

SUMMARY MINUTES - ADOPTED



Bicycling and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)

Broward County Government Center, in person
1 University Drive, 2nd FL Hearing Room, Plantation, FL 33324
September 14, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Board Members Present

Michael Kroll – League of Cities (Chair)
Steve Lim – District 1
Charmie Pujalt – District 7

Hugh Chakler – District 8 (Vice Chair)
Maximiliano Goldstein – District 5

Board Members Absent

Fern Goodhart – District 4

Phillip Kim – District 9

County Staff

Sara Forelle, Senior Planner, Urban Planning

Jennifer Brown, County Attorney for the BPAC

Laila Kitchen, Engineering Unit Supervisor,
Highway Construction & Engineering

Attendees

Larry Wallace, FDOT District 4

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

The roll was called by staff. Quorum was met with members that were present.

III. INTRODUCTIONS & NEW MEMBER WELCOME

Introductions were made by Laila Kitchen, Jennifer Brown and Larry Wallace (FDOT). The BPAC members introduced themselves to the new BPAC member, Maximiliano Goldstein.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Michael Kroll asked for comments on the minutes. Member Chakler requested a minor edit. Upon a motion by Member Pujalt, seconded by Member Chakler, the May 11, 2022 minutes were passed by a unanimous vote, inclusive of the requested revision.

V. COMMENTS FROM CHAIR

None

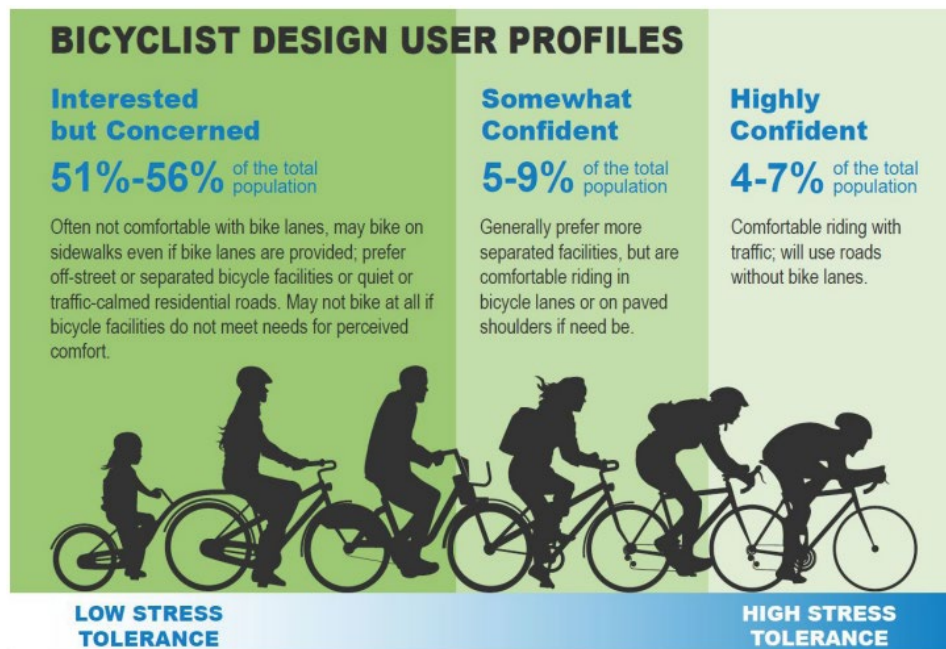
VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. **PRESENTATION - Broward County Bicycle Facilities - Laila Kitchen, Highway Construction & Engineering (HCED)**

Ms. Kitchen spoke about recent efforts by HCED to re-evaluate bicycle facility design standards, including grade separated paths. For example, considering always adding a buffer next to the bike lanes (at road level), or building wider paths that include both bike lanes and sidewalks (grade separated from the road bed).

BPAC members shared concerns about bike lane cleaning and maintenance. They have observed that the use of vertical delineators or separators between travel lanes and bike lanes can prevent proper cleaning, leading to accumulation of debris. Ms. Kitchen explained that during the design process, HCED coordinates maintenance with the Highway and Bridges Maintenance Division, including street sweeping.

Ms. Kitchen discussed how the following image and data from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is being used to guide decisions about facility enhancements. Bicyclist design user profiles uses level of confidence to identify low to high stress tolerance. 51-56% of the population fall under “interested but concerned” and are often not comfortable with bike lanes and use sidewalks for travel, they fall under the “low stress tolerance”. The mid-level tolerance group are somewhat confident and represent 5-9% of the population. They generally prefer more separated facilities, as well, but will use bicycle lanes or paved shoulders. The highly confident bicyclists represent 4-7% of the population and they are comfortable riding with traffic and will use roads with or without bike lanes.



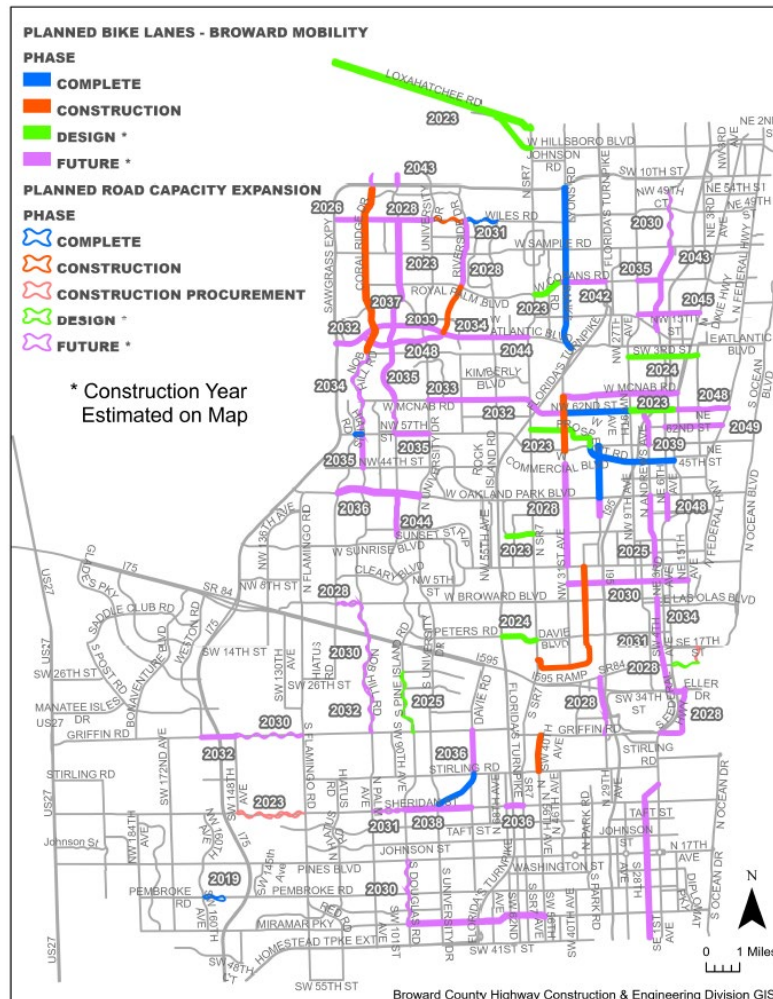
Ms. Kitchen also talked about types of bike facility elements that are recommended based on the posted speed of the roadway. Most roads maintained by the County are collectors, arterials or higher with posted speed limits of 35 mph or greater. The preferred design option is to provide grade separated bicycle lanes (built at level with sidewalks) that are separated from the sidewalk by a buffer (landscaped or other) since they are perceived as the safest. However, most rights-of-way widths are constrained, in which case the preferred design includes a 4-ft. bike lane next to a 6-ft. sidewalk, without the buffer.

Ms. Kitchen shared images of installed lanes/sidewalks and explained that they are designing facilities to accommodate most users (in reference to data). The members asked how the sidewalks are cleaned and maintained when they are grade separated. Also, if the lanes are next to the sidewalk, is it just a wider sidewalk? Will it be Commuter friendly? Ms. Kitchen responded that the bike lanes will be visibly separated by markings or differences in material. She said concrete is preferred over asphalt.

Ms. Kitchen went on to discuss the benefits and challenges of grade separated facilities, including decreased crashes. Reducing conflicts between bicyclists and pedestrians on side-by-side facilities is a challenge, as well as side-streets and driveway openings. In response to a question about minimum vehicular lane widths, she said that facilities built for up to 35 mph can have 10 ft. lanes, but where there are bus routes, the outer lane needs to be at least 11 ft. wide.

In reference to an image of a Pine Island Rd project, Chair Kroll commented on the need for more shading since a 3-ft buffer would not be enough. Ms. Kitchen responded that the preference is to provide shading, but the ROW is constrained. Shrubs could be added since trees require more space. Chair Kroll suggested to consider moving the landscaped strip to the other edge of the sidewalk to provide room for trees.

At the end, Ms. Kitchen shared a map of completed and future bike lanes.



A discussion followed about whether or not a raised separator is needed between bike lanes and the pedestrian paths to avoid collisions. Larry Wallace pointed out that on the Hollywood Boardwalk there is no vertical separation, and the different modes seem to stay within their lanes. Larry Wallace offered to share an FHWA document on bicycle design with the group through Ms. Forelle. The Chair also made recommendations to add bollards or raised median at intersections so that drivers will not mistake the wider bike/sidewalks with driveways. Examples can be found on the Hiatus Greenway. Where there is curb and gutter, bollards and such must be at least 4 ft. away from the travel lanes to meet the horizontal clearance requirements. Additional comments and questions should be forward through Ms. Forelle. Mr. Tornese will be available to answer other questions at the next meeting.

2. **PRESENTATION - BPAC annual update report** – Ms. Forelle shared a hard copy of a draft BPAC annual update and asked the members to review and forward comments to her. A digital version will be distributed to the members. A motion is needed to add an action item on the agenda for the next meeting.

A motion was made to **direct staff to prepare and submit to the BPAC a draft of the annual report for review and approval by the BPAC members at the November 9, 2022 meeting and to move the report to the County Commission** by Member Pujalt and seconded by Member Goldstein was approved unanimously.

3. **DISCUSSION - Participation in the October 22 Healthy Community Zone Event at Delevoe Park** – Ms. Forelle spoke about the upcoming event and the different activities related to bicycling that will be available to the public, including a giveaway of refurbished bikes from Broward County Transit and free helmets from Broward County Parks. She invited the BPAC members to attend and hand out brochures and speak to the public about bicycle safety. She distributed volunteer registration forms required by Parks and asked the members to let her know if they will be attending. Ms. Forelle will try to schedule times for members to be present that don't overlap. Otherwise, due to Sunshine requirements, Ms. Forelle will need to keep notes about things that are discussed by the members with each other, if they are related to the activities of the Committee. Also, the event will need to be advertised.
4. **DISCUSSION - Future Priorities** – Ms. Forelle asked the BPAC members if they would be interested in revisiting the BPAC goals and priorities since they have not been reviewed since 2017. She recommended that this could be workshopped at the January 2023 meeting and that they could make a motion at the next BPAC meeting in November 2022.

VII. OLD BUSINESS – Ms. Forelle reminded members that they can request to place items on the agenda under this heading for follow up.

VIII. AGENCY UPDATES - Larry Wallace, FDOT representative for District 4, shared that at the end of the month he will be leaving FDOT to work in the private sector. He shared some advice, including some recommended reading such as the MPO's Complete Streets Guidelines. He suggested to Ms. Forelle to reach out to Sabrina Aubery at FDOT District 4 to ask if there are Resurfacing, Restoration and Rehabilitation (RRR) projects that could be brought to the attention of the BPAC at the Scoping stage, so recommendations could

be made to include new or enhanced bicycle or pedestrian facilities. The Scoping stage precedes the funding and design stages, so it's an ideal time to bring forward ideas and requests. If the Department takes the time to engage with not only the BPAC, but other advisory committees such as the MPO Technical Advisor Committee (TAC) and Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC), it could collect really great comments on projects moving forward. The BPAC thanked Mr. Wallace for his service and welcomed him to join the committee in the future.

IX. STAFF REPORT

- 1. Website Updates** - Ms. Forelle shared information about updates to BPAC website that includes additional resources, and asked that they take the time to review the webpage and provide recommendations. She also mentioned the new platform for the Boards and Committees webpage and handed out instructions on how to update their profiles online.
- 2. Future Speakers** – Ms. Forelle listed several potential future speakers, including someone from the MPO who will be attending the November meeting to talk about the updates to the online bike map. She mentioned Scott Brunner coming back to provide an update on the remote sensing. Also, Richard Tornese, Director of HCED would be coming to field questions. Member Chakler requested that the number of presentations be kept to one (1) at the most. After discussion, the members agreed that Mr. Brunner could provide his update in writing to Ms. Forelle, who would share with the BPAC members. She also mentioned that she has lined up presentations on future projects for the spring/ early summer of 2023.
- 3. MAP Broward** – Promotional video opportunity. Ms. Forelle handed out contact information for the person coordinating the filming and request for extras. Ms. Forelle explained that BPAC members are not allowed to be remunerated for services related to a vendor that is working for the County. BPAC members are encouraged to volunteer for the filming. The discussion turned to the planning and funding of greenways and trails, which Ms. Forelle pointed out, should be covered by the presentation from the MPO on November 9.

- ## **X. COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES**
- Member Chakler asked about the future presentations and requested that the BPAC focus more on reviewing projects rather than map updates. Ms. Forelle offered to reach out to the MPO to request that they cover the CSLIP funding process in addition to talking about the map. She also mentioned that she is working with the FDOT to be able to provide comments on projects at a time when the BPAC input will have an impact on design.

Member Chakler also welcomed Ms. Brown and took the opportunity to ask about attendance requirements. Members want the ability to call in to meetings if there is a quorum and be counted. Ms. Brown referenced a recent Commission discussion about being required to attend in person for attendance to count, regardless of quorum.

Member Chakler asked about the new crossings on the New River Greenway, such as the one at Flamingo Road. Ms. Forelle explained that new methods, such as the new crossing light, require that the County partner with and obtain approval from the FDOT to test these new standards. She believes that as new funding becomes available, more of these crossings will be installed. Again, Ms. Forelle offered to reach out to Mr. Brunner for updates on the status of future installations. Member Chakler was able to use the lighted

crossing and thinks that installing more of them would have a significant impact on increasing the usage of the trail.

Member Chakler asked about the Complete Streets meetings and wanting to be notified. In the past he has participated in the meetings as a liaison to the BPAC. Ms. Forelle requested clarification on who the BPAC would like to attend these meetings, since the BPAC Chair is currently on the email list.

A motion was made to **nominate Member Goldstein to attend the next Broward County Complete Streets meeting on behalf of the BPAC** by Member Chakler, seconded by Member Pujalt and passed unanimously. Member Goldstein will be notified of the next meeting which is scheduled for October. The meeting is noticed as a Sunshine meeting.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT - No members from the public were present.

XII. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn made by Member Chakler, seconded by Member Lim, and unanimously approved, the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Transcript of meeting or recording available upon request. Contact Sara Forelle, Senior Planner, for additional information. Email: sforelle@broward.org or Phone: (954) 357-9785