

MARTIN METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)

MEETING SUMMARY – SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, August 09, 2010 - 5:00 P.M.
Martin County Administration Building
Growth Management Conference Room, 1st Floor
2401 SE Monterey Road
Stuart, FL 34996
(772) 221-1498

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Joan Moore called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Members in Attendance:

Joan Moore, Chairwoman

Robert Taylor

Ken Natoli

John Mildenberger

John-Mark Palacios, FDOT (Non-voting Member)

Excused Members

Dee Spera

Staff in Attendance:

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator

Claudette Mahan, Associate Transit Planner

3. MEETING SUMMARY – June 14, 2010 BPAC Subcommittee Meeting

Chairwoman Moore summarized the June 14, 2010 Subcommittee meeting by stating that the Committee efforts were focused in the preparation of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. Chairwoman Moore said that the Plan would eventually be adopted by the MPO Policy Board, and it would have an impact in future transit planning in Martin County.

4. AGENDA ITEMS

A. Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan

MEMO: temp11BPACs01.01

Ms. Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator, stated that the Committee should consider identifying the goals, objectives and measures, as the first step in the creation of the Master Plan. Once the goals, objectives and measures are identified, then other sections of the Master Plan would be recommended to the MPO Board for adoption. Ms. Beltran said that when the Plan is adopted, the MPO Board would be able to incorporate the Plan's suggestions when analyzing proposed transportation projects.

Mr. Robert Taylor concurred with Ms. Beltran's recommendation. He stated that one specific goal would be to have the BPAC involved in resurfacing and road construction projects' processes so the Committee would ensure that bicycle lanes are being considered. Mr. Taylor said that other goals would be safety and pedestrian sidewalks. Chairwoman Moore said that the Master Plan should be a reflection of the Committees' goals, and of what the Committee Members would like the community to look like. Once the goals, objectives and measures of effectiveness are determined, the specifics would fall in line. Mr. Taylor said that *specific* goals ranked in order of priority should be listed, perhaps as a supplement to the Plan, but that he thinks that it was important to have them included.

Mr. Ken Natoli asked if maps and/or the existing Martin County Comprehensive Plans would be facilitated to the Members as material that would contribute to the Master Plan development. He said that the transportation element of the Comprehensive Plan contains information that addresses bicycle/pedestrian-friendly goals. MPO Staff agreed to request the information from the County for the BPAC's review.

Ms. Beltran asked what discussion items should be included in the next Regular BPAC meeting, currently scheduled for September 13, 2010. Mr. Natoli suggested the Subcommittee start assembling the framework for the Master Plan. Mr. Natoli mentioned ideas such as the connection from Locks Landing through Palm City. Mr. Natoli said that Mr. Bill Martz has an interest in indentifying walking paths that are in the Atlantic Ridge State Park. Mr. Natoli also suggested that the recently updated Bicycle Facilities Map could be used as the base map, to which further information could be added to generate a more informative map. Mr. Taylor and Chairwoman Moore concurred with Mr. Natoli's vision.

Ms. Beltran recommended that a draft list of goals, objectives and measures of effectiveness should be presented at the next Regular BPAC meeting. Mr. Taylor handed out a draft list of goals and objectives that he had compiled after analyzing the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plans from the Okaloosa-Walton Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) and the Tallahassee-Leon County MPO.

Mr. John Mildenberger asked how the Master Plan would be implemented once it is finalized. Ms. Beltran responded that the Plan would ultimately be a working tool that the MPO Board would be able to refer to when funds would become available, for future projects and/or when roadway plans are reviewed. Mr. Natoli suggested having both the MPO Policy Board and the Martin County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) approve and adopt the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan once it is finalized. The Members concurred.

Ms. Beltran suggested having a defined process in the Plan; perhaps in the form of a list of criteria or elements, or even a checklist that would ensure conformance with the goals established in the Plan. Having a defined process will help convey the Master Plan to the MPO and BOCC Board Members.

Ms. Beltran added that contracting the services of a consultant to assist in putting the Plan together would be good idea. She indicated that there are Forty Thousand Dollars budgeted for the creation of the Master Plan. Mr. Natoli stated that BPAC Members are a wonderful group that could accomplish a great deal of the tasks in the creation of the Plan, and suggested that the use of a consultant should be regarded as an "if-needed" resource.

Mr. Mildenberger asked if the Master Plan could take the form of a website, where the Plan would be informational, interactive and usable by the general public. Ms. Beltran mentioned that the Martin MPO website is currently undergoing re-structuring by a private consultant to increase public involvement. Mr. Mildenberger added that the website could also have a blog where users could address/identify and provide input that would eventually assist the County to improve problem areas identified via website. The Members concurred that Mr. Mildenberger's suggestion was a very good idea.

Mr. John-Mark Palacios from FDOT shared that the steering committee for the Palm Beach County Master Plan included County staff. Mr. Palacios suggested using members from the Martin County CRA Department and/or the Engineering Department, for example.

In regards to the suggestion of using the website to obtain public input, Mr. Palacios said that in developing their website, Palm Beach County held several public meetings. Mr. Taylor asked if BPAC could host a public forum to obtain input for the creation of the Master Plan. The Members welcomed

Mr. Taylor's suggestion and recommended hosting the public forum at the CRA level. Chairwoman Moore asked how early in the process the Committee Members suggest the public should get involved. The Member concurred that the outline of the Plan would require further development before involving the public.

It was agreed that this Item would be a regular item in all of the upcoming BPAC meetings for its discussion, input gathering and to further develop the Master Plan, until its finalization. Mr. Taylor asked if MPO Staff would be the facilitator for keeping the Members informed as to the Plan's progress. Ms. Beltran replied in the affirmative.

The group brainstormed about possible ideas that could be included in the Plan. It was concluded that ideas and pictures pertinent to possible goals and objectives for the Plan would be sent to MPO Staff via email for their inclusion in the next BPAC agenda package (September 13, 2010).

The BPAC membership was also discussed. MPO Staff would bring the roster to the next BPAC meeting.

5. NOTES

None.

6. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

7. NEXT MEETING

- September 13, 2010 (Regular)
- October 11, 2010 (Subcommittee) Note: The location for the subcommittee meeting will be in the Back Room of the Commission Chambers, 1st Floor.

8. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Recorded / Prepared by:

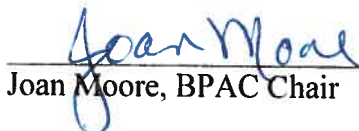


Lisandra Bonet, Administrative Specialist II

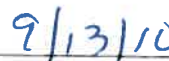


Date

Approved by:



Joan Moore, BPAC Chair



Date