, because the owners being impacted need to be willing sellers.

Mr. Matonti reflected on the concept of this trail as **Ms. Hess** introduced it, mentioning how it may not be picturesque, but it will be the spine of the trails of the county which is in great need and currently nonexistent, and as such will support those limbs which proceed from it. **Mr. Kingston** directed the project team to refer to the recently approved and adopted Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP) available on the MPO website to find what the committee and the public values for trails and pathways.

B. Report on Collier to Polk PD&E

Mr. Kingston gave a presentation from the October 15th, 2025 webinar slides, *Collier to Polk Trail Master Plan – What's Next for the Collier to Polk Trail?* The recorded webinar and its presentation slides will be available at the project website, https://floridaheartlandregionaltrail.com/.

C. Report on Draft Tentative Work Program FY27-31

Mr. Kingston gave a synopsis of the executive summary and the summary of changes included in the meeting materials and gave out a handout of the MPO Director's analysis. **Ms. McLaughlin** reviewed the list of the summary of changes in greater detail. She mentioned that things are moving along, that FDOT is making great efforts to fund the priorities and that most of the projects previously in the work program remain.

9. Member Comments

Ms. Huff travelled to Quebec City for a 130-mile bike tour and to Jupiter for the Florida Greenways and Trails Foundation meeting when they designated Marco Island as a Trail Town. She attended a Trails Alliance meeting with all representatives of trail towns last week. Englewood, Sarasota, and Bonita Springs are applying. She reasoned that eventually Trail Towns could be connected in West Florida. Few yet on the east coast have applied. Everglades City Council asked if there were plans to connect Marco and Everglades City and Ms. Huff answered that it would be great to consider it. This puts areas on the map for ecotourism. Mr. Dohm attributed Marco Island becoming a Trail Town to Ms. Huff with Ms. Schwan as sponsor.

Ms. Fendrick asked about the status of elevating US 41 in the Silver Jackets report. **Mr. Kingston** answered that he attended these meetings in 2023. **Ms. Merkle** reported that there was a large report made, which is available online. She will send a link to be shared with the committee.

Mr. Matonti asked for a map of Naples to be shown on the projector, and showed Anthony Park by the Gordon River Greenway. He sits on the Naples Community Redevelopment Agency and has applied for the CRA to fund a feasibility study for there to be a bridge built from the Park, over the Gordon River to connect to the Greenway.

10. <u>Distribution Items</u>

A. Final Approved Bike-Ped Master Plan

The BPMP was for committee distribution.

11. Topics for Next Meeting

None.

12. <u>Next Meeting Date</u>

November 18, 2025 – 9:00 a.m. Location: Collier County Government Center, Risk Management Training Room, 3311 Tamiami Trail East, Building D.

13. Adjournment

Mr. Matonti adjourned the meeting at 10:39 a.m.