

SUMMARY MINUTES



Bicycling and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)
Broward County Government Center, Online and Phone via WebEx
115 South Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
September 9, 2020 6:30 p.m.

Board Members Present

Heidi Siegel, Chair– District 6
Michael Kroll – League of Cities
Fern Goodhart – District 4

Hugh Chakler – District 8
Charmie Pujalt – District 7

Board Members Absent

Jerry Layne, Vice Chair – District 3
Steve Lim – District 1

Phillip Kim – District 9

County Staff

Nicholas Sofoul, BPAC Coordinator

Monique Davis, Administrative Coordinator

Attendees

None

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM

II. Roll Call

The roll was called by Nicholas Sofoul. Quorum was met with one member absent.

Approval of Minutes – July 8, 2020

Motion: Member Chakler moved to approve the minutes, as revised, seconded by Member Kroll. The motion was approved unanimously.

III. Comments from Chair

No comment from the Chair.

New Business

Florida Bicycle Association Presentation

Becky Afonso from the Florida Bicycle Association discussed highlights of their core platform. She discussed the FBA “Move Over for People” initiative. In the 2020 session, the draft bill did not get sponsored but FBA will ask again in the 2021 session. Changes considered for 2021 version include, move over for people, exempt motorists in no-passing zones to pass cyclists, group through stops, and educational awareness component. Member Goodhart asked about adding bicycle safety questions on the Florida drivers exam. Ms. Afonso responded that FDOT has worked to get the drivers handbook updated with this information as a result there are currently four (4) questions asked that pertain to bike/ped safety. Member Kroll inquired if the group through stops would apply to red traffic lights as well as stop signs. Ms. Afonso responded

that it would only apply to stop signs because it would be difficult to get a full “Idaho Stop” approved at this time. She emphasized the need to take baby steps.

Greenways Masterplan Scope Update

Ms. Josette Severyn (Mobility Planning and Innovation Section) presented an update on the scope of the Greenways Master Plan. She discussed highlights of the scope including public engagement (with COVID considerations), placemaking component, photo map and data collection, level of traffic stress focus, and feasibility/preliminary design. Member Goodhart asked that current infrastructure is evaluated and advised that the County should not model future greenways crossings after existing facilities. Ms. Severyn agreed and confirmed that the scope will look at level of traffic stress of existing and new greenway facilities. Best practices for low stress design will be recommended. She also committed to future BPAC updates as a key stakeholder.

Equity and Inclusion in Bike/Ped Initiatives

Chair Siegel opened the conversation on equity and inclusion by sharing some observations from the 30 year surtax plan webmap (sidewalks and bike lanes only) compared with poverty level maps. She observed that many such improvements in high poverty neighborhoods were not included or scheduled for late in the surtax plan. She asked the committee and staff for their reaction and for recommendations on how to proceed with actions over the coming months.

Mr. Sofoul made several comments for the BPAC’s consideration. He noted that the webmap did not have municipal sponsored projects which have predominately been bike, pedestrian, and complete streets focused. Mobility Advancement Program Administration (MAP Admin) is working on new GIS products to be released in the coming months that will provide a more complete picture of surtax investments. He also explained that the Independent Transportation Surtax Oversight Board echoed many of the Chair’s concerns and has specifically requested investment to be broken down and analyzed by demographic to ensure equitable distribution. The analysis and commentary from the Board is available online at www.Pennyfortransportation.com. The Chair asked if the MPO or County would be reprioritizing projects or changing formulas for municipal projects. Mr. Sofoul responded that there will be opportunities for modification in future annual cycles; however, significant changes to the prioritization of a projects approved in the five-year plan would be difficult without support from all municipal project sponsors.

Member Goodhart agreed that additional map tools and overlays would be helpful. She mentioned that many of the structural inequities extend to issues outside the purview of the committee. She recommended hearing directly from and including members of historically disadvantaged and underserved communities. Member Chakler agreed with Member Goodhart to invite more diverse voices to address the committee. Member Kroll agreed at adding demographic indicators to map products would be very helpful. Chair Siegel recommended reaching out to Broward MPO to see if there is a representative that could speak about what MPO is doing on this front.

IV. Old Business

No old business.

V. Agency Updates

No agency updates

VI. Staff Report

Mr. Sofoul updated BPAC on distribution of bicycle/pedestrian safety tips approved earlier in the calendar year. The information is available on the BPAC webpage at <https://www.broward.org/Planning/About/Pages/BPACsafety.aspx>. He also provided a brief update on mobility planning surtax initiatives including:

- Greenways Masterplan
- Interactive Dashboards of Surtax Investments
- Location Based Data (multimodal)
- Partnership with Univ. of Florida on a pilot project to use artificial intelligence at intersections to identify near miss collisions, unusual behavior, and vehicle mix.

VII. Committee Member Updates

Member Goodhart recommended that bike/pedestrian safety tips be more broadly distributed. Mr. Sofoul will follow-up with Public Communications to assess the feasibility of a press release. Member Goodhart also asked if there has been a delay in the Greenways Masterplan. Mr. Sofoul responded that it was delayed to secure additional funding so all aspects of the scope could be adequately addressed.

Member Chakler recapped Complete Streets Team discussions from the July meeting.

VIII. Public Comment

No public comments

IX. Adjourn

Motion: Member Kroll moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Member Chakler, unanimously approved.

The September 9, 2020 BPAC meeting concluded at 7:57 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for 6:30pm on November 18, 2020.

BPAC Priorities: Encourage projects and enforcement efforts that prioritize pedestrian and bicycle safety. • Support timely and sustainable funding of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and amenities, including greenways and off-network paths. • Collaborate with public and private entities including, Broward MPO, FDOT, Broward County, and Broward municipalities to ensure Bicycle and Pedestrian projects, policy, and ordinances are implemented. • Promote bicycle and pedestrian focused outreach and events, especially those that underscore safety, funding, and education. • Endorse linkages for safe, comfortable, and convenient bicycle and pedestrian networks to seamlessly integrate with other transportation options.

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