Better Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Complete Streets Planning

Leading By Example in Southwest Florida

AMPO Conference 2017
Presenters

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Alta Planning + Design
Senior Planning Associate

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JACOBS
Senior Project Manager
Lee County MPO Perspective
Topics to Cover

• Overview of Lee County

• Timeline of Events/Developing Plans

• Funding Improvements

• Issues Moving Forward

• Local Experience
Context

- Region Population **1,230,000**
- Lee Population 2016 **680,539**
- Lee County Visitors 2016 **4.8 million**
- Land Area **1,212 miles** (408.3 miles of water)
- Density **846 people/square mile**
- Largest City Population Cape Coral **180,304**
- Median Age **45 years**
- Average Commute Time **26 minutes**
Commute Mode Split

- 79% Drive Alone
- 11% Carpool
- 6% Work From Home
- 3% Walk + Bike + Transit
- 1% Other Means
Complete Streets Resolutions/Actions

• Lee County MPO Resolution adopted **August 21, 2009**

• Lee County BOCC Resolution adopted **November 10, 2009**

• City of Fort Myers Resolution adopted on **October 3, 2011**

• City of Bonita **2014**

• City of Cape Coral **2015**
LEE COUNTY COMPLETE STREETS INITIATIVE

Applicant/Sponsor: Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Total Project Cost: $13,210,918
Grant Funding: $10,473,900

Project Description
TIGER funds will be used to support bicycle and pedestrian transportation connections throughout Lee County. This project will complete three sections of the regional trail network: the Tour de Parks Loop, the University Loop, and the Bi-County Connector.

Project Highlights
- Provides continuous, safe transportation paths that connect major employment centers, county residents and university students, and regional

[Map of Lee County]
Local Municipality Experience
Creating Positive Feedback Loops + Being Funding Ready
Create Positive Policy Feedback Loops

REGIONAL FOCUS
- Federal Funding
- Project Prioritization
- Technical Assistance

LOCAL FOCUS
- Project Scoping & Delivery
- Toolkit for Local Implementation

Local and Regional Responsibilities
Local + Regional Coordination
Establish Criteria to Accomplish Regional Goals

Active State, Regional, + Local Partners

Engaged Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Managed + Prioritized Project List
Create Positive Policy Feedback Loops

How were infrastructure recommendations developed?

1. Identify areas with the greatest demand or propensity for walking and biking.
2. Identify areas with the highest traffic stress levels for people walking and biking given current conditions.
3. Develop facility recommendations to lower traffic stress to levels comfortable for families with children.
4. Prioritize projects using public input, demand analysis, traffic stress analysis, and safety analysis.

4 Miles

[Map showing composite demand scores with varying colors indicating lower to higher demand zones.]

[Maps of different areas showing infrastructure recommendations and analysis.]
Fort Myers Beach
BFC Designation

Bicycle Friendly Communities
BY RANK

As of fall 2015, 371 communities have received recognition as a bronze, silver, gold or platinum BFC. There are currently no diamond BFCs. See the full list at bikeleague.org/community

- **267** Bronze
- **75** Silver
- **24** Gold
- **5** Platinum

Five Es

1. Engineering
2. Education
3. Encouragement
4. Enforcement
5. Evaluation and Planning
Project Purpose

**Town of Fort Myers Beach Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan**

- Priority Guidance
- Reflect Community Needs
- Leverage Funding for Projects
- Priority Documentation
- Align Local, Regional, & State Plans
- First Town Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan!
- Living, Evolving plan

Living, Evolving plan
Infrastructure:
Major Attractions
# Walk Score

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Walk score</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Treasure Island</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>Somewhat walkable. Some errands can be accomplished on foot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Maria Island</td>
<td>55</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pete Beach</td>
<td>51</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Myers Beach</td>
<td>48</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tybee Island, GA</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>Car-dependent, most errands require a car.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naples</td>
<td>35</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longboat Key</td>
<td>34</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanibel Island</td>
<td>27</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cape Coral</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Car-dependent, almost all errands require a car.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edisto, SC</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian River Shores</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: walkscore.org
Trends: Fort Myers Beach

Demographics

Age of Florida Residents (% of population)
- Under the age of 20: 2.3%
- 20 to 24: 15.1%
- 25-44: 23.9%
- 45-64: 27.0%
- 65 to 84: 25.2%
- 85 and older: 6.5%

Age of Fort Myers Beach Residents (% of population)
- Under the age of 20: 3.6%
- 20 to 24: 6.1%
- 25-44: 41.8%
- 45-64: 35.0%
- 65 to 84: 11.5%
- 85 and older: 2.0%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010 Population</th>
<th>2015 Population (estimated)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fort Myers Beach</td>
<td>6,277</td>
<td>6,983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>18,801,310</td>
<td>20,271,272</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Goals

• **Within 5 years**
  – Reduce bicycle/pedestrian crashes
  – Double walking, biking, and transit commute mode share to 22 percent

• **Within 20 years**
  – 29 mile walkway network (12.6 miles currently; 16.5 miles proposed)
  – 14.8-mile on-street bikeway network (2.2 miles currently; 12.6 miles proposed)

• Complete planned improvements to Estero Boulevard

• Achieve Bicycle Friendly Community Designation
  – League of American Bicyclists

• Achieve Walk Friendly Community designation
  – Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center
## Recommendations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infrastructure</th>
<th>Design Criteria</th>
<th>Programs</th>
<th>Policy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Walking</td>
<td>• Crossings</td>
<td>• Transportation Demand Management</td>
<td>• Estero Blvd Coordination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Biking</td>
<td>• Facility Types</td>
<td>• Wayfinding</td>
<td>• Complete Streets Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Design references</td>
<td>• Apply for BFC/WFC</td>
<td>• Maintenance Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Safety Campaign</td>
<td>• Development Standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Bike Parking</td>
<td>• Funding Policy (dedicated set-aside)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Lighting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Maintenance</td>
<td></td>
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The Coastal Loop

Lee MPO Proposal for Addition to the Southwest Coastal Regional Trail

- Forms a coastal detour to the more direct inland primary spine
- Provides a scenic route that will facilitate bike tourism and remains true to the central theme of this regional trail
- Less than half of the Loop already exists, is programmed, or currently under construction
- Lee MPO has requested regional coalition support to add the Coastal Loop to the Southwest Coastal Regional Trail
JYLP: Project Purpose

- Fulfills FDOT requirement
  - 12-wide SUN Trail Project
- Feasibility study
  - Develop alternatives for extending JYLP trail
  - Develop conceptual design for alternatives and crossings
JYLP: Project History

- John Yarbrough Linear Park Trail (JYLP Trail)
  - Southwest Coastal Regional Trail (6 miles long)
  - Colonial Boulevard (north) to 6 Mile Cypress Parkway (south)
JYLP: Study Area

• Boundaries
  • Hanson Street (north)
  • Colonial Boulevard (south)
  • Seminole Gulf Railroad (east)
  • Palm Avenue/Ten Mile Canal ROW line (west)

Looking North

Looking South
Winkler: Project History

2013
Lee MPO applies for TIGER Grant

2014
Lee MPO awarded TIGER Grant

2015
Lee MPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan update includes Winkler Canal path
Master Plan an element in 2040 LRTP

2017
City receives planning funds from the Lee MPO
Residents express concerns
Scope of services adjusted to address concerns
Winkler: Project Need

- Safer walking/biking facilities
- Improved connectivity
Thank you!