Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)
Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2019

Members Present:	**Representing:**
Doug Hall	Daytona Beach
Ted Wendler	DeLand
Paul Eik, Vice Chairperson	Flagler Beach
Larry Coletti	Flagler County
Gilles Blais	Holly Hill
Nic Mostert	New Smyrna Beach
Bob Storke, Chairperson	Orange City
Christy Gillis	South Daytona
Nancy Burgess-Hall	Volusia County, District 2
Alice Haldeman	Volusia County, District 3
Jason Aufdenberg	Volusia County At Large Alternate

Non-Voting Technical Appointees Present:	**Representing:**
Gwen Perney	Port Orange
John Cotton	Votran
Mike Ziarnek	FDOT
Melissa Winsett	Volusia County

Members/Technical Appointees Absent:	**Representing:**
Scott Leisen (excused)	Deltona
Michelle Grenham (excused)	Edgewater
Wendy Hickey (excused)	Flagler County
Heidi Petito	Flagler County Public Transportation
Gayle Belin (excused)	Ormond Beach
Danielle Anderson	Palm Coast
Robert Bullard (excused)	Ponce Inlet
Jeff Martindale (excused)	Port Orange
Patrick McCallister (excused)	Volusia County, District 1
Eric Kozielski	Volusia County School Board

Others Present:	**Representing:**
Debbie Stewart, Recording Secretary	TPO Staff
Stephan Harris	TPO Staff
Pamela Blankenship	TPO Staff
Colleen Nicoulin	TPO Staff
Judy Pizzo	FDOT
Jeff Arms	FDOT Consultant
Andrew Dodzik	Flagler County Alternate
Joyce Case	Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida
Chris Daun	Volusia County, District 2 Alternate
LaNina Dobson	reThink Your Commute
Courtney Reynolds	reThink Your Commute
Paul Haydt	Citizen

I. Call to Order / Roll Call / Determination of Quorum / Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting of the River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairperson Bob Storke. The roll was called and it was determined that a quorum was present.

II. Public Comment/Participation

Mr. Paul Haydt, citizen, gave an update on the PD&E study being conducted by FDOT for the multiuse regional trail from South Daytona to New Smyrna Beach. The city of Port Orange has taken proposals and moved on their own to connect the trail to their new riverfront development project and is planning for a one-way street from Dunlawton Avenue south for the trail. There have been workshops and public input and the project is moving forward. This will be one of the most beautiful trails in the county and will attract users from all over as well as bringing economic development.

III. Action Items

A. Review and Approval of February 13, 2019 BPAC Meeting Minutes

MOTION: ***A motion was made by Mr. Daun to approve the February 13, 2019 BPAC meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Eik and carried unanimously.***

B. Review and Recommend Approval of Resolution 2019-## Amending the FY 2018/19 to 2022/23 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Harris stated there are two projects included in this Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendment; the first is adding funding for the design phase of the I-95 and Pioneer Trail interchange. The TPO recently adopted an amendment to the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) to allow for additional design monies for this project. The other project is the Derbyshire neighborhood sidewalks; this project was discussed several months ago and at that time, the committee recommended an increase in funding. Since this project was last presented, the city of Daytona Beach and FDOT had to make changes and were not ready to program the project until now. This is for the construction phase of two sidewalks; he reviewed the funding breakdown. This draws down the remainder of SU funds in the TPO's box for the current year. This amendment also programs AC to make up the difference of SU funds.

MOTION: ***A motion was made by Mr. Blais to recommend approval of Resolution 2019-## amending the FY 2018/19 to 2022/23 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The motion was seconded by Ms. Burgess-Hall and carried unanimously.***

IV. Presentation and Discussion Items

A. Presentation and Discussion of the SR 40 Black Bear Trail Corridor

Ms. Judy Pizzo, FDOT, introduced herself and Mr. Jeff Arms, FDOT consultant, who will partner in giving the presentation. They gave a PowerPoint presentation and reviewed the study area which includes Marion, Lake and Volusia Counties along SR 40. This trail will also fill a gap in the Heart of Florida Loop Trail. She reviewed the purpose and need of the study and stated two alternatives were identified.

Mr. Arms reviewed the two alternatives identified in the study; one on the north side of SR 40 and one on the south side of SR 40. He noted this is only the beginning phase of the planning study and was done to understand what questions need to be answered during the PD&E study. He reviewed the evaluation factors that will be looked at during the PD&E study as well as the evaluation matrix between the two identified alternative trail routes and reviewed the schedule.

Mr. Coletti asked if restroom facilities or parking would be available along the trail.

Ms. Pizzo replied no; there will be trailheads but that will be up to the local governments.

Mr. Arms stated there are other existing public facilities close by such as a recreational vehicle trailhead and a boat ramp.

Mr. Daun asked if the design considered that SR 40 is on the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) to become four lanes.

Mr. Arms replied yes; there was a previous PD&E study that included SR 40 throughout its total limits and the recommendation for these segments was a "no build" and not widen to four lanes. From Leavy Hammock Road where this project starts to the west it is recommended to be widened to four lanes and would include a trail on one side of the road. This project will tie into that planned trail but currently, no plans have been approved to widen SR 40. The state has an easement from the federal government for most of the sections within the Ocala National Forest for the road and transportation facilities so there will be agreements that will have to be modified.

Mr. Daun commented that the National Park Service has a division that builds trails including through National Parks and he asked if they were included in this.

Ms. Pizzo replied yes; both the National and State Forestry Service have been involved in the process.

Mr. Arms noted this was the National Forestry Service and not the National Park Service; the National Forestry Service is more of a stewardship including logging, hunting and some recreational facilities but the National Park Service is more about the park and the visitor experience.

Mr. Aufdenberg asked what is east of this trail.

Mr. Arms replied this trail is planned to be an extension of the trail to continue on SR 40 on the south side of the road; that segment is in varying stages and is intended to be widened to four lanes and include the trail. This would provide connectivity for other trails to the coast.

Discussion continued.

B. <u>Presentation and Discussion of FDOT's reThink Your Commute Program</u>

Ms. Courtney Reynolds, FDOT's reThink Your Commute, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the program and stated it is an FDOT program that serves the nine counties within District 5. The program was launched in 2010 and promotes smart transportation solutions for Central Florida's workforce; transit, carpools, vanpools, biking and walking along with compressed work weeks and telecommuting. She explained the vanpool partnership program with Votran; roadside assistance, insurance and all preventative maintenance is included with the lease. There is an emergency ride home program is available for those that vanpool, carpool, bike or walk to work when a situation occurs and someone must stay late or leave early. Votran will reimburse for the cost of a taxi or rental car as many as four times a year up to $150.00 each time. She spoke about the benefits of biking to work and explained the Cycling Savvy course which is an in-depth, nine-hour course that instructs novice bicyclists on bicycle laws and provides safety information. She showed a video of two women taking the course.

Mr. Daun asked if the Cycling Savvy course was offered locally.

Ms. Reynolds replied they would like to hold one in April before the weather gets too hot; there is a fee but scholarships are available. She stated FDOT just wrapped up "Not So Noisy" Bike Week in partnership with the TPO, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona State College and Bethune-Cookman University. The TPO fit and distributed approximately 84 bicycle helmets. The event ended with a community bike ride escorted by the Daytona Beach Police Department.

Mr. Coletti commented that he is retired but rode in a vanpool for 15 years and a car pool for 20 years to commute to work. He would have preferred to bike but there was no place to park a bike or a place to shower.

Ms. Reynolds replied that is why they work with employers to educate them; it is up to committees and the public to ask for these facilities.

Mr. Daun referred to the recent Dangerous by Design report and asked if the reThink Your Commute program assists with funding for building urban trails or a bike share program.

Ms. Reynolds replied their $940,000 per year they receive in grant money is not enough to do that but they can help in a technical advisory role; Brevard County recently launched a bike share program based on work with them.

Discussion continued.

C. Presentation and Discussion of a Draft Template for the R2CTPO List of Prioritized Projects (LOPP)

Mr. Harris stated the TPO is currently accepting applications from local governments as part of the annual priority process; a draft priority list will be presented for review next month and for adoption in June. The adopted priority list will then be forwarded to FDOT; this TPO is one of several MPOs in Central Florida that do this. The TPO has seven different priority lists but all provide the same basic information. The R2CTPO's priority lists look different from the priority lists the other MPOs submit to FDOT. Staff from this TPO and the other MPOs met with FDOT to discuss a consolidated list; they would like to see all projects on one list. However, that will be extremely difficult to do; we have different lists because there are different project types and they are scored using different criteria. He referred to the draft template on page 50 of the agenda with the information that FDOT would like to see; it does not have the same information this TPO provides such as the project sponsor, the local match requirement, etc. which is what the board and advisory committees want to see. This TPO will retain that information and submit something similar to the draft template. This is still a draft and is subject to change. It is likely the draft priority list being presented next month for review will be somewhere between last year's list and this draft template.

Mr. Daun asked if FDOT has indicated if the TPO does not follow this suggested format that there may be some kind of penalty in funding.

Mr. Harris replied no; the TPO is required to submit the priority list to FDOT but the format of the list is flexible; the TPO tries to strike a balance between what the board and advisory committees want to see and what FDOT needs to see. The TPO is always tweaking the priority lists and typically have minor changes year-to-year. There will be a more significant change this year that will be driven by this draft template.

Mr. Eik commented that the draft template is difficult to read due to the font size and the abbreviations are not identified; he asked that explanations for abbreviations be provided. The extra information helps the subcommittee score the projects the best they can.

Mr. Harris replied he expects the draft lists to be presented next month to be more user-friendly.

V. Staff Comments

Mr. Harris recognized that Mr. Andy Dance, Flagler County School Board, was in attendance.

→ LED Warning Signs at the intersection of ECRRT and Old Mission Road

Mr. Harris stated Volusia County will be installing warning signs at the intersection of the East Central Regional Rail Trail and Old Mission Road in New Smyrna Beach.

Ms. Haldeman replied they are installed and are working.

→ St. Johns River to Sea Loop Trail Stakeholder Workshop

Mr. Harris announced a workshop was held by the St. Johns River to Sea Loop Alliance on March 1, 2019 at DeBary Hall; the presentations are available on the alliance's website.

Mr. Harris announced the last remaining gap in the East Central Regional Rail Trail between Guyess Road and Gobbler's Lodge was slated to be completed this year but has been delayed to early 2020.

VI. Information Items

→ BPAC Attendance Record
→ February 2019 TPO Outreach and Activities
→ TPO Board Meeting Report
→ Walkability Action Institute (WAI) Press Releases

VII. BPAC Member Comments

Mr. Mostert asked for an update on the Bicycle Suitability Map.

Mr. Harris replied the consultant is completing the final revisions; staff will then review it and if it is suitable to bring forward for adoption it will be on the agenda next month. He is cautiously optimistic and expects the final draft soon.

Mr. Ziarnek referred to a question Ms. Burgess-Hall asked at the last BPAC meeting regarding audible signals at the pedestrian crossing on SR A1A in Daytona Beach Shores near Publix; in 2017 the city of Daytona Beach Shores installed by permit the rapid rectangular flashing beacon (RRFB) at 3044 S Atlantic Avenue. A year later, in March 2018, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) gave an interim approval of speech push button information message that can be installed in conjunction with the RRFB; the message will state "yellow lights are flashing". It is not currently installed at this location; however, the city of Daytona Beach Shores can apply for a permit to add this feature. It would follow the same procedures and processes as utilized to add the RRFB at this location. FDOT could also add it in the same manner as a signalized intersection which would require a mobility specialist and engineering study; he is not sure who would initiate that process. He read the minutes and realized he did not make himself clear last meeting during the Votran presentation; FDOT would like the transit agencies to coordinate with them regarding transit stops that are midblock to make it safer for transit riders and the public. When there are opportunities to increase crossing locations midblock, this engages other traffic calming efforts to help FDOT manage safer interactions with motorists.

Ms. Burgess-Hall asked him to email her that information.

Mr. Cotton stated that Votran's policy is to place bus stops on the far side of intersections as it is the safest location and the most conducive to using crosswalks. It would have to be an extreme situation for Votran to place a stop mid-block and they would coordinate with FDOT. He announced Votran's new Route 25 in Deltona is operating and he hopes students on spring break understand they can get to the Epic Theater on the bus.

Mr. Coletti announced there is a new roundabout under construction on Route 1 and Old Dixie Highway in Corona, Flagler County. Construction started several weeks ago and orange barrels were placed in the bike lane along with construction debris so bicyclists had to ride in the road. He contacted Mr. Ziarnek, FDOT, and within two days the bike lane was cleared; he thanked Mr. Ziarnek for taking care of the issue.

Ms. Winsett announced Volusia County has completed four public information meetings on the proposed half-cent sales tax. The county and the cities in conjunction with other entities have town hall meetings scheduled; if anyone is interested, she will give them the information.

Mr. Blais announced the City of Holly Hill hosts "Coffee with a Cop" once a month and he always interviews the bicyclists that come regarding trails and biking in Holly Hill.

Ms. Burgess-Hall asked Ms. Winsett how long Volusia County would be accepting comment cards regarding the proposed half-cent sales tax.

Ms. Winsett replied she was not sure but will find out.

Ms. Burgess-Hall stated there is a list of road-widening projects and water projects; attendees were asked to prioritize them. She suggested at the Daytona Beach public meeting that sidewalks be included that are wide enough for bike usage in the road widening projects. She asked about bike lanes on LPGA Boulevard and the response she received is that it is too dangerous a road so her suggestion was to make the sidewalks wide enough to share with bicyclists. If comment cards are still being accepted, she will write her suggestion and turn it in. A lot of roads are being built to alleviate traffic but when they are built, the traffic will come. Residential, retail and commercial development is built and they need to consider bicyclists and pedestrians.

Ms. Winsett replied Ms. Burgess-Hall should put her interpretation on the comment card but she can tell that when Volusia County builds a road in an urban area it has a sidewalk and a shoulder as much as possible to accommodate a bicycle/pedestrian facility. Sidewalks are the responsibility of the local municipalities. When the county reviews development with the developers, they have to follow the land development code and install sidewalks where they need to be. The design for a more bicycle/pedestrian friendly or transit is a local issue.

Discussion continued regarding LPGA Boulevard.

Mr. Hall thanked TPO staff for attending the Daytona Halifax Area Lions Club Health Fair on March 2, 2019; the TPO donated and fit bicycle helmets. He referred to LPGA Boulevard and stated he hopes the traffic lights are installed wired for APS signals.

Ms. Winsett replied yes, they are; the wiring is there and ready for APS to be installed.

Mr. Daun stated he reviewed Volusia County's project list for the proposed half-cent sales tax and commented he was pleased to see the Main Street Bridge was listed as a mid-rise bridge to accommodate the link between downtown and beachside for bicyclists and pedestrians.

Mr. Aufdenberg thanked Mr. Ziarnek and Mr. Meade, FDOT, for taking care of bike lane issues. He thanked Mr. Cotton for fixing Votran's website regarding Route 60. He announced the St. Johns River to Sea Loop Alliance is holding a bike ride Saturday, March 16, 2019 on the Spring to Spring Trail; it is free or a donation is suggested. The Florida Bicycle Association supports legislature for bicycle safety; House Bill 71 for traffic offenses and House Bill 107 for the use of wireless communication devices and Senate Bills 76 for driving while distracted and Senate Bill 158 for traffic offenses.

IX. Adjournment

The BPAC meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization

Mr. Robert Storke, Chairman
Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)

CERTIFICATE:

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Recording Secretary of the River to Sea TPO certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the March 13, 2019 regular meeting of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC), approved and duly signed this 10th day of April 2019.

Debbie Stewart

Debbie Stewart, Recording Secretary
River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization

Request for Public Comment

RIVER TO SEA TPO
Transportation Planning Organization
VISION - PLAN - IMPLEMENT

Dear Citizen:

Public participation is encouraged at all TPO Board and advisory committee meetings. If you desire to be recognized by the Chairman, please fill out this form and give it to a TPO staff member (**PRIOR** to the start of the meeting).

Thank you for your cooperation.

Lois Bollenback, Executive Director
River to Sea TPO

Please indicate when you wish to address the committee/board:

☑ At the beginning of the meeting under Public Comment

☐ At the beginning of the following agenda item:

_____
(Please indicate the specific agenda item)

Date 3/13/19

Name B PAUL HAYDT

Address _____

Contact Information FLECGA@AOL.COM

Comments: (please use back of page if needed)

~~PORT ORA~~ DOT PDE STUDY
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