



Hillsborough MPO
Metropolitan Planning
for Transportation



JOINT HILLSBOROUGH, PASCO AND PINELLAS BICYCLE / PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC) MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, January 17, 2016, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Keystone Recreation Center, 17928 Gunn Hwy, Odessa, FL 33556

- I. Call to Order and Introductions
- II. Public Comments (3 minutes per speaker please)
- III. **Approval** of Tri County BPAC Committee Meeting Summary- September 20, 2016
- IV. **Action:** Tri County BPAC Meeting Dates for 2017:
 - **Pinellas-** May 17, 2017
 - **Pasco-** September 20, 2017
- V. **Presentation:** Walk Bike Tampa- (Christine Acosta, Walk Bike Tampa)
- VI. **Presentation:** Health in All Policies- (Pedro Parra, Planning Commission)
- VII. **Presentation:** National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project- (Lucas Cruse, city of St. Petersburg)
- VIII. **Presentation:** Pasco County Trail Projects update (Justyna Buszewski, Pasco MPO)
- IX. **Presentation:** Pinellas County Trail Projects update (Rodney Chatman, Forward Pinellas)
- X. **Presentation:** Hillsborough County Trail Projects update (Wade Reynolds, Hillsborough MPO)
- XI. **Presentation:** Gulf Coast Trail Summit (Anthony Matonti, TBARTA)
- XII. **New Business/Old Business**
- XIII. **Adjourn**

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**JOINT HILLSBOROUGH, PASCO & PINELLAS
BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY
COMMITTEE (BPAC) MINUTES**

Tuesday, September 20, 2016
5:45 PM - 7:45 PM

Jay B. Starkey Wilderness Park Environmental Education Center
10500 Wilderness Park Boulevard, New Port Richey, FL 34655

The following is a summary of the September 20, 2016 Joint Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting held at J. B. Starkey Wilderness Park Environmental Educational Center, 10500 Wilderness Park Boulevard, New Port Richey, FL 34655. Introductions were done.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Gunther Flaig called the meeting of the Joint Hillsborough, Pasco, & Pinellas BPAC to order at 6:10 p.m. Introductions were made.

MEETING ATTENDEES:

BPAC Members Present:

Gunther Flaig	Pasco County BPAC
Dave Payor	Hillsborough County MPO Staff
Becky Afonso	Florida Bicycle Association, Inc. - Pinellas County BPAC
Lynn Bosco	Pinellas County BPAC
James Edwards	Pasco County MPO Staff
Paul Cook	Hillsborough County BPAC
Anthony Matonti	Tampa Bay Authority Regional Transportation – Pinellas County BPAC
Rodney Chatman	Forward Pinellas Staff
Tammy Odierna	Pasco County Parks, Recreation, & Natural Resources
Kimberly Cooper	Pinellas County BPAC
JoAnna Swindell	Hillsborough County BPAC
Morgan Gaynor	Pasco County BPAC
Justyna Buszewski	Pasco County Planning & Development Staff
Byron Hall	Pinellas County BPAC
Randy Stovall	Pasco County BPAC
Stephen Lasky	Pinellas County BPAC
Manny Lajmiri	Pasco County MPO Staff
Eric Gibson	Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, Pinellas County BPAC
Lucy Gonzeila-Burr	Hillsborough County BPAC
Lynda Crascontari	Hillsborough County BPAC
Michele Ogilvie	Hillsborough County MPO Staff
Susan Miller	Forward Pinellas Staff
Corey Denninger	Pasco County BPAC
Ron Rasmussen	Pinellas County BPAC
Lucas Cruse	St. Petersburg Bike/Pedestrian Coordinator, Pinellas County BPAC
Mike Siebel	Pinellas County BPAC
Jim Shirk	Hillsborough County At Large Citizen Representative
Brian Smith	Pinellas County BPAC

Visitors:

Sam Beneck
Jonathan Forbes
Angela V. Martinez
Erica Wennlund
Chris Speese
Kasey Cursey
Kyle Simpson

Pasco County Project Management
Pinellas County At Large Citizen
Pasco County Planning & Development
Pasco County Planning & Development
Florida Department of Transportation
AECOM Technical Services, Inc.
St Petersburg At Large Citizen

II. PUBLIC INPUT/COMMENTS

Gunther Flaig asked if there was any public comment at this time. Justyna Buszewski provided a little bit of history about Starkey Park Environmental Center, along with the amenities at the park. She also welcomed everyone to the meeting.

III. APPROVAL OF TRI-COUNTY BPAC COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY – MAY 18, 2016

Justyna Buszewski asked members if they had any questions, corrections, or comments on the May 18, 2016 Tri-County Joint BPAC minutes. Discussion followed. Chairman Flaig requested a motion on the minutes. All Joint BPAC members present voted in favor; motion passed.

IV. PASCO COUNTY MPO

a. Rights and Duties of Cyclists Under Florida Law – Morgan Gaynor

Morgan Gaynor, provided information on the Rights and Duties of Cyclists under the Florida law. He provided a handout that included scenarios under Florida Statutes 316.2065 Bicycle regulations such as: PIC 1: at bike person have right to avoid over granulation and debris in the street, PIC 2: more gran and debris, hazards for cyclists, PIC 3: SR 54 east of veterans. The shoulder is NOT the road, the statue doesn't apply to the right side since that is not the ride way. If you fit enough people you can ride across because you are not subject to eh statutes, PIC 4: there you have no shoulder at all and are forced to ride on the roadway, and PIC 5: pic of a bunch of people riding bike: pertinent to chapter 316. Discussion followed on what type of problems could arise from the different scenarios. Such as who decides when you are or not obstructing traffic? Mr. Morgan indicated no cases or law book on this, he stated if in roadway itself no more than two (2) abreast, traffic cannot be impeded. Other questions pertained to lane usage, where can you ride in road, why don't these laws apply to the large trucks or tractors (John Deer). If they are obstructions why don't they receive a ticket?, Distinction between cyclist and motor vehicle passing each other and does only cars have to give bicycles and pedestrians space. How does the law apply to motorcycle as a motor vehicle? He explained that they can be classified as vehicles under law but not motor vehicles. A comment relating to existing law and how it determines what laws electric bikes must follow. He indicated they were just added and there is a definition but cannot recall what exactly electric bikes would be considered. Discussion followed.

b. NE Pasco Bicycle Safety Action Plan

Justyna Buszewski provided a Power Point presentation that provided information on the current public meeting to help identify bicycle routes as well as potential shoulder construction areas in the Northeast Rural Hills Area that is popular cyclist spot because of the beautiful topography, rolling hills, and a view shed unique to the area. She stated there was a good mix of both residents and cyclists that attended the meeting with the common goal of safety. Ms.

Buszewski indicated the some of the problems are the limited widths of roads, struggle to accommodate with vehicles passing with bicyclists, minority of the cyclists do not follow the road rules of two abreast while riding, etc. Discussion followed. Suggestions of improvements where safety, education, engineering and infrastructure, better signage's, repaving in areas, reducing speed limits, and inclusion off road trails, ability to widen shoulders, and work on a grid system for the bicyclists to follow. She stated staff is working on a scope that will help address these concerns and to come up with recommendations. Discussion followed. Group comments included: are you working with local bicycle clubs, are you considering runners, pedestrians in this plan, need to develop a trail map for distribution, who is developing the website, explore possibilities of conflict between farmers and the bicyclists, financial opportunities with the USDA as an outreach, create an overnight bed and breakfast location on map, and the tourism angle for funding.

c. Starkey Gap Trail Connector Update

Justyna Buszewski indicated staff is anxious to keep momentum moving over trail connection. She indicated that Starkey Park connects with the Suncoast and the Pinellas Trail. Discussion followed.

V. HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY MPO

a. Vision Zero Resolution

Michele Ogilvie provided an update on the Smart Safe Streets No Vision Zero Resolution indicated since January, Hillsborough is achieving goal of no fatalities from traffic crashes, reviewing vision zero communities such as New York City, New York, Denver, Colorado and Columbia where these have been adopted. She provided examples of signs, using common sense, what works in these areas are speed bumps, using the schools for safety education, partnering with local businesses and interested groups, along with making it personal, outreaching to all the communities, turning engagement into action, which makes streets safer for everyone. She provided an example of a resolution from the school board and City of Tampa. Discussion followed.

b. Health Impact Assessment for Complete Street Project Study

Michele Ogilvie spoke on the George Road Health Impact Assessment (HIA) Study that had been completed in March 2016. It was prepared for the USF Health Conference to identify impacts to our health when we build trails. Hillsborough County staff worked with AECOM to create an implementation plan for a complete streets corridor on George Road which includes the community. The connectivity will take place bringing about goals for a safe, comfortable, and add value to community. it will include a systematic process that uses an array of data sources to analytical methods to help in the predicts impacts in minorities, stress levels decreased, improved overall mental health and will begin and the prevalence of chronic disease decreased, Partners included in the study where both State and Local Health Departments. The next steps and future collaboration will be to engage small groups to further determine health impacts and recommendations. Discussion followed.

VI. FORWARD PINELLAS

a. SUN TRAIL Program

Brian Smith stated that the Shared Use Nonnotarized (SUN) Trail Section of Pinellas is being built now and should be completed around March of 2017. He stated currently there are three

priorities competing for State funding through the SUN Trail allocation: River to the Sea Projects, TRI-County Trail Pasco's section, (part of Coast to Coast), and Tallahassee to shoreline trail. He stated the Coast to Coast is one pot of money, that individual projects (anywhere in the state), can receive funding also there may be funding for Pasco, that receives \$25 M a year (this year \$50 M) and then next year \$25 M, which Coast to Coast is part of combination of existing trails. Discussion followed. Tallahassee is thinking of making Cape Canaveral reach across to other parts of Florida under the Florida Greenways, and Trails Foundation, Inc. (FGTC.org) that are also prioritizing projects. They want to support an idea for funding projects by dividing then by each county. Discussion followed.

b. Gulf Boulevard Bicycle Lanes

Rodney Chapman talked about improving safety along Gulf Boulevard. He highlighted safety initiatives and next steps such as: using existing bicycle volume: encouraging everyone who is riding their bike by using the STRAVA smartphone application. He stated this data would be used as first level screening to give indication of heavier usage on the bicycle route. It would benefit bicyclists by increasing safety, encouraging cyclists to use bike lanes and help to improve safety by providing bike facilities, etc. The data would include existing conditions of bike lanes crossings, right turn lanes, transit stops along the entirety of Gulf Boulevard and the stops that conflict to lanes. Discussion followed. Group comments included an idea to paint the cycle lanes green along the conflict area which is already in downtown St. Petersburg, provide consistent sign markings, in terms of cyclist icons and arrows, adding an addition 300 feet of designation bike lanes and southbound right turn lanes, add sharrows, and "Bikes May Use Full Lane" signs. Discussion followed. The next steps would include addressing the \$800,000 project by FDOT, looking at ways to enhance accessibility of beach communities, working with department, consultant, and Pinellas County staff, in order to treat other County and State areas. The Gulf Boulevard Bicycle enhancements will improve safety for both pedestrians and bicyclists on the State and County owned sections of Gulf Boulevard Discussion followed.

c. Recent Trail Construction Updates

Brian Smith provided an update on the Tri-County Trail connection between Pasco County and Pinellas County stating that this section is being built now and should be completed around March 2017. Discussion followed.

VII. TBARTA

a. Southwest Coast Regional Trail

Anthony Matoni (TBARTA) provided a brief map and a report on the Southwest Coast Regional Trail that connects to Pinellas Trail, county and down town south. He explained that it connects to Pinellas Trail, county, and down town south. He indicated that recently the planning committee had brought the multiuse trail to focus starting in 1995 through the Chairs Coordinating Committee (CCC) at the trail will recognized as a paved, shared, multi-use path, being ten to 14 feet wide, looking similar to the Legacy Pinellas Trail, Suncoast trail, and Upper Tampa Bay Trail. The benefits are being identified as a multi-use trail is it a regional, which provides tourism and economic development opportunities, attracting over 30 million visitors in 2014. It is close to the beaches, state parks, waterways, athletics, community, improves quality of life in the Tampa/St Petersburg area. Another factor that will need to be looked at does it have a pedestrian danger index, SUN Trails that brings \$25 M annually, this must go through Florida Greenways and Trails councils, He concluded with stating SUN Trails: serve many purposes, over a 180,000 individuals live within a mile of the trail (low income), affecting lots of people for different reasons such as recreational or health, and will cover over 550 miles when

complete. A future benefit is a connection with Hillsborough-Manatee going south. Discussion followed. Group comments included; does it influence the Sunshine Skyway Bridge? Logical connection through bridge from Pinellas to Hillsborough. Does it provide continued connectivity to Hillsborough, Manatee connection, reconstruction of the Desoto Bridge (Bradenton) Olympic Training Facility (University Parkway), island and beach trail, Charlotte, Lee, and Collier, couple of spots that are really filled in, they have been willing partners. Discussion followed. The next steps include: regional bike share, One Bus Away application and regional fare card, multimodal connections, and finally what is the long term plan for upper Tampa Bay: Van Dyke to northern terminus, to the Citrus Park Mall, and will there be a connection to go through Rogers Park. Discussion followed.

VIII. UPDATE/DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Coast to Coast Trail Program Update

Chris Speese, Florida Department of Transportation, talked about the process for the Coast to Coast schedule and how this will be a regional benefit. He also spoke some on the eight applications for the individual regional trail category, indicating that this fiscal year the determination would be made shortly is around \$50 M, the update would be put in front of house senate and it would two weeks to digest, then Tallahassee does press release, then will contact agencies. He indicated this is first year of funding and the reviewing process for next four years, all applications tie into everything else. He provided the three components to Coast to Coast: they are No. 1 priority. Sunwest Coast is No. 2 priorities. Eligible for individual component: on the Coast to Coast, St. Johns River Loop, individual trail component, the ultimate goal of one enormous connection of the trail throughout Florida. Discussion followed.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

None.

X. CALENDAR FOR UPCOMING JOINT BPAC 2017 MEETINGS

Justyna Buszewski brought up the 2017 Joint BPAC Joint meeting dates needs to be set for the upcoming year. Discussion followed. Michelle Ogilive indicated the next meeting will be hosted by Hillsborough County on January 17, 2017; she asked the group if the Davis Library on Gunn Highway was an agreeable meeting location. A notice of the meeting will be sent out in January. Further discussion included meetings in May - Pinellas County will host, and in September - Pasco County will host but at this time there were no established dates. Discussion followed.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Becky Afonso provided handouts promoting the Florida Bicycle Association, Inc. She encouraged every one to attend the FBA Annual Membership Meeting being held on October 22, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, at the St. Petersburg Library, Main Branch Auditorium, 3745 9th Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL. Lucas Cruz announced that "Open Streets St. Pete" will be held on Sunday, October 9, 2016, this will be the St. Pete Cyclovia event. He stated there are plans to have ten stations and a hundred bikes up and running. Also stating there will be programming and lots of fun for everyone.

XII. ADJOURN

Meeting was adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.