

**LEE COUNTY
BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN MEETING MINUTES
October 15, 2025**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dave Wheaton, Chair, At Large
Eric Spivey, Vice Chair, Bike Industry Representative, At Large
Jane Bowser, Secretary, At Large
Paul Benvie, At Large
Paul Cohen, Affordable Housing Representative, At Large
Derek Felder, District 1
Theodore (Pat) Connor, District 2

MEMBERS ABSENT

Damon Shelor, District 5
Steve Jansen, Walkable Community Representative, At Large

STAFF

Rob Price, LC DOT
Tom Marquardt, LC DOT
Bruce Littleton, LC DOT
Bridgette Blanchard, LC DOT
David Wagley, LC DOT
Jose Perez, LeeTran

GUESTS

Dennis Petracca, Lee County Sheriff's Office
Greg Lambrecht, Eagle Ridge Property Owners Association
John Schuttinga, The Pines Eagle Ridge
Paul Kosiek, Eagle Ridge Homeowners Association
Ron Gogoi, Lee County MPO

**Agenda Item #1: *Call to Order, Introductions, Review of Agenda and Motion to Approve
Agenda:**

Mr. Dave Wheaton, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in the Community Development/Public Works building, 1500 Monroe Street, Fort Myers, First Floor Conference Room 1B. Introductions were made.

Mr. David Wagley pointed out that agenda item 5c says "letter of support" but should say "resolution".

Mr. Wheaton asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Ms. Jane Bowser made the motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Derek Felder.

The motion was called and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #2: *Approval of the September 17, 2025 meeting minutes.

Mr. Wheaton called for a review of the September 17, 2025 minutes.

Mr. Paul Benvie made a motion to approve the September meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Paul Cohen. The motion was called and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #3: Public Comments:

- (a) Mr. Greg Lambrecht stated that he represents Eagle Ridge and is with the Eagle Ridge Property Owners Association. He stated that he has been to several BPAC meetings as he is concerned about the safety of the Eagle Ridge residents. He said there are seven communities that share the two roads on which they are requesting sidewalks be built.
- (b) Mr. John Schuttinga also represents the Eagle Ridge Community. He stated that he recently purchased a place in Eagle Ridge and enjoys riding his bike.
- (c) Mr. Paul Kosiek also represents the Eagle Ridge Community. He stated that there has been an issue with drivers speeding on the road on which they are requesting a sidewalk. They have been working with the sheriff's office to monitor the speeding. He is hoping the BPAC committee can expedite their community getting a sidewalk.

Mr. Pat Connor asked whether documented speeding incidents on a road could add points to a project's score, moving it up the BPAC list.

Mr. Rob Price explained that documented incidents of speeding on a road do not add points to a project's score. A road that has bicycle/ pedestrian incidents with reported injuries adds points to a score; however, the incidents need to be reported to the sheriff's department when they happen.

Agenda Item #4: Bike/Ped Facility Requests/Presentations:

- (a) ***Sidewalk on Davis Blvd from Palm Beach Blvd to the Davis Rd Boat Ramp at De Moya Dr –** Mr. David Wagley shared that he will provide the point scoring information for this project at the November BPAC meeting. He explained that the committee could postpone voting on the project until the November meeting, or they could discuss and vote on the project today.

Mr. Derek Felder stated that a portion of the road up to 5th St is a collector road. Based on what's been shared at past meetings, collector roads should be on the BPAC list.

Mr. Derek Felder made a motion to add Davis Blvd from Palm Beach Blvd to the Davis Rd Boat Ramp at De Moya Dr to the BPAC list based on the minor collector road criteria, seconded by Mr. Paul Benvie. The motion was called and passed unanimously.

- (b) **Milwaukee Blvd - East Side of Street from Copperhead Canal to Alabama Rd S Sidewalk Request** – Mr. Derek Felder shared a presentation for a sidewalk request on Milwaukee Blvd, which he explained would be broken into two parts. The portion of sidewalk from Copperhead Canal to Alabama Rd S would be about 1800 ft and is currently a local road.
- (c) **Milwaukee Blvd - East Side of Street from Alabama Rd S to Savannah Lakes/ Panther Canal Sidewalk Request** – Mr. Derek Felder shared that this portion of sidewalk would be about 3950 ft long and is a major collector road.

Agenda Item #5: Other Business

- (a) **MPO Update** – Mr. Ron Gogoi shared information regarding the upcoming public information meeting for the Caloosahatchee Downtown Alternatives Multimodal Feasibility Study. He also shared information on the upcoming US 41 at Six-Mile Cypress Parkway PD&E Study Alternatives public meeting. He explained the importance of this meeting as attendees can share their opinion on what they think should be done. Mr. Gogoi then reviewed the draft tentative work program highlights for fiscal years 2027 through 2031. He shared the new additions, along with the partial construction funding amounts and the fiscal years. He also reviewed the projects being deferred and those deleted due to lack of state funding. Mr. Gogoi also discussed the upcoming Public Hearing, in which FDOT will present the draft tentative five-year work program for FDOT District 1. He shared the date for the public hearing as well as the dates that FDOT representatives will be available by appointment to review project materials with members of the public. Mr. Gogoi then shared maps of the Sun Trail Network in Lee County, with an emphasis on existing shared use paths, sidewalks and bike lanes, corridor segment status, and fully and partially funded shared use paths, rails to trails, and sidewalks and bike lanes. Mr. Gogoi completed his presentation by sharing the lengths of bicycle pedestrian facilities and the unfunded Sun Trail program projects.

There was discussion between Mr. Rob Price and Mr. Gogoi regarding Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE).

Mr. David Wagley stated that LCDOT had submitted applications last year for the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) grant for both Harns Marsh Elementary and Middle (from the school on the north side of 25th St W to Sunshine Blvd) and Three Oaks Elementary (on Cypress Trace Dr from Estero Pkwy to the school). LCDOT will receive funding for these sidewalk projects totaling approximately \$1.4 million. This year, LCDOT will submit another application for a SRTS grant for Mirror Lakes Elementary (filling three sidewalk gaps from Milwaukee Blvd to Grant Blvd). He said there will be a public meeting regarding the SRTS grant application for Mirror Lakes Elementary, most likely during the first week of November. Mr. Wagley will be sharing this information with the BPAC committee soon. The two projects receiving the SRTS grant money will now move into Tier 1. Harns Marsh Elementary and Middle will have design funds in 2027 and construction funds in 2029. Three Oaks Elementary will have design funds in 2029 and construction funds in 2031.

- (b) **Annual BPAC Project List Prioritization** - Mr. David Wagley shared the DOT staff recommendations for the annual BPAC list prioritization. DOT staff did suggest that committee members could rearrange the projects at the top of Tier II if they felt it was needed.

There was discussion among the committee members and staff regarding these projects and the costs associated with the different projects on the list.

- (c) **March is Bike Month in Lee County 2026 Resolution** – Mr. David Wagley reviewed the March is Bike Month 2026 resolution on the projector with the committee members. He did share that the

mileage of the on- and off-road paths, lanes, and trails maintained by Lee County has increased from 778 miles to 792 miles. He also shared that the resolution will be read by a Lee County Commissioner at the February 17th, 2026 board meeting and encouraged BPAC committee members to attend. An invite will be sent to BPAC members prior to the February 17th board meeting.

Agenda Item #6: Member Comments:

(a) Mr. Derek Felder asked if it would be possible to submit an application for the SRTS grant for Taylor Ln from Homestead Rd N to the G Weaver Hipps school entrance for 2027 (currently project #34 on the BPAC list). Mr. Felder also asked about possibly submitting an application for Richmond Ave S from Sunrise Blvd to Bear St (Currently project #42 on the BPAC list).

(b) Mr. David Wheaton stated that in Estero on Three Oaks and Coconut, the shared use paths have been torn out and replaced with nice concrete. Mr. Wheaton asked if Lee County DOT had done this work.

Mr. Wheaton also asked if LCDOT had fixed the broken sidewalks along Ben Hill Griffin around the area of FGCU.

Agenda Item #7: Staff Comments

(a) Mr. David Wagley stated that for the SRTS application for Mirror Lakes Elementary, we can submit up to six letters of support. He will be working with the Sheriff's Office on a letter of support, as well as with Dave Wheaton for a letter of support. The BPAC letter of support will be shared with the committee for approval.

Mr. Derek Felder mentioned that the Meadows at Mirror Lakes Association may be able to write a letter of support for the SRTS application.

(b) Mr. Robert Price shared information for some of LCDOT's current projects.

- The signals on the Matanzas Pass Bridge are now functioning. This includes the signal at Main St and San Carlos and the signal on the island.
- The ribbon cutting for Littleton Rd will be a virtual ribbon cutting. The project is wrapping up and there will be a press release coming soon.
- Daniels Pkwy has had a lane shift.
- The first phase of the Three Oaks Extension is done up to what's under construction now. It is currently closed until the connection is made to Daniels.
- The Big Carlos Pass Bridge is moving along. They are planning a traffic shift over to the new bridge in late November. There is about a year left of construction. The old bridge will be taken out to the gulf and made into a reef.
- The Roundabout at Buckingham and Gunnery will have a traffic shift going into Phase 3. The traffic will be moved to the new lanes going through the roundabout. Gunnery will be closed in order to get the southeast section of the roundabout completed. There will be a press release going out regarding the traffic shift.
- The Orange River sidewalk is under construction.
- LCDOT is moving toward construction on Hancock Bridge.
- The bid has been awarded for Alco Rd and construction should start soon. This section of

Alico Rd will be from Michael Rippe Pkwy E to connect to the sidewalks on Michael Rippe Pkwy and then connect to the sidewalk on Quaker.

Mr. Price had Mr. Wagley display the Lee County website on the projector. Mr. Price shared with the BPAC members how to access the different project sites on our Lee County transportation web page.

Agenda Item #8: Other Government Entity Comments

No comments

Agenda Item #9: Upcoming Meeting Items

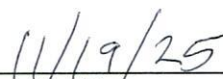
Next Meeting date - **Wednesday, November 19, 2025**

Adjournment

Mr. Dave Wheaton adjourned the meeting at 4:50 p.m.



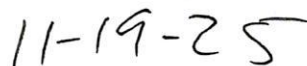
BPAC Chairman



Date



BPAC Secretary or Vice-Chair



Date