

BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING CHARLOTTE COUNTY-PUNTA GORDA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION AGENDA

2:00 p.m., Thursday, October 5, 2023

The MPO will hold this meeting in a hybrid format (both in-person and virtually) utilizing Microsoft Teams® and at the:

Charlotte County Transit Facility

545 Theresa Boulevard

Port Charlotte Florida

- 1. Call to Order & Roll Call
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance
- 3. Public Comments on Agenda Items
- 4. Chair's Report
- 5. Consent Agenda:
 - A. Approval of Minutes
 - 1. Approval of Minutes: November 17, 2022
 - 2. Approval of Minutes: March 2, 2023
 - 3. Approval of Minutes: June 15, 2023
 - B. Draft MPO Board and Advisory Committees Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2024
- 6. FDOT Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator Report
- 7. Sheriffs' Office Report-Public Safety
- 8. Charlotte County Report
- 9. City of Punta Gorda Report
- 10. Safe Streets and Roads for All Comprehensive Action Plan Scope Review

BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

CHARLOTTE COUNTY – PUNTA GORDA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION 2:00 p.m., Thursday, October 5, 2023

- 11. Bicycle Signs, Signals and Markings Presentation
- 12. Project Priorities Map Discussion
- 13. Citizen Input
- 14. Staff Comments
- 15. Member Comments
- 16. Adjournment (The next scheduled meeting of the BPAC is November 16, 2023 at the Charlotte County Administration Center 18500 Murdock Circle Room B106, Port Charlotte, Florida)

No stenographic record by a certified court reporter is made of these meetings. Accordingly, anyone seeking to appeal any decisions involving the matters herein will be responsible for making a verbatim record of the meeting/testimony and evidence upon which any appeal is to be based. (F.S. 286.0105)

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT AND CHAPTER 286.26 FLORIDA STATUTES, PERSONS NEEDING SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING SHOULD CONTACT THE CHARLOTTE COUNTY-PUNTA GORDA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION AT LEAST FORTY-EIGHT (48) HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING. CALL (941) 883-3535 BETWEEN 8:00 A.M. AND 4:00 P.M., MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY.

The MPO's planning process is conducted in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes. Any person or beneficiary who believes he or she has been discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, or familial status may file a complaint with the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO Title VI Coordinator Wendy W. Scott at (941) 883-3535 or by writing her at Charlotte County Administration Center, Building B, Room 200 18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte, Florida 33948

CHARLOTTE COUNTY-PUNTA GORDA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Charlotte County Administration Center, Building B, Room 200 18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte, Florida 33948 Telephone: (941) 883-3535 Fax: (941) 883-3534

OCTOBER 5, 2023 BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC) MEETING

CONSENT AGENDA #5

${\tt OCTOBER~5,2023} \\ {\tt BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN~ADVISORY~COMMITTEE~(BPAC)~MEETING} \\$

AGENDA ITEM # 5A APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Purpose: To review and approve the Minutes of the November 17, 2022, March 2 and June

15, 2023 BPAC hybrid Meetings.

Agenda Item Presented by: MPO Staff

Discussion: To Be Determined

Recommendation: Motion to approve the Minutes of the BPAC hybrid meetings held on

November 17, 2022, March 2 and June 15, 2023

Attachments: Minutes of the BPAC hybrid Meeting held on

• November 17, 2022

• March 2, 2023

• June 15, 2023

OCTOBER 5, 2023 BICYCLE /PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC) MEETING

AGENDA ITEM # 5A APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JUNE 28, 2023, MEETING

Purpose: To review and approve the minutes of the previous

Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting

(BPAC)

Agenda Item Presented by: MPO Staff

Discussion: To Be Determined

Recommendation: Motion to approve the minutes of the BPAC Meetings

of November 17, 2022, March 2, 2023 & June 15, 2023.

Attachments: A. Minutes of the November 17, 2022, BPAC Meeting

B. Minutes of the March 2, 2023, BPAC Meeting

C. Minutes of the June 15, 2023, BPAC Meeting

CHARLOTTE COUNTY-PUNTA GORDA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC) November 17, 2022 DRAFT Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held in a hybrid format on November 17, 2022, utilizing Microsoft Teams® for virtual participation and in person at the Charlotte County Transit Facility, 545 Theresa Blvd, Port Charlotte, Florida

MEMBERS ATTENDING EITHER IN PERSON OR VIRTUALLY

Pauline Klein, (Chair) Bicycle Club
Court Nederveld, (Vice Chair) South County Representative
Robert Logan, Mid-County Representative
Wendy Zurstadt, South County Representative
James Wernicke, West County Representative
Betty Staugler, Historical/Cultural/Environmental Representative
Ben Turner, West County Representative

ABSENT

David Allen, Mid County Representative Michael Tomaso, Bicycle Business Representative

ADVISORY AND OTHERS ATTENDING EITHER IN PERSON OR VIRTUALLY

D'Juan Harris, MPO Director
Laks Gurram, MPO
Betty-Ann Sherer, MPO
Ravi Kamarajugadda, Charlotte County Public Works (Virtual)
April Santos, Charlotte County Public Works (Virtual)
Joshua Hudson, Charlotte County Economic Development (Virtual)
Mike Koenig, Charlotte County Parks & Recreation (Virtual)
Morgan Simpson, The Daily Sun (Virtual)
Tanya Merkle, FDOT Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinator, District One

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Pauline Klein called the hybrid meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.; a quorum was present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Public Comments on Agenda Items

There were no public comments received.

4. <u>2023 Election of Officers</u>

D'Juan Harris chaired the meeting and entertained nominations for BPAC Chair

James Wernicke nominated **Pauline Klein** as BPAC Chair. **Ben Turner** seconded the nomination, and **Pauline Klein** was elected unanimously.

D'Juan Harris asked for nominations for BPAC Vice Chair.

Court Nederveld nominated **James Wernicke** as BPAC Vice Chair. **Ben Turner** seconded the nomination, and **James Wernicke** was elected unanimously

Pauline Klein resumed the duties of a chair.

5. Chairs Report

Chair Pauline Klein had no report and deferred her time to any members who had something to report.

James Wernicke commented that Ponce DeLeon Blvd on I-75 in Sarasota County overpass, has inadequate cycling lanes and described a near miss crash in this area.

Court Nederveld shared the concerns of cyclists riding along US17 southbound @ Shell Creek crossing the bridge. The bridge is overfilled with macadam and cyclists are forced into the driving lanes which is filled with debris.

Wendy Zurstadt noted the newly paved section of US 17 north of Washington Loop-Rumble Strips were placed in the shoulder, cyclists now must ride on the road, she felt this was a hazard for cyclists. Court Nederveld added, once rumble strips are added, it is no longer a viable bike lane.

Court Nederveld then read a statement of concern regarding road design and rumble strips in the bike lanes:

Tanya Merkle, Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinator, indicated that she will follow up the concerns of the members.

6. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes: June 16, 2022

Wendy Zurstadt made a motion to approve the minutes of June 16, 2022. **Robert Logan** seconded the Motion; and the Motion was passed unanimously.

B. MPO Board and Advisory Committee's Meetings Schedule For Calendar Year 2023

Wendy Zurstadt made a Motion to recommend approval of the 2023 meeting schedule. **Betty Staugler** seconded the Motion; and the Motion was approved unanimously.

D'Juan Harris welcomed the Committee members to attend a Joint TAC meeting with Sarasota - Manatee MPO scheduled for January 9, 2023 @ 9:30am at the Sarasota – Manatee MPO offices 8100 15th Street East, Sarasota Florida.

7. Sheriffs' Office Report - Public Safety

Deputy Miller was not present. BPAC members reviewed the report provided by the Charlotte County Sheriff's office.

8. FDOT Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator Report – (Tanya Merkle)

The SUN Trail application submission cycle is open until December 15, 2022 at 3:00pm.

9. Review and Approval of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Roll Forward Amendment FY 22/23 - FY 26/27 (Laks Gurram)

Laks Gurram presented the Transportation Improvement Program roll forward for FY 23-27. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) provides the MPO with a roll forward report that includes projects in the previous state fiscal year that were not commenced, have uncommitted portions of projects that have started or have funds remaining on completed projects. These projects automatically roll forward in FDOT's Work Program but need to be accounted for in the MPO's new TIP. This amendment is required to allow the TIP to be consistent with the Work Program.

Members enquired status update for the following projects

Taylor Road project

Laks Gurram noted this project is in the MPO project Priorities and will remain as number One until it has been funded. A portion has a not been funded yet, so MPO is working with FDOT Staff.

Bike lanes on Harbor View Road widening-

Laks Gurram noted this Segment One from Melbourne St to Date St is in the design phase.

D'Juan Harris added, at this time these plans are in the 60% design phase if there are bike lanes and where they would be located would be shown once those plans are completed.

Tanya Merkle added obtaining Right of Way for the entire segment can be challenging to coordinate, and design can be limited by that.

A Motion was made by **Wendy Zurstadt** to recommend the MPO Board approve the amendment to the FY 2023 through 2027 Transportation Improvement Program to add the roll forward projects. **James Wernicke** seconded the Motion; and the Motion was passed unanimously.

10. Public Participation Plan (PPP) Update (Betty-Ann Sherer)

Betty-Ann Sherer informed the committee members that MPO Staff recently revised the Public Participation Plan (PPP) to include language that allows for virtual and hybrid (inperson and virtual) public involvement in the MPO's planning processes. This revision will effectively provide efficient and practical accessibility for public engagement in all the MPO's meetings from a remote location. The PPP was previously revised on July 20, 2020, and addresses all comments received from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in September 2022.

The PPP is a federal requirement as set forth in FHWA's 23 CFR (Code of Federal Regulations) 450.316 and MPO's are required to revisit provisions listed in the PPP prior to every update of the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). This update remains in compliance with all federal regulations and was advertised in the local newspaper, along with the MPO's website to meet the 45-day public review and comment period.

Members noted the document looks fresh and modern. They also noted the challenge faced when reducing a plan from 80 to 31 pages and still retaining the integrity of the document.

A Motion was made by **James Wernicke** to recommend the MPO Board adopt the revisions to the MPO Public Participation Plan. **Robert Logan** seconded the Motion; and the Motion was passed unanimously.

11. Charlotte County SUN Trail Projects Update (April Santos/Laks Gurram)

Laks Gurram gave a PowerPoint presentation, presenting the Shared Use Non-motorized (SUN) Trail Network throughout the state of Florida as well as the current, proposed, and deleted SUN Trails projects within Charlotte County.

April Santos added that the County is submitting apploications for SUN Trail funding considerations :

Segment One on SR 776 from US 41 to Gillot Blvd, approximately 6.5 miles requesting for \$468,000 dollars towards design and

Segment Two is on SR 776 from Gillot Blvd to Myakka State Forest, it is 4.5 miles, requesting for \$189,000 towards design.

The Florida Department of Transportation opened the solicitation for SUN Trail projects on September 29, 2022. The call for project applications will remain open through December 15, 2022.

12. Carbon Reduction Strategy Preliminary Priority List (D'Juan Harris)

D'Juan Harris described how the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) requires the Florida Department of Transportation to develop a Carbon Reduction Strategy. This strategy will support the IIJA's Carbon Reduction Program, which provides \$320.4 million to Florida over the next five years.

The Federal goals of the Carbon Reduction Program are to reduce transportation emissions (specifically carbon dioxide) from on-road highway sources by:

- Reducing single-occupancy vehicle trips
- Facilitating the use of vehicles or modes of travel that result in lower emissions
- Facilitating approaches to construction that result in lower emissions.

FDOT is currently developing the statewide Carbon Reduction Strategy in close coordination with the state's 27 Metropolitan Planning Organizations. MPO staff developed a preliminary listing of Carbon Reduction priorities for consideration of inclusion in FDOT's Five-Year Work Program.

Members discussed possible tactics to reduce carbon such as electric vehicles, possibly recommend changes to the Building Code to incorporate requirement of developers providing electric charging infrastructure during construction, expanding the rail system, incorporate electric vehicles in the State and County Vehicle replacement programs.

It was noted the school district researched electric buses, currently the vehicle and infrastructure costs are high and the return on investment exceeds the life of the vehicle. The State has launched a Pilot program for larger school districts in the state and the first bus should be delivered spring of 2023. Hydrogen cells are another area being explored, they seem to be more efficient than electric alone, but this program is still in its infancy.

13. 2023 FDOT Safety Performance Measures Discussion (D'Juan Harris)

D'Juan Harris stated that MPOs are required annually to adopt Safety Performance Measure Targets for tracking progress towards the Statewide/MPO targets for each of the transportation performance measures and meet Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirements.

FHWA has established five national Safety Measures which all State Departments of Transportation and MPOs must address. Unlike other performance measures applicable only to the National Highway System (NHS), the Safety Performance Measures apply to all public roads. The Safety Performance Measures are:

- 1. Number of Fatalities
- 2. Number of Serious Injuries
- 3. Fatality Rate per 100 million Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)
- 4. Serious Injuries per 100 million Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)
- 5. Total Number of Non-Motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries

The MPO Board last adopted the FDOT's "Vision Zero" targets (goal of no fatalities or injuries) for all five of the Safety Performance Measures at the February 18, 2022 MPO Special Board Meeting. The MPO has until February 27, 2023 to accept the FDOT targets for 2023 or develop its own targets. MPO Staff recommends the MPO Board support and adopt FDOT's 2023 targets.

A Motion was made by **Betty Staugler** to recommend the MPO Board adopt the FDOT 2023 Safety Performance Measure Targets. **James Wernicke** seconded the Motion; and the Motion was passed unanimously.

14. Summary of Crash Data in Charlotte County (D'Juan Harris)

D'Juan Harris gave a brief powerpoint presentation showing statewide and local serious and fatal injury trends. Consistent with the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) and Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Vision Zero Initiative, Charlotte County MPO concurs with the notion that one serious injury or fatality on public roads is one too many. The past six years, the MPO has adopted FHWA'S and FDOT'S Safety Performance Measures target of zero serious injuries and fatalities. The Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO Board recently solidified this commitment by unanimous passage of a Vision Zero Resolution, identifying the year 2045 as the timeframe to achieve zero serious injuries and fatalities on county roads.

Members noted concerns with the high rate of injuries and fatalities for aging drivers and lane departures. They also discussed advances in lane departure technology, autonomous vehicles, luminousity of lane markers, rumble strips in road shoulders.

Director Harris stressed, one fatality is one too many.

15. Charlotte County Report

Ravi Kamarajugadda shared the October 2022 Public Works Report Hurricane Ian Edition and discussed who maintains signs, traffic signals, timing, street lights and the County efforts on recovery from the hurricane. He noted the County follows the FHWA safety guidelines. It was also noted if there were color evacuation zone markers on stop signs, they will be replaced. Reflectivity of signs is also monitored every six months.

16. <u>City of Punta Gorda Report</u>

None

17. Public Comments

None

18. **Staff Comments**

Betty-Ann Sherer Reviewed the Committee openings and encouraged members to share this information. She also reminded members the next BPAC meeting will be February 23, 2023 and will be held at the Charlotte County Administration Center on Murdock Circle room B106

MPO Director Harris, thanked Court Nederveld for his valuable service on the BPAC committee; he will be missed.

19. Member Comments

Court Nederveld noted concerns roadway maintenance and the need to clean the lanes along the El Jobean and Peace River bridges.

Court suggested a Bike Box would be a great addition at the intersection of Aqui Esta and US 41 and Cooper in Punta Gorda.

Tony Conte thanked Andy Amendola of FDOT for his hard work in assuring the school zone flashing lights were up and running so soon after Hurricane Ian.

20. Adjournment

There being no further business, by *Motion of Wendy Zurstadt*; seconded by *James Wernicke*, the meeting was adjourned at 4:13 p.m. The next regularly scheduled BPAC meeting will be held on Thursday February 23, 2023 at the Charlotte County Administration Center 18500 Murdock Circle Port Charlotte Florida- Room B106 beginning at 2:00 p.m.



CHARLOTTE COUNTY-PUNTA GORDA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC) MARCH 2, 2023 DRAFT Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held in a hybrid format on March 2, 2023, utilizing Microsoft Teams® for virtual participation and in person at the Charlotte County Transit Facility, 545 Theresa Blvd, Port Charlotte, Florida

MEMBERS ATTENDING EITHER IN PERSON OR VIRTUALLY

Pauline Klein, (Chair) Bicycle Club James Wernicke, (Vice Chair) West County Representative Wendy Zurstadt, South County Representative

ABSENT

David Allen, Mid County Representative (excused)
Robert Logan, Mid-County Representative (excused)
Betty Staugler, Historical/Cultural/Environmental Representative (excused)
Ben Turner, West County Representative
Michael Tomaso, Bicycle Business Representative

ADVISORY AND OTHERS ATTENDING EITHER IN PERSON OR VIRTUALLY

D'Juan Harris, MPO Director
Laks Gurram, MPO
Betty-Ann Sherer, MPO
Tony Conte, Charlotte County Schools Transportation Operations Director
Joshua Hudson, Charlotte County Economic Development (Virtual)
Ravi Kamarajugadda, Charlotte County Public Works (Virtual)
Tanya Merkle, FDOT Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinator, District One (Virtual)

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Pauline Klein called the hybrid meeting to order at 3:39 p.m.; a quorum was not present.

2. Public Comments on Agenda Items

There were no public comments received.

3. Chairs Report

BPAC Chair had nothing to report.

4. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of Minutes: November 17, 2022

Due to the lack of a quorum, no vote was taken, Members present unanimously agreed to accept the minutes.

5. Sheriffs' Office Report - Public Safety

Deputy Miller was not present. BPAC members reviewed the report provided by the Charlotte County Sheriff's office.

James Wernicke indicated that during a recent ride on his bicycle, he was cited for not coming to a complete stop at a stop sign. He conveyed his opinion that the "Idaho Stop" law should be adopted in Florida.

6. FDOT Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator Report – (Tanya Merkle)

Approval of Senate Bill 106 would potentially increase SUN Trail funding. If approved it would become effective July 1, 2023.

SUN Trail applications are required for each phase of the project regardless of the phase of funding. A new application should be submitted to make sure funding for the next phase is in place and that project cost estimates are updated.

The following discussion came up during the meeting:

- Myakka Bridge- Local cycling groups are still having trouble with the Bridge overpass because of the debris in the bike lanes, cyclists are forced to ride in vehicular lanes.
- Peace River Bridge US 41 Northbound does not have proper signage to direct pedestrians and cyclist. This causes confusion as visitors may not be aware which lane to use.
- Barricades are obstructing the bike lanes near Sunseeker Resort along US 41 Southbound due to ongoing construction.
- Debris were also noted in the bike lanes along the Peace River Bridge.

03 02 2023 DRAFT BPAC Minutes

7. 2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments - Laks Gurram

Laks Gurram informed the committee members that FDOT Staff requested the Charlotte County – Punta Gorda Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to approve the STIP/TIP Amendments to the FY 2022/23 – FY 2026/27 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) at the March 20, 2023, MPO Board Meeting

He summarized the criteria detailing when an amendment is required by FDOT. He also briefed the committee members on projects that were identified in the attachment.

These changes are required to be amended in the FY2022/23 through FY2026/27 TIP in order to receive federal funds and for consistency with State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Attachment: FDOT Letter for FY 2022/23 – FY 2026/27 Charlotte County-Punta Gorda Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Amendment

Due to the lack of a quorum, no vote was taken, Members present unanimously agreed to move this item to the MPO Board for approval

8. 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Amendments – Laks Gurram

Laks Gurram presented the projects that require an amendment and informed that an amendment is required to receive federal and state funding for planning consistency purposes.

He reviewed the criteria that triggers an amendment. He further presented the projects that are consistent with the LRTP, projects in the 2022 Project Priorities and projects that are not consistent with both the LRTP and Project Priorities.

Due to the lack of a quorum, no vote was taken, Members present unanimously agreed to move this item to the MPO Board for approval

James Wernicke inquired whether River Road widening in Charlotte County is in the 2045 long range plan. Laks Gurram responded that the project is not in the 2045 LRTP but it can be added to the wish list for the 2050 LRTP.

9. 2050 LRTP Consultant Selection – Laks Gurram

Laks Gurram reviewed process of selecting a Consultant for 2050 LRTP.

He briefed the committee about the timelines for completing the 2050 Socioeconomic data development task and also 2050 LRTP. He also noted the individual task deadlines and informed that the deadlines are hard deadlines

03 02 2023 DRAFT BPAC Minutes

He indicated that the LRTP subcommittee met on February 27, 2023 to shortlist a firm to perform the tasks indicated. He also mentioned that the consultant was selected based on selection criteria identified during the presentations.

He informed that there were three consultants under GPC contract. VHB abstained from participation in the LRTP selection process. LRTP proposal presentations were given by Kimley-Horn & Associates and Benesch & Associates.

Upon tallying the scoring criteria, the subcommittee unanimously recommended Kimley-Horn as the consultant to perform the 2050 Socioeconomic Data development and 2050 LRTP update.

He indicated that MPO Staff with the support of the LRTP Subcommittee will develop a detailed scope of services. A Work Assignment Order will be signed by the MPO Chair and executed between the MPO and the Consultant, a Notice to Proceed will be issued to begin work on the project.

Due to the lack of a quorum, members unanimously agreed to move this item to the MPO Board for approval

10. Review of FDOT Draft Tentative Work Program FY 2024 through FY 2028 (FDOT & D'Juan Harris)

The MPO Board and Advisory Committees annually review FDOT's Draft Tentative Work Program (DTWP), which includes the new fifth year (FY 2028) of project programming based upon State and MPO priorities. At the previous committee meeting, the FDOT DTWP had not been released. It is now presented for BPAC Members to review and provide comments.

The DTWP will form the basis for the MPO's next Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to be adopted and submitted to FDOT by July 15, 2023. For federal funding to flow to the state and local governments, the TIP and FDOT's Work Program must be consistent.

D'Juan Harris mentioned that MPO staff has not provided comments to FDOT since the MPO's advisory committees have not had an opportunity to review. Comments received by the Advisory Committees would be compiled in a letter and provided to FDOT for their consideration.

D'Juan Harris encouraged BPAC Committee Members to review the DTWP and the add, defer and deletion sheets and provide comments by March 20, 2023.

11. <u>Draft FY 2023/2024 - FY 2027/2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) - Laks</u>

Laks Gurram noted that Federal and State legislation requires MPOs to adopt a 5-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP outlines federal and state capital improvements for transportation and is a staged, multi-year, intermodal program of transportation projects that is consistent with the MPO Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The Technical and Citizens' Advisory Committees formally review the development of the TIP.

Laks Gurram stated that the document that is presented today is in Draft form and will be brought back to the Technical and Citizens' Advisory Committees on April 26, 2023 for final review.

The Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO Board is scheduled to review and adopt the TIP at the May 15, 2023, MPO Board Meeting.

James Wernicke pointed out to a map in Section III and questioned that the path of the SUN Trail doesn't reflect the actual path. Laks Gurram responded that the map included in this TIP is in draft form and will be updated for the next round of meetings.

James Wernicke inquired about the early involvement in the projects so the committee could be able to provide input and avoid any safety concerns for bicyclist.

D'Juan Harris and Laks Gurram indicated that all projects go through a required public participation process before it advancing to construction phase. Public meetings are required for transportation projects to ensure the general public has an opportunity to provide comments during the early production phases.

Wendy Zurstadt informed about a resurfacing project on US 17 that was completed recently, and informed rumble strips were added in the bike lane which creates a hazard for cyclists, forcing them to ride the main travel lane.

Tanya Merkle noted that FDOT follows Florida Design Manual to consider safety for all road users. Local entities follow the Florida Greenbook as a design standard for projects on off-system (local) roadways.

Members were encouraged to contact the MPO staff with any questions regarding transportation projects in our area. The following link was provided for details on FDOT projects in our area: SWFL Roads

12. Draft 2023 Project Priorities – Discussion Laks Gurram

Laks Gurram reviewed the <u>Draft list of 2023 Project priorities</u> and informed that the MPO is required to annually develop a List of Project Priorities (LOPP) as part of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) process. A preliminary list of project priorities

03 02 2023 DRAFT BPAC Minutes

along with project applications will be submitted to FDOT District One by March 31, 2023. The project priorities must be approved by the MPO Board and submitted to FDOT by July 1, 2023.

Laks summarized the key highlights of the Draft presented and indicated the changes are based on the Draft Tentative Work Program that was released by FDOT in December 2022. Below are the key highlights from the List of Project Priorities (LOPP) and MPO Staff recommendations for funding:

- Received SL monies in FY 2024 & 2025 to cover the short fall for 2050 LRTP.
- Harbor view Rd from Melbourne St to I-75 ROW is funded in FY 2023/2024 for \$12.9 million
- US 41 from Peace River Bridge to Kings Hwy funded for Planning Study FY 2025 for \$150,000
- Taylor Rd Phase 1 from Jones Loop to Airport Rd Design advanced to FY 2024
- US 41 Bridge on S. Alligator Creek funded for in FY 2025 \$290,000
- Cooper St Complete St projects funded for CST in FY 2028.
- SUN Trail projects funded for Design approx. \$650,000
 - o Myakka State Forest to Gillot Blvd
 - o Gillot Blvd to US 41

Laks detailed the Project Priorities Development timeline and emphasized the importance of having a complete Project Priority Application with updated project cost estimates:

- January 18, 2023-FDOT issued request for projects
- March 31, 2023 -Preliminary list of priority projects (but should be submitted to MPO staff prior to this date)
- June 30, 2023-Final approved list of priority projects

13. Safety Performance Measures Targets Discussion (Betty-Ann Sherer)

Betty Ann-Sherer gave a presentation on Safety Performance Measures. MPOs are required annually to adopt these targets for tracking progress towards the Statewide/MPO targets for each of the transportation performance measures and meeting Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirements

She mentioned that the Safety Performance Measures apply to all public roads and informed the five Safety Performance Measures

She informed that the MPO Board adopted FDOT's "Vision Zero" target (goal of zero fatalities or serious injuries) for all five of the Safety Performance Measures at the December 15, 2022, Board Meeting. She indicated that today's presentation is to give the committee members to review the data provided which was not available earlier.

03 02 2023 DRAFT BPAC Minutes

Comments: It was noted the Charlotte County 5 year rolling average for pedestrian and bicycle fatalities and serious injuries seems down 2% which is hopefully a reflection of the safety improvements in the county.

D'Juan Harris added at the last meeting he presented the raw data and the information provided today is the flattened data.

He informed that committee members that the MPO received the Safe Streets and Roads for All Comprehensive Safety Action Plan federal grant funding. This funding will allow MPO staff to conduct a detailed thorough assessment of crash data in Charlotte County and develop a plan of action to implement countermeasures to mitigate the prevalence of serious injuries and fatalities from crashes on public roadways.

14. Census Data Discussion (D'Juan Harris)

D'Juan Harris noted that every ten years the Census Bureau provides updated population counts and designates the urban areas. For the MPO's that are already designated in our region, includes the following activities over the next eighteen months: the potential designation of Transportation Management Areas (over 200,000 population), the adjustment of Urban Area boundaries, the Apportionment Plans and working with FDOT on updated functional classification of roadways The new urban area boundaries and the population associated with those boundaries impacts the MPO's distribution of Planning funds and the allocation of Surface Transportation Block Grant funding.

He mentioned that the Port Charlotte-North Port urban area population increased by 30,407 people and the land area increased by 14.8 square miles. One key element is that the data shown, reflects the population in Charlotte in Charlotte County is 199,998, two people short of the 200,000-person threshold to become a Transportation Management Area (TMA).

D'Juan Harris further indicated that an early designation is possible through concurrence of the United States Department of Transportation Secretary and the Governor of the State of Florida. The Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO Board will further assess the advantages/disadvantages requesting an early designation prior to the March 20, 2023, MPO Board Meeting. Charlotte County-Punta Gorda Census Presentation

15. City of Punta Gorda Report

Michell Austin reported that the city has been working on the Harbor walk along Charlotte Harbor and is near completion with streetlights. Airport Rd complete Street project is in Design and indicated that the city is coordinating with railroad in completed the project

He also informed the city is installing Bike route signage and recommended using Pedal and Play to highlight the city bike route.

He thanked Peace River Riders sponsoring the signage

16. Charlotte County Report

No report

17. Public Comments

None.

18. Staff Comments

D'Juan Harris noted that the MPO is taking nominations for the Peggy Walters Award through June 30, 2023.

The MPO completed their Annual Joint Certification meeting with FDOT Staff on February 21, 2023. The MPO remains in state and federal compliance. FDOT's Annual Risk Assessment determined that by virtue of MPO's diligence, the MPO was determined low risk.

D'Juan announced that the MPO was awarded Safe Streets and Roads for All federal grant funding to develop a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan for Charlotte County. He thanked the Peace River Riders for their letter of support.

19. Member Comments

There were no member comments

20. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the BPAC is June 15, 2023, both virtually and in-person at the Charlotte County Administration Center, Room B106, 18500 Murdock Circle Port Charlotte



CHARLOTTE COUNTY-PUNTA GORDA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC) JUNE 15, 2023 DRAFT Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held in a hybrid format on June 15, 2023, utilizing Microsoft Teams® for virtual participation and in person at the Charlotte County Administration Center 18500 Murdock Circle Room B106, Port Charlotte, Florida

MEMBERS ATTENDING EITHER IN PERSON OR VIRTUALLY

Pauline Klein, (Chair) Bicycle Club
Robert Logan, Mid-County Representative
Ben Turner, West County Representative
Betty Staugler, Historical/Cultural/Environmental Representative (Virtual)

ABSENT

Michael Tomaso, Bicycle Business Representative (excused) James Wernicke, (Vice Chair) West County Representative Wendy Zurstadt, South County Representative (excused)

ADVISORY AND OTHERS ATTENDING EITHER IN PERSON OR VIRTUALLY

D'Juan Harris, MPO Director (Virtual)
Bekie Leslie, MPO (Virtual)
Laks Gurram, MPO
Betty-Ann Sherer, MPO
Tony Conte, Charlotte County Schools Transportation Operations Director April Santos, Charlotte County Public Works (Virtual)
Joshua Hudson, Charlotte County Economic Development
Tanya Merkle, FDOT Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinator, District One
Phil Pfaeffli, Pedelec e-Bikes

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Pauline Klein called the hybrid meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.; a quorum was not present.

2. Public Comments on Agenda Items

There were no public comments received.

3. Chairs Report

BPAC Chair had nothing to report.

4. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of Minutes: March 2, 2023

Due to the lack of a quorum, no vote was taken. These minutes will be carried to the October meeting for approval.

5. Sheriffs' Office Report - Public Safety

Deputy Miller was not present; there was no Sheriff's report.

6. FDOT Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator Report – (Tanya Merkle)

Tanya Merkle informed that the approval of Senate Bill 106 would potentially increase SUN Trail funding. MPOs can submit applications for the SUN Trail funding through the GAP system.

7. E-BIKE PRESENTATION - Philipp Pfaeffli Owner, Pedelec SQB Electric Bikes

Mr. Pfaeffli provided a power point presentation on E-Bikes. The presentation demonstrated various levels of the capabilities of e-bikes. Mr. Pfaeffli provided a summary of frequently asked questions about modern e-bikes and how they are changing mobility in everyday life.

8. <u>2023 Project Priorities- Discussion – Laks Gurram</u>

Laks Gurram reviewed the <u>Final list of 2023 Project priorities</u> and informed that the MPO is required to annually develop a List of Project Priorities (LOPP) as part of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) process. He also informed that the MPO Board approved the Project Priorities at their May 15, 2023 meeting.

Laks summarized the key highlights of the Project Priorities presented and indicated the changes are based on the Draft Tentative Work Program (FY 2024 to FY 2028) that was released by FDOT in December 2022.

These projects were demonstrated by using a mapping tool developed by MPO Staff. Once finalized, this link will be shared with Committee members.

9. SUN Trails – Discussion- Laks Gurram

The Shared Use Non-Motorized (SUN) Trail Program is a statewide network of paved multi-use trails to support multi-modal transportation options for residents and visitors. The statewide SUN Trail Network is comprised of the paved Priority Land Trails identified in the Florida Greenways and Trails Master Plan.

Maps were provided demonstrating Priority Trails, Opportunity Trails, Completed projects as well as Proposed changes to the SUN Trail Alignment.

The projects below are currently listed in the FY 2024 through FY 2028 Draft Tentative Work Program with the following programmed funding:

- Cape Haze Pioneer Trail (SR 776) from US 41 to Gillot Blvd; Design-\$468,000 (FY 2024)
- Cape Haze Pioneer Trail (SR 776) from Gillot Blvd to Myakka State Forrest;
 Design \$189,019 (FY 2024)
- US 41 (SR 45) at South Fork Alligator Creek; Deisgn\$290,000 (FY 2025)

There was a brief discussion on pedestrian bridge built on N. Alligator Creek and questioned if the south Alligator Creek would be built in the similar design standards. MPO Staff indicated that the bridge is built to protect from disasters like Hurricane Ian and from floodings.

Ms. Merkle noted all aspects of resiliency are considered when designing these facilities.

10. City of Punta Gorda Report

City Staff was not available to present an update

11. Charlotte County Report

April Santos did not have anything to report. She informed the committee that she would be happy to get back to the committee if there were any specific questions pertaining to Charlotte County projects.

12. Public Comments

None.

13. Staff Comments

Director Harris participating virtually via Microsoft TEAMS noted at times the meeting audio was not audible. He encouraged committee members to attend the BPAC in person.

Betty-Ann Sherer noted that on April 15, 2023, D'Juan Harris and herself participated at a Gear Up for Youth Bike Safety event at the Port Charlotte High School. Many children won bikes and were fitted for new helmets. She also pointed out various resources available to committee members to assist bicyclists with navigation.

Bekie Leslie noted that the MPO currently has a BPAC South County Representative vacancy, contact the MPO for more information.

14. Member Comments

Tony Conte noted Charlotte County Schools has a Bicycle Safety Trailor/ Educational Program supported by FDOT. The trailer moves every two weeks from school to school. Mr. Pfaeffli noted he has saddles he would like to donate to the school's safety trailer. Pauline Klein noted the Harbor Heights Civic Association is having a July 4th event – where they will give away bikes and helmets to children in need.

15. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the BPAC is October 5, 2023, both virtually and in-person at the:

Charlotte County Transit Facility 545 Theresa Boulevard Port Charlotte, Florida

OCTOBER 5, 2023 BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC) MEETING

AGENDA ITEM # 5B MPO BOARD AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES MEETING SCHEDULE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2024

Purpose: To establish a 2024 Meeting Schedule for the MPO Board, its standing committees,

and the Charlotte County Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)

Agenda Item Presented by: MPO Staff

Discussion:

The MPO staff has prepared a draft Meeting Schedule for the MPO Board, its standing committees, and the BPAC for calendar year 2024. This draft meeting schedule is being presented for consideration.

Recommendation: Motion to recommend approval of the 2024 Meeting Schedule

Attachment: 2024 Meeting Schedule (Draft)



Draft 2024 Meeting Schedule

Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO 18500 Murdock Circle, Building B, Rm. 200 Port Charlotte, FL 33948 www.ccmpo.com | 941-883-3535

STRIKETHROUGH = CANCELLED MEETING OR CHANGES TO MEETING DATE

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Board Meeting – 2:00 p.m.				
Charlotte County Administration Center, Room #119, 18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte, Florida 33948				
*Monday, January 29, 2024	**Friday, February 16, 2024	Monday, March 18, 2024		
Monday, May 20, 2024	Monday, July 15, 2024	Monday, October 21, 2024		
Monday, December 16, 2024				
*11:00 a.m. JOINT MEETING with SARASOTA/MANATEE MPO – Venice Community Center, 326 Nokomis				
Avenue S, Venice, FL				
**9:30 a.m. JOINT MEETING with LEE MPO – Burnt Store Road Presbyterian Church, Stewart Hall, 11330				
Burnt Store Road, Punta Gorda, Florida 33955				

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting – 9:30 a.m.

Charlotte Community Foundation, 227 Sullivan Street, Punta Gorda, Florida 33950

Wednesday, March 6, 2024 Wednesday, April 24, 2024 Wednesday, June 19, 2024

Wednesday, September 25, 2024 Wednesday, November 20, 2024

Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting – 1:30 p.m.				
Charlotte Community Foundation, 227 Sullivan Street, Punta Gorda, Florida 33950				
Wednesday, March 6, 2024	Wednesday, April 24, 2024	Wednesday, June 19, 2024		
Wednesday, September 25, 2024	Wednesday, November 20,	2024		

Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting – 2:00 p.m. Charlotte County Transit Facility 545 Theresa Boulevard, Port Charlotte, Florida 33954				
Thursday, March 7, 2024	Thursday, April 25, 2024	Thursday, June 27, 2024		
Thursday, October 3, 2024	Thursday, November 14, 2024			

Charlotte County Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (LCB) – 10:00 a.m. Charlotte County Transit Facility		
545 Theresa Boulevard, Port Charlotte, Florida 33954		
Thursday, January 3, 2024	Thursday, May 2, 2024	
Thursday, September 5, 2024	Thursday, November 7, 2024	

${\tt OCTOBER~5,2023} \\ {\tt BICYCLE/PEDESTRAN~ADVISORY~COMMITTEE~(BPAC)~MEETING} \\$

AGENDA ITEM # 6 FDOT BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN COORDINATOR REPORT

Purpose: To provide an opportunity for the FDOT Bicycle-Pedestrian Coordinator to report

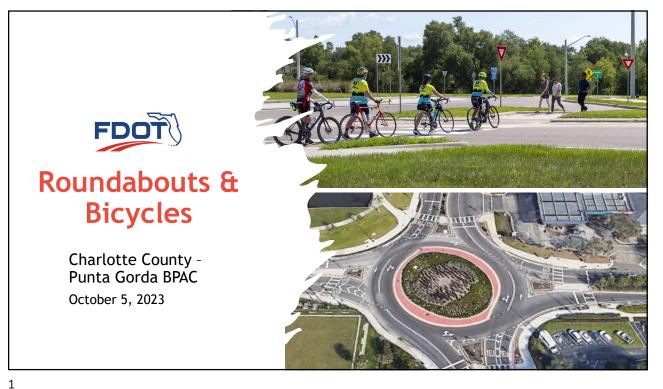
on FDOT projects and concerns that are pertinent to bicycle and pedestrian issues

in Charlotte County

Agenda Item Presented by: FDOT District One Bicycle-Pedestrian Coordinator

Recommendation: None, for informational purposes only

Attachment: Roundabout & Bicycles Presentation

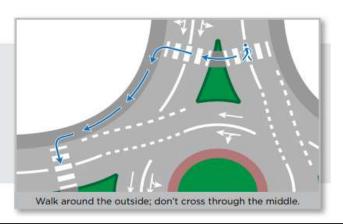


How roundabouts work for Pedestrians

Modern roundabouts are designed with safety features built in. Such as vehicles moving at slower speeds and fewer conflict points than a traditional intersection.

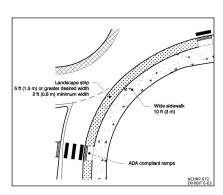
Pedestrians:

Crosswalks are set further back from vehicle traffic, allowing drivers more time to react to people in the roadway before merging into or out of the roundabout. Triangular islands between lanes of vehicle traffic give pedestrians a safe place to wait if they choose to cross only one direction of traffic at a time.



Pedestrian Design Considerations

- Wherever possible, sidewalks at roundabouts should be set back from the edge of the circulatory roadway
- Landscape strips provide many benefits:
 - > Increased comfort for pedestrians
 - > Room for street furniture
 - Buffer for the overhang of large vehicles
 - Discourages pedestrians from crossing to the center island or cutting across the circulatory roadway
 - Helps guide pedestrians with vision impairments to the designated crosswalks

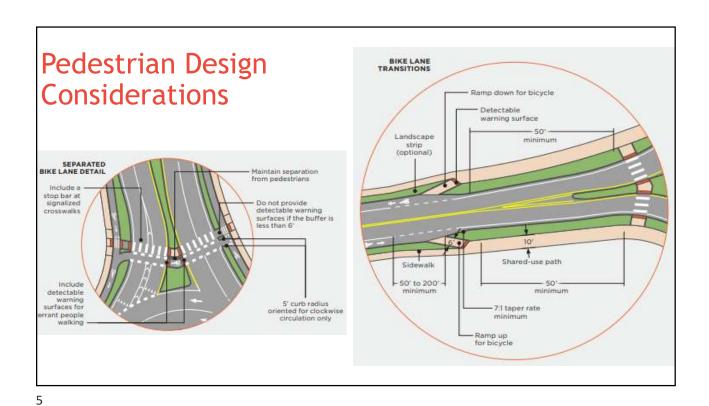


3

Pedestrian Design Considerations

- Recommended sidewalk width is 6-feet, 5-feet minimum but wider sidewalks maybe warranted in areas with heavy pedestrian volumes
- Crosswalk marking should be installed on all approaches
- Walkway through the splitter island should be cut through instead of ramped

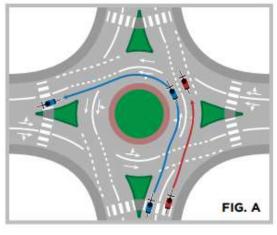


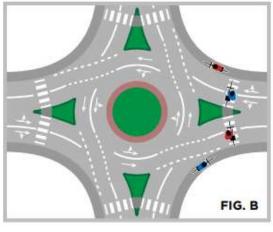


Bicyclists have 2 options at a roundabout

Ride through the roundabout with traffic in a travel lane.

OR Use the sidewalk and walk their bicycle in the crosswalk.





Bicycle Design Considerations

Bicyclist approaching a roundabout may merge into the general travel lanes and navigate the roundabout as a vehicle or exit the roadway by way of a ramp and ride on a wide sidewalk



7

Bicycle Design Considerations

- Bicycle accommodations:
 - ➤ <u>Required</u> for multilane roundabouts
 - > Optional for single-lane roundabouts
- Bicycle lanes should not be provided through the roundabout and should be terminated upstream of the entrance line





Slower speeds

Less points of conflicts

Improve safety - Reduces fatal crashes - lower speeds

LOS - Increase capacity - continuous flow of traffic

Short crossing distance

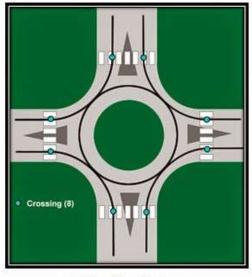
Cost effective - Reduced pavement - Lower maintenance costs

Can be designed for larger vehicles

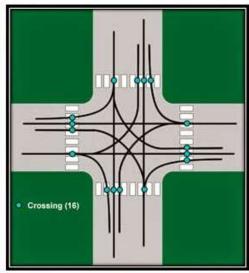
Gateway

9

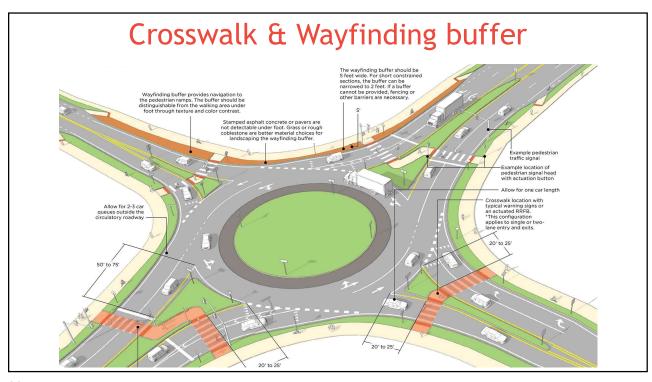
Difference in Conflict Points







16 Conflict Points



11

Cons of Roundabouts

Increases in less severe crashes

No bike lane - bicycle shares the travel lane - could use bail outs

More difficult to navigate for vulnerable users

Less predictable behavior

Understanding the Scale of the Problem in FDOT District 1

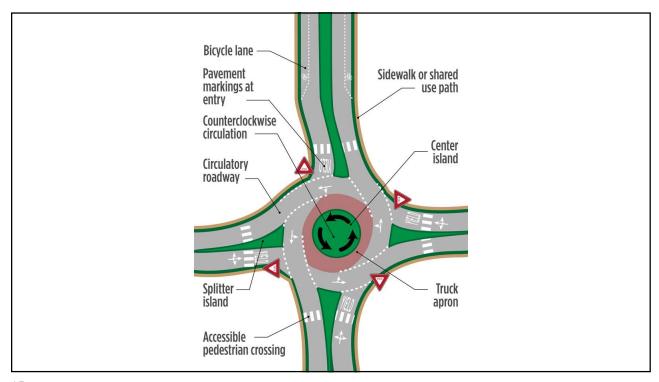
of all people killed in vehicular crashes were pedestrians or bicyclists



Source: Signal Four Analytics

13

Where Do Crashes Commonly Occur in FDOT District 1? BICYCLE CRASHES PEDESTRIAN CRASHES 4% 4% Other Other **Parking Lot Parking Lot 55%** 23% Intersection Intersection 35%. **Mid-block Mid-block** Source: Signal Four Analytics





OCTOBER 5, 2023 BICYCLE/PEDESTRAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC) MEETING

AGENDA ITEM # 7 SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORT-PUBLIC SAFETY

Purpose: Opportunity to discuss on initiatives and efforts that are pertinent to Bicycle and

Pedestrian safety issues in Charlotte County

Agenda Item Presented by: Charlotte County Sheriff's Office

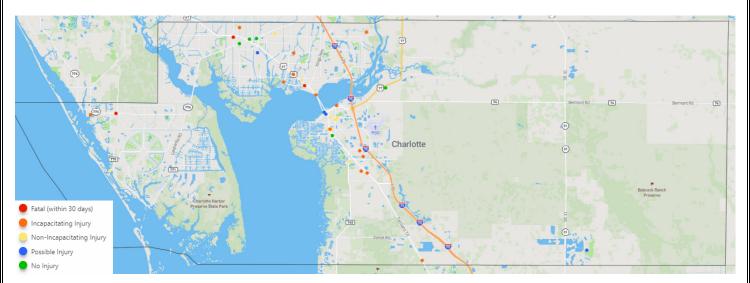
Discussion: To be determined

Recommendation: None



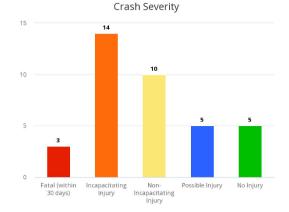
Date: 09/29/2023 Subject: Bicycle and Pedestrian Accidents

Bicycle and Pedestrian Accidents January 1 to July 29, 2023



In the first seven months of 2023, a total of 1096 accidents were reported in Charlotte County. 37 of these (3.4%) included a bicycle or pedestrian. Three of these accidents resulted in a fatality (within 30 days). These accidents were reported and/or investigated by these agencies: CCSO, Punta Gorda PD, and Florida Highway Patrol.

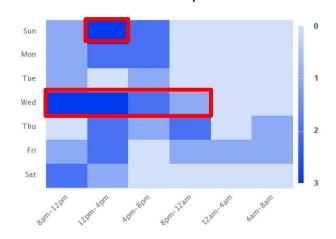
Six of these occurred along Tamiami Trail (US41), none of these were fatal.



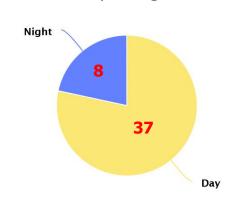
The charts and graphs on the following pages depict other statistics related to bicycle and pedestrian accidents between January 1 and July 29, 2023.

Day of Week / Time of Day

Nine occurred on a Wednesday between 8 am and midnight. Three occurred in a Sunday afternoon between noon and 4 pm

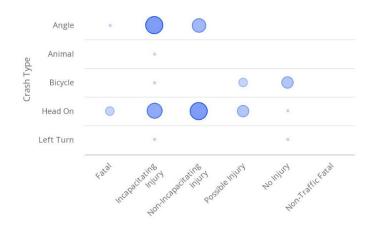


Day or Night

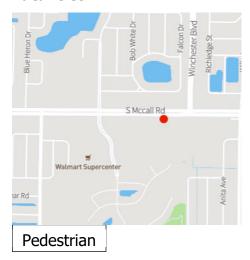


This graph shows a comparison of the type of crash and the resulting severity. Two of the fatal accidents were a head on crash.

Crash Severity vs Crash Type



Fatalities



Tamiami Trl

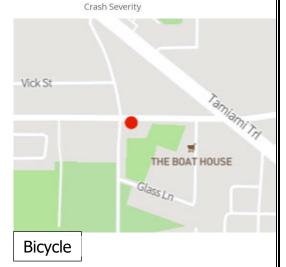
Seyn

Toledo Blade

Blade

Blade

Pedestrian



Prepared By: IAS D. Buffington

Source: Signal 4 Analytics

Charlotte County – Punta Gorda Metropolitan Planning Organization Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Preliminary Scope of Services

This document outlines the preliminary scope of services to develop a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan for the Charlotte County – Punta Gorda Metropolitan Planning area. The action plan will be based on the United States Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration's Safe Systems approach. The action plan will identify the High Injury Network in Charlotte County and provide recommendations to equitably implement countermeasures to significantly reduce the prevalence of serious injuries and fatalities along high crash corridors within Charlotte County. The intent of this document is to serve as a guide for proposed consultant services. Upon selection, consultant will develop a final detailed scope of services with the MPO Project Manager.

Charlotte County Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Tasks

Task 1: General Project Management

The selected consultant team will finalize a scope of work and schedule for the completion of the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. Charlotte County-Punta Gorda Metropolitan Planning Organization (herein referenced as "MPO") staff will approve the scope of work. Expectations for the project's scope of work, goals, schedule, and communication channels will be established at the kick-off meeting.

Task 1 will also include work related to project management: invoices, progress reports, and periodic check-ins. Bi- weekly virtual check-ins with the MPO Project Manager (PM) and staff will be held to provide status updates on work activities, deliverables, and upcoming meetings. The Consultant Team will also establish a shared folder on either a Teams or OneDrive platform to share and distribute project materials.

Task 1 Deliverables:

- Agenda, presentation, and meeting minutes for two (2) Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Comprehensive Safety Action Plan kick-off meetings
- Ongoing project management, consisting of organization oversight of scope, schedule adherence, and quality control
- Submittal of monthly invoices and progress reports
- One (1) shared folder on an agreed upon platform by the MPO

Task 1 Meetings:

- One (1) virtual internal kick-off meeting to include the consultant team
- One (1) in-person external kick-off meeting with MPO, Charlotte County and City of Punta Gorda Staff, with up to three (3) consultant staff members in attendance
- Virtual check-in meetings with MPO staff (45-minute Teams calls) every three (3) weeks including periodic calls
 with Charlotte County and City of Punta Gorda Staff, with up to three (3) consultant staff members in
 attendance

Task 2: Charlotte County Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Task Force

A core component of development of a Comprehensive Safety Action Plans is creating and engaging a task force committee, implementation group or similar body with representative stakeholders from the corresponding community. The task force is charged with oversight of the action plan development and to help to engage key stakeholders that represent different communities and interests. To the greatest extent possible, the task force should incorporate coordination and collaboration with MPO Staff, Charlotte County Staff, City of Punta Gorda Staff, FDOT District 1 Staff, Department of Health, Charlotte County Public Schools, Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce, Law Enforcement, first responders and emergency medical staff, Punta Gorda Airport, Florida Highway Patrol, homeowners associations, bike/walk advocacy groups and all other relevant stakeholders to help guide strategic, data-backed solutions to pervasive safety issues in corresponding communities. A membership list will be formalized prior to the kick-off meeting with MPO,

Charlotte County, and City of Punta Gorda Staff for review, as well as to develop an outline of meeting dates to help maintain project momentum and schedule. The Consultant Team will establish a notification process to contact Task Force members via email, and if needed, by phone to increase attendance.

This approach will aid in mitigating public contention and could aid in overall buy-in of recommendations from the Action Plan. The first three (3) virtual Task Force Meetings should cover the topics below to be determined in the routine PM meetings, including, but not limited to:

- Project Kick-Off, Public Engagement Strategies
- Comprehensive Action Planning, Vision Zero and Safe Systems Overview
- Regional Crash Profiles (Baseline Data), High Injury Network, Crash Hot Spots by Mode
- Engineering Countermeasures
- Non-Engineering Countermeasures
- Policy Assessment/Draft Resolutions
- Discussion on Community Outreach Best Practices and Scripts to Support Communication Materials
- Develop Priority List of projects based on crash data and equity factors and consensus building
- Assessment of Performance Measures (Safety Dashboard)

An important part of building Task Force members' commitment in the Action Plan will be to conduct a consensus building workshop to build buy-in on the common goal for forthcoming safety work. As such, upon completion of the draft Comprehensive Safety Action Plan, the Consultant Team will host one final workshop with the Task Force to discuss communitywide goals and future steps. The development of the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan will outline guidance on the implementation and monitoring role of the Task Force, which may be established through the development of a new MPO Committee (including a chairperson) or through the incorporation of the responsibility into an existing committee, such as the Citizens' Advisory Committee, Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee or Technical Advisory Committee.

Task 2 Deliverables:

- Agenda, presentation, and meeting minutes to support Charlotte County's Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Task Force engagement
- One (1) draft and one (1) final list of Task Force members

Task 2 Meetings:

• Four (4) virtual 60- to 90-minute Task Force Meetings, with up to three (3) consultant staff members in attendance.

Task 3: Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Brand and Communication Materials

Vision Zero requires a visual brand and public engagement materials that can help build a culture of safety and the safe use of the transportation system by the public. It is critical for communities to participate in formulating goals and strategies to reach the desired results. The Consultant Team will assist MPO staff with the development of a branding package including the development of a unique logo to the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan and complementary PowerPoint template and title block for engagement materials to help bring recognition to the transportation safety program.

In addition to the branding package, the Consultant Team will prepare written and graphic content for distribution online or in person to raise awareness of the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan planning process. It is anticipated up to eight (8) infographics or graphic elements (relevant to Charlotte County) that depict progress in achieving the MPO's Comprehensive Safety Action Plan goals will be required. One (1) of these graphic elements will be a standard flyer with QR code providing notification of the Task 4 Public Engagement and Public Workshop needs, which can be distributed to strategic destinations in the community such as community centers, libraries, and senior centers to help grow attendance at public workshops; additionally one (1) of these graphics will be a postcard with QR code to distribute to the community to support engagement with the public survey. The Consultant Team will also prepare up to four (4) short fact sheets to support the MPO's communications on the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan and grow public interest in community engagement needs. These sheets will be developed in coordination with MPO staff and the Task Force. Example sheets

from other successful transportation safety programs have included quotes from health care professionals and/or law enforcement officers that serve on the Task Force on the importance of transportation safety; common safety language prepared as comic strips to share with local youth; or written testimonials from the community on how local people have been impacted by transportation crashes that result in fatal or serious injury crashes. If needed, the Consultant Team will host materials on the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Dashboard and provide the County a link that can be shared on its website.

The MPO will be responsible for distributing communication materials across their communications outlets.

Task 3 Deliverables:

- Up to four (4) draft Vision Zero logos and development of one (1) final logo
- One (1) MPO Comprehensive Safety Action Plan PowerPoint template
- Up to eight (8) infographics: one (1) will be a Community Workshop Flyer; one (1) will be a Public Survey Postcard
- Up to four (4) written fact sheets to support County communications by MPO, Charlotte County, and City of Punta Gorda regarding the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan

Task 3 Meetings:

Discussion on needs for the Vision Zero brand will occur as a recurring agenda item in scheduled PM meetings

Task 4: Public Engagement / Public Workshops

The demographic of the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda Metropolitan Planning Area is unique in relation to our regional neighboring counties, in that there is a high percentile of persons over the age of 64 living here. The ideal approach, for education of this contingent of the public is to provide dedicated staff at workshops to clearly demonstrate effective proven safety countermeasures and explain them clearly and concisely in simple language that anyone can understand. Toward this end, the Consultant Team will facilitate four (4) in-person county-wide public workshops to bring residents together to learn about the Vision Zero and Safe System approaches as well as to host a series of interactive activities to gain feedback from the community about crash trends and their transportation safety concerns and needs. This will start with the development of a Public Engagement Strategy in consult with MPO staff, in recognition that the MPO is managing and facilitating all public engagement activities of this plan on behalf of Charlotte County and the City of Punta Gorda

As a part of public engagement, the Consultant Team will prepare one (1) public survey for distribution to gain feedback on the community's top transportation safety concerns and to identify locations of these concerns. The Consultant Team will prepare one (1) draft and one (1) final public survey for public distribution. The MPO will be responsible for distributing public survey announcements across their communications outlets. Following the close-out of the survey, the Consultant Team will prepare one (1) presentation of survey results and brief memorandum to provide a summary of the results.

In addition to the four public workshops, two (2) members of the Consultant Team will attend up to two (2) pop-up events, as identified by MPO staff. Discussion on pop-up event opportunities will be discussed in one of the three Task Force Workshops in Task 2 to identify joint partnership opportunities among the Task Force members. At these events, people will get to learn about the public workshops

Engagement activities will be developed in review and in synergy with the MPO's Public Participation Plan.

Utilizing materials prepared in Task 3 and Task 5, the Consultant Team will prepare engagement materials needed for the public workshops. The MPO will be responsible for distributing workshop announcements across their communications outlets and securing appropriate meeting space for all four workshops. As to accommodate reasonable accessibility for the public to attend in person, the MPO staff will identify and reserve up to four (4) locations in the County to host the public workshops. MPO staff will strategically organize public workshop meetings as to support meeting attendance and accommodate accessibility through the County. As such, it is envisioned that a workshop will be held in the four geographic locations of Charlotte County (West, East, South and Mid); at least one (1) of the public workshops will be a joint workshop hosted with the Lee County MPO in February 2024, as requested by the MPO. Up to four (4) consultant

team members will attend these workshops, with staff support from the MPO, Charlotte County, and the City of Punta Gorda.

Task 4 Deliverables:

- One (1) draft and one (1) final public engagement strategy, outlining activities and material needs for up to four (4) hands-on interactive workshops and two (2) pop-up events to educate the general public on the High Injury Network, crash trends, FHWA's proven safety countermeasures, and draft Comprehensive Safety Action PlanOne (1) draft and one (1) final public survey
- One (1) presentation of public survey results and one (1) 3-page summary of survey results prepared in a technical memorandum

Task 4 Meetings:

- Four (4) public meetings with various stakeholders (combination of virtual and in-person assumed), with up to four (4) consultant staff members in attendance
- Two (2) pop-up events with up to two (2) consultant staff members in attendance
- Discussion on the Public Engagement Strategy and community outreach needs will occur as a recurring agenda item in scheduled PM meetings

Task 5: Develop High Injury Network

Charlotte County – Punta Gorda MPO's Comprehensive Action Plan will require the Consultant to develop the framework and identify the High Injury Network within the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO Planning area.

Task 5.1 – Collision and Contextual Database Development

The Consultant will obtain recent (five-years) fatal and incapacitating/serious injury (KSI) crash data and conduct a detailed analysis to evaluate the locations, causes, and contributing factors for these crashes. This process will start with the download of Signal 4 Analytics (S4) data by the University of Florida, which can be linked to the County roadway network to geo-reference crash locations toward the identification of the High Injury Network and crash trends. In addition to S4 crash data, other readily available data will be combined with the crash data into a GIS database, including roadway characteristics, speed data (e.g., posted speed limits, speed surveys and/or connected vehicle data), context classification, AADT, and active transportation related data. Analysis outputs may describe trends or locations according to the following characteristics:

- Crash severity and trends over time
- Crash type (by roadway user, action/fault reported)
- Person type (i.e., gender, race, age)
- Crash factor (i.e., restraint use, alcohol/ drug use, speeding, etc.)
- Temporal variations (time-of-day, day-of-week, month)
- Roadway type (i.e., number of lanes, AADT, local/FDOT ownership)
- Roadway characteristics (i.e. at intersection, signal, crosswalk, posted speed)
- Network screening (based on crash frequency) and historic crash hot spots

Data needs for the transportation safety data analysis will also include GIS data describing local land use and local points of interest, and the location of areas of the County with more vulnerable roadway users (i.e., persons with disability or households without vehicle) to provide additional insights on underserved communities to capture equity considerations. For this, the Consultant will look to traditional sources, such as Census data related to income level or age of population, or land use data showing the location of schools, assisted living facilities, etc. as provided by Charlotte County. Analysis outputs may describe trends or locations according to the following characteristics:

- Environmental justice communities
- Transportation disadvantaged communities
- Percentage of population below poverty level
- Percentage of minority population
- Percentage of zero-vehicle households

- Percentage of population age 65 or above
- Percentage of population 18 years old or below
- Percentage of population with means of transportation to work other than personal motor vehicle
- Percentage of population with limited English proficiency (LEP)
- Percentage of population with disability
- Percentage of population with underlying high-risk health conditions (i.e., asthma, diabetes, liver disease)
- Land use or development context (i.e. rural/urban, near school/college, shopping center, hospital, schools, community centers, transit route)

Data and data sources will be compiled and organized in a spreadsheet, as well as shared via online webmap for MPO staff review.

Task 5.2 – Identification of High Injury Network

Consultant will coordinate with Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO Staff and applicable stakeholders to establish an appropriate methodology and identify a High Injury Network (HIN). The HIN will identify the locations and corridors within the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO Planning area with the highest frequencies of KSI crashes. The Consultant will coordinate with Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO Staff and stakeholders to develop an HIN that represents between 40% and 60% of the KSI collisions within the study area. The HIN will provide the framework for recommendations for implementation projects.

The Consultant will create a draft memorandum and GIS-deliverables showing results of network screening and hot spot analysis, and methodology toward the identification of the HIN. The Consultant will respond to one round of comments from Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO Staff and applicable stakeholders. Based on the comments received from the reviewers, the Consultant will finalize the HIN and associated deliverables.

Task 5.3 – Crash Analysis and Collision Profiles Technical Memorandum

The Consultant will prepare a technical memorandum summarizing the key findings from the crash analysis, contextual analysis, and HIN. The technical memorandum will include maps, tables, and charts reflecting key takeaways about roadway characteristics, behavioral factors, environmental, and socioeconomic factors that may be contributing to fatalities or seriously injured throughout the transportation system. The crash analysis will highlight and focus on factors and features that appear to be prominent contributing factors in KSI crashes, including, but not limited to, lighting conditions, speed, urban vs. rural, intersection vs. mid-block, number of travel lanes, and roadway type. These will be shared in a series of ten (10) collision profiles that reflect fundamental safety challenges in the region. The Consultant will respond to one round of comments from Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO Staff and applicable stakeholders. Maps will be prepared and shared with the MPO in both print and digital formats.

Based on the comments received from the reviewers, the Consultant will finalize the Collision Profiles and associated deliverables.

Task 5 Deliverables:

- Collision database in spreadsheet and GIS format, enhanced with contextual data
- Up to ten (10) maps reflecting the identification of countywide crash patterns, rates, and trends
- Up to ten (10) maps reflecting the High Injury Network
- Up to ten (10) maps reflecting contextual (i.e., built environment, regulatory, or social vulnerability data) overlaid with the HIN
- Up to ten (10) collision profiles that define key factors associated with fatal and severe injuries, including the identification of both focused and systemic issues related to roadway characteristics, land use, and/or other factors indicative of increased crash risk
- One (1) draft and one (1) final High Injury Network Methodology Technical Memorandum
- One (1) draft and one (1) final Crash Analysis and Collision Profile Technical Memorandum

Task 5 Meetings:

 Discussion on the Project Prioritization Criteria and Strategies will occur as a recurring agenda item in scheduled PM meetings

Task 6: Policy Review

Given the structure of this project, the policy review will focus on the integration of MPO, FDOT, City of Punta Gorda, and Charlotte County policies to help remove barriers to future implementation for projects, programs, and strategies. Policy barriers will be an important topic of discussion in Task 2. The Consultant will review and document existing regional transportation and land use policies, plans, guidelines, and standards that could be a barrier to reaching zero serious injuries and fatalities and identify opportunities to integrate data and recommendations into the Action Plan. A summary of each document with recommendations for policy changes will be referenced in the Action Plan. The Consultant expects to review six (6) core documents and several supplemental documents as identified by the MPO staff.

Task 6 Deliverables:

• One (1) draft and one (1) final technical memorandum in review of transportation and land use policies, plans, guidelines, and standards that could be a barrier to reaching zero serious injuries and fatalities.

Task 6 Meetings:

Discussion on policies will occur in scheduled PM meetings

Task 7: Countermeasure Identification and Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Implementation Guidance

Task 7.1. Project Prioritization Criteria

The Consultant Team will work closely with MPO, County, and the City of Punta Gorda staff, as well as Task Force to develop a set of criteria that will inform prioritization for safety projects, programs, and strategies. The prioritization approach will integrate the equity analysis/Justice40, SS4A, FHWA Safe System, and specific MPO-identified criteria to assess the impacts of proposed projects and strategies, give higher priority to underserved and disadvantaged areas, and give higher priority to projects that would benefit vulnerable roadway users (people outside of vehicles). The criteria may prioritize proven countermeasures that have a low-cost and high benefit, and those that can be implemented quickly.

Task 7.2. Countermeasure Identification and Prioritization

Using the prioritization method and criteria developed in Task 7.1 for the proposed safety projects, the Consultant will develop a spreadsheet-based document with identified criteria and potential strategies for the Comprehensive Safety Action Pan toward establishing a prioritized list of project recommended countermeasures. The criteria may prioritize proven countermeasures that have a low-cost and high benefit, and those that can be implemented quickly.

Building on FHWA's Proven Safety Countermeasures, NHTSA's Countermeasures That Work, data in the Crash Modification Clearing House, FDOTs Speed Management strategies, and local studies on the effectiveness of specific countermeasures in the region, the Consultant Team will identify up to 100 specific countermeasures appropriate for Charlotte County and the specific collision profiles. The countermeasures, strategies, and project recommendations will reflect best practices, emerging technologies, and include engineering and non-engineering measures such as education and enforcement opportunities. Alternatives will be proposed that offer transportation safety improvements along the County's High Injury Network (including corridors and intersections), multi-use trails, or transit facilities, as determined through the data analysis conducted in Task 5.

The spreadsheet-based document will consist of brief descriptions to support the identification of prioritized projects, programs and strategies for the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. The priority list will categorize the proposed implementation recommendations as near, mid, and long-term solutions for potential advancement into the production pipeline, as outlined in Task 7.3.

Task 7.3. Implementation Plan

After completing prior tasks and collecting feedback from the MPO Board and Staff, County Staff, City of Punta Gorda Staff, the Task Force, the Charlotte County School Board Staff, the community, the Consultant Team, as well as from results of the countermeasures prioritization process, the Consultant Team will create an Implementation Plan for the

strategies identified for inclusion in the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. For each strategy, the Consultant Team will identify metrics to track performance over time, staff needs, external engagement opportunities, community partners, a high-level cost to complete, and potential funding opportunities for future implementation especially the SS4A implementation grants. Each of these strategies will be aligned with a specified timeline of short-term (1-3 years), midterm (4-6 years), or long-term (7 years or more) to complete. In certain instances, the Consultant Team will identify opportunities to create incremental progression toward the final installation of safety measures, starting with low-cost solutions that can be implemented in the short-term or mid-term while long-term planning can be allowed to continue. The Implementation Plan will be documented in a technical memorandum that creates alignment with the MPO's mission, responsibilities and procedures, and budget and staffing over a five-year period. This will allow the MPO and local government stakeholders to prioritize projects and programs and create a timeline for implementation.

Task 7.4. Establish Action Plan Vision, Goals and Objectives

A key part of implementing a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan is adopting the Safe Systems approach across the entire transportation system and setting a program mission and specific goals. Based on the findings of previous work efforts, as well as the outcomes of Task 8.2, the Consultant Team will establish Action Plan Vision, Goals and Objectives in collaboration with the Task Force.

Task 7.5. Data Management Plan

A sustainable Vision Zero Program starts with data. With the goal to update a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Dashboard annually, an ideal standard practice is to organize all associated data and catalog pertinent metadata, including but not limited to: data owner, data source, date, frequency of update, and usage. This Data Management Plan will build off of the spreadsheet established in Task 5.1, and include an outline of standard practices dialog that will allow MPO Staff or consultant support to update the data behind all the applications, that would then automatically update the analytics and visualizations. This guidance will be shared with the extended team and data QA and reviews will be completed upon loading data into the MPO ArcGIS online account.

Task 7 Deliverables

- One (1) Technical Memorandum of Project Prioritization Methodology/Criteria
- One (1) draft and one (1) final spreadsheet-based countermeasure and prioritization method tool, with up to 100 countermeasures and 10 educational strategies
- One (1) draft and one (1) final spreadsheet-based Implementation Plan Outlining Proposed Projects, Programs and Strategies for Implementation
- One (1) draft and (1) one (1) Implementation Plan outlining
- Prioritized Projects, Programs and Strategies in the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan
- Vision, Goals and Objectives
- Near, Mid, and Long-Term (Ultimate) Implementation Actions based on funding
- High-level present day costs estimates for project recommendations

Task 7 Meetings

Discussion on Implementation Guidance will occur in scheduled PM meetings

Task 8: Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Document

Consultant will develop a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan based on the findings from work conducted under previous tasks. The Action Plan will establish crash trends and emphasize projects that will serve to reduce or eliminate crash statistics within underserved communities, inclusive of guidance that reflects tactical urbanism/low-cost quick build options. To the greatest extent possible, the Consultant will include feedback from all public outreach efforts, MPO Staff and Advisory Committees, the MPO Board, SS4A Task Force, City of Punta Gorda, Charlotte County and all other key stakeholders within the Charlotte County Punta Gorda MPO Planning area.

Task 8 Deliverables:

- Draft Charlotte County Comprehensive Safety Action Plan
- Draft Final Charlotte County Comprehensive Safety Action Plan
- Final Report Charlotte County Comprehensive Safety Action Plan

Task 8 Meetings:

- Discussion on the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Document will occur in scheduled PM meetings
- Presentation of Draft Charlotte County Comprehensive Safety Action Plan to MPO Board, Bicycle/Pedestrian and Technical and Citizens' Advisory Committee Meetings (4 total), with up to 2 Consultant Staff in Attendance
- Presentation of Draft Final Charlotte County Comprehensive Safety Action Plan to MPO Board, Bicycle Pedestrian and Technical and Citizens' Advisory Committee Meetings (4 total), with up to 2 Consultant Staff in attendance

Task 9: Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Dashboard

Using data and baseline information collected in Task 4, Consultant will develop a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Dashboard. The Dashboard will be web-based and will incorporate real-time safety data to track and monitor progress of safety data in the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO Planning area. The dashboard will be user-friendly and provide progress tracking and evaluation results of implemented strategies of the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. As an ESRI business partner, the Consultant Team has a depth of knowledge in relating GIS and spatial data from various data sources and allowing the use of RESTful data services such as ESRI ArcGIS online to quickly bring these disparate data together. Similar to the City of Orlando's Comprehensive Safety Action Plan and dashboard, the Consultant Team will create a dashboard enabled with automated processes to continually collect and provide data on traffic crashes nightly utilizing Florida's Signal Four Analytics. This will provide an application to track metrics on a daily basis including a progress meter displaying the number of fatal and incapacitating crashes in relation to the past year with the ability to view by communities in the County. Adding other input-based metrics such as number of projects and project expenditures by year and by district will allow a quick comparison with the ultimate safety performance measures such as fatalities and serious injuries over time.

In addition to crash data, the Consultant Team will display additional demographic and socioeconomic data to allow users of the dashboard to understand impacts to the community and the County's most vulnerable roadway users. This will provide the County and the City of Punta Gorda with the opportunity to gain a better understanding of socioeconomic factors that contribute to higher incidents of crashes. This dashboard will include an equity friendly focus to allow participation from across the community, presenting opportunities for engagement with stakeholders and the public as a centralized location for the distribution of educational information, announcements, or annual reports.

Development of the dashboard will occur through two strategic meetings with MPO staff, with supplemental conversations to occur in scheduled PM meetings. Meeting content will generally cover the following:

- Meeting 1: Discussion on data sources, graphic materials, and type of interactive mapping to include in the dashboard, at story board development in consideration of dashboard layout
- Meeting 2: Refinement of draft dashboard and review of written content to support navigation of the dashboard and understanding of material

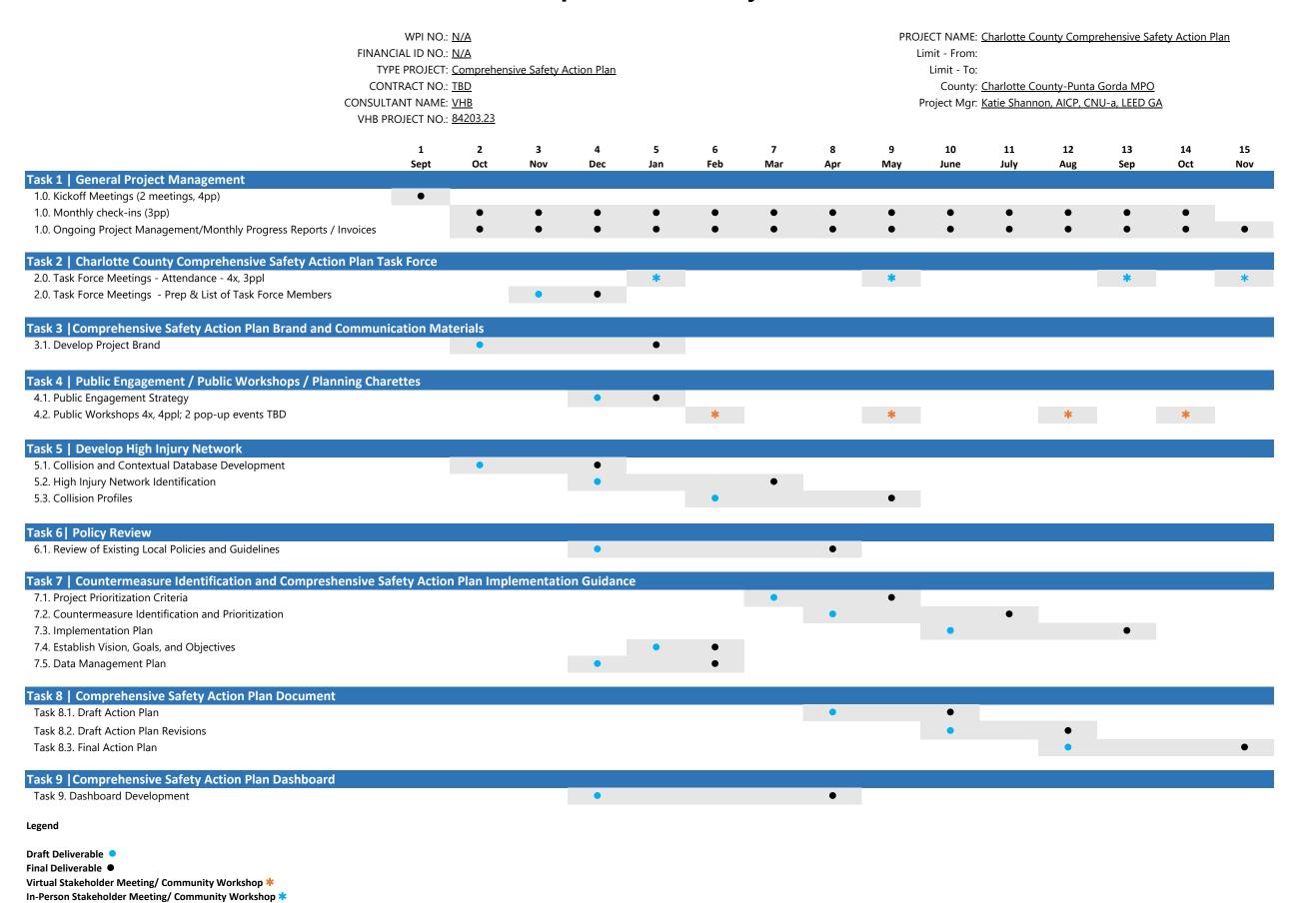
Task 9 Deliverables:

• Web-based Comprehensive Action Plan Safety Dashboard

Task 9 Meetings:

• Two (2) meetings with MPO staff and up to two (2) consultant staff

Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Schedule



${\tt OCTOBER~5,2023}\\ {\tt BICYCLE~/~PEDESTRIAN~ADVISORY~COMMITTEE~(BPAC)~MEETING}\\$

AGENDA ITEM # 11 BICYCLE SIGNS, SIGNALS AND MARKINGS PRESENTATION

Purpose: Interactive presentation to discuss and inform members of bicycle signs, signals, and

road markings on bicycle facilities throughout the Charlotte County area.

Agenda Item Presented by: MPO Staff

Recommendation: None, for informational purposes only

Attachments: None

OCTOBER 5, 2023 BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC) MEETING

AGENDA ITEM #12

PROJECT PRIORITIES MAP APPLICATION

Purpose: To present and demonstrate on online map application developed in-house by MPO

Staff. The application was developed to illustrate and give a brief description of the production status of MPO project priorities from planning through construction

phases.

Agenda Item Presented by: MPO Staff

Discussion:

MPO staff developed a Google Maps based interactive mapping tool to provide advisory committee members a visual depiction of MPO project priorities. At this meeting, MPO Staff will provide a demonstration of the mapping tool and provide instructions on how to access the application.

Recommendation: Informational item only. No action required

Attachment: Project Priority Active Map Link

Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO Project Priorities Map

Click here to access map application

