

LEE COUNTY
BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 17, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dave Wheaton, Chair, At Large

Damon Shelor, District 5

Steve Jansen, Walkable Community, At Large

Eric Spivey, Vice Chair, Bike Industry Representative, at Large

Jane Bowser, Secretary, At Large

T. Patrick Connor, District 2

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jessica Marcolini, District 3

Nora Demers, At Large

STAFF

David Wagley, LC DCD

Debbie Carpenter, LC DCD

Cheryl Simpson, LC DCD

Alan Makau

Jillian Scholler, Lee DOT

GUESTS

Laura LeRoy, Gateway

Randy Paniagua, Gateway

Agenda Item #1, *Call to Order, Introductions and Review of Agenda: Mr. David Wheaton called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m in the Community Development/Public Works building, 1500 Monroe Street, Fort Myers, First Floor Conference Room 1B. Introductions were made. A review of the agenda followed. **A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Steve Jansen, seconded by Mr. Damon Shelor. Discussion followed with Mr. Shelor announcing that the presenter for Item #4(a) was unable to attend and asked that the item be postponed again until the next meeting. Mr. David Wagley also announced that Item #5(a) should have been marked as an Action Item. Mr. Wheaton called the motion to approve the agenda with the suggested changes; the motion passed unanimously.**

Agenda Item #2: *Approval of the July 20, 2022 meeting minutes.

Mr. Wheaton called for a review of the July minutes.

Ms. Jane Bowser made a motion to approve the July minutes as written. Seconded by Mr. Eric Spivey. Mr. Wheaton called the motion and it passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #3, Public Comments:

None.

Agenda Item #4(a) Ida Ave. N from Lee Blvd. to 16th St. W Sidewalk Request

This item was postponed and moved to the September agenda.

Agenda Item #4(b): Fill Sidewalk Gaps on Griffin Drive from Gateway Blvd. to SR82

Ms. Laura LeRoy made a presentation on behalf of the Board of Supervisors for the Gateway Services Community

Development District. -The current request is to add sidewalks along the east side of Griffin Drive and fill in a one block segment of missing sidewalk on the northwest side from SR82 to Hampton Park, near the Gateway High School. The sidewalk would be constructed within the county maintained right of way, since in 2017 Gateway conveyed Gateway Blvd. and Griffin Drive to the county with Gateway maintaining responsibility only for the Oak trees. Mr. Randy Paniagua also reviewed the scope and clarified the parameters of the request. He spoke briefly about the fact that two roundabouts have been installed recently and that ideally the requested sidewalk/shared use path could be constructed in conjunction with the third roundabout scheduled to commence construction in 2023.

Mr. Wheaton asked about the length of the sidewalk being requested. Mr. Jansen asked if there was an estimate of how many school kids would use the new sidewalk.

Mr. Wheaton thanked the presenters. The item will be discussed in more depth at the next meeting and a decision will be made whether to add to the BPAC list at that time.

Agenda Item #5(b): MPO Update

This item was taken out of order to allow time for the Point Scoring presentation [#5(a)]. Mr. Raimondo spoke about the Bike Facilities Map, 4th Edition that he had brought with him. He distributed copies and asked for comments. The publication will be re-printed once all comments have been incorporated; currently it is also on-line. Mr. Connor and Mr. Shelor asked for extra copies for their use.

Mr. Raimondo said that Cape Coral had been awarded a Safe Routes To School grant of approximately \$500,000 for a new sidewalk with design scheduled for 2026 and 2028 for construction.

Mr. Raimondo made a suggestion that someone from Cape Coral, Commissioner Hammon's district, be appointed to BPAC.

Agenda Item #5(a): BPAC Prioritization System Revision Update

Mr. Farhan Butt, Principal Planner, began by saying that over the past several months DCD staff, along with staff from other departments, has been reviewing the BPAC point scoring criteria. This Powerpoint, entitled "A Systematic Approach to Improving BPAC Point Scoring Criteria in Lee County, Florida" is a culmination of that work. He provided a comprehensive overview of the presentation, outlined the approach used to improve the BPAC Point Scoring system and provided background of the Lee Plan policies on Walkways and Bikeways. He reviewed the effect of pedestrian injuries and fatalities and other factors currently utilized in the point scoring system, and reviewed the framework for the proposed new criteria for Sieve 2. This included such factors as Speed/volume, Transportation Equity, Safe Routes to School and special considerations (anything not otherwise covered elsewhere). He went over the projects from the BPAC list with the three highest point changes – both positive and negative. The final slide provided Conclusions and Recommendations and was followed by a period of Q&A and committee discussion.

Mr. Spivey made a motion to adopt the Prioritization System Revision update. Mr. Jansen seconded.

After discussion, Mr. Wheaton called the motion to adopt the new criteria. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #6: Member Comments

Mr. Shelor was very appreciative of the information provided in the Powerpoint and pointed out that the committee made good use of the Roberts Rules of Order that was recently reviewed for them.

Mr. Jansen asked if the committee would have an opportunity to review the road resurfacing list. Mr. Wagley said the previous manager had retired but that he would be contacting the new one to get an updated list, which county staff reviews for bike-ped retrofits.

Agenda Item #7: Staff Comments

Mr. Wagley said he had just received a request for a sidewalk on Park Road, located in south Lee County off Island Park Road. This will be added to September's agenda.

Agenda Item #8: Other Government Entity Comments

None

Agenda Item #9: Upcoming meeting items

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21, 2022. The meeting will be held at 1500 Monroe Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901, in First Floor Conference Room 1B.

Agenda Item #10: Adjournment

Mr. Wheaton adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

BPAC Chairman

Date

BPAC Secretary or Vice-Chair

Date