

Jacksonville BPAC Meeting Notes
Hybrid Meeting
October 6, 2022 @ 5:30 PM
Ed Ball Building – 1st Floor Training Room
214 N Hogan Street – Jacksonville FL

Meeting Attendees:

(in person): Peter Borenstein (Vice Chair), Steve Tocknell (Secretary), Larry Roberts, Barry Cotter, Wiatt Bowers, Len Burroughs, Lee Durban (COJ Traffic Engineering), Laurie Santana (COJ Transportation Planning Chief), Matt Fall (COJ Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinator), Thalia Fuste (COJ Transportation Planning), Lauren Christiansen (COJ Parks Department)

(virtual): David Fletcher, Scott Madden, Colin Moore, Patti Sistrunk (AECOM), Adam Purcell (AECOM)

Peter Borenstein chaired the meeting.

I. **Introductions and Adoption of Minutes**

The minutes from the July 7, 2022 BPAC meeting were unanimously approved (Motion by Peter Borenstein, Second by Larry Roberts).

II. **Safe Routes to School Project Experience (AECOM) (Patti Sistrunk and Adam Purcell)**

On behalf of AECOM consultants, Patti Sistrunk and Adam Purcell gave a presentation on how AECOM conducts Safe Routes to School (SRTS) and related school transportation studies under the guidelines of the FDOT-sponsored Safe Routes to School program. In addition to her AECOM experience with Safe Routes to Schools, Patti is also a founding member of Bike Walk Golden Isles, which covers Jekyll Island and St Simons Island in Georgia. Adam has worked with AECOM in their Tampa Office, and has worked on planning for Safe Routes to Schools in Polk County FL.

The AECOM approach to Safe Routes to Schools programs includes identifying barriers where walking and biking to schools are not safe, getting administrators and educators involved, building up coalitions, and driver awareness. Events like Walk to School Days are important.

In response to a question from Peter about parental involvement, Adam noted that a parent survey is part of an FDOT Safe Routes to Schools application. In response to another question from Peter, Patti and Adam noted that walking and biking in groups (e.g. bike buses) encourage more walking and bicycling to schools. For parents to support a Safe Routes to School program, crime and public safety issues need to be addressed. Economically disadvantaged students may walk to school more from necessity than by choice.

A copy of Patti and Adam's complete presentation can be downloaded from the COJ Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning webpage (slides 4 – 34). A link to the webpage is [here](#).

III. **Discussion of Funding Options for Bike-Ped Projects (Laurie Santana, Chief of COJ Transportation Planning Division)**

Laurie's presentation covered funding for bike ped projects in the following categories.

- Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set -aside
- Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement

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- Program (CMAQ)
- Safe Routes To School Program
- Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) (NEW)
- Mobility Zone Fees and CIP

Laurie noted that except for Mobility Zone and CIP projects, funding for projects in these categories goes through the North Florida TPO. Laurie encouraged BPAC members to get more involved with the North Florida TPO, and to advocate for projects in these categories that include bicycle and pedestrian improvements.

A copy of Laurie's complete presentation can be downloaded from the COJ Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning webpage (slides 35 – 44). A link to the webpage is [here](#).

Laurie also distributed copies of an FHWA memorandum that provides implementation guidance for its new Carbon Reduction Program. A copy of this FHWA memorandum can be downloaded [here](#).

IV. Old Business; New Business; Discussion of Future Meetings

Larry Roberts announced that the third annual Emerald Trail 5K/10K event would be held on Saturday October 22, starting at the Duval County Courthouse, and beginning at 4 PM for bicyclists and at 5 PM for runners. JTC Running is paying for all expenses related to this event, so that all sponsor and registration fees will be used to further develop the Emerald Trail.

Wiatt Bowers announced that on October 19 from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM, Charles Marohn, founder of Strong Towns and author of Confessions of a Recovering Engineer, would be giving a presentation and participating in a walking tour of the LaVilla neighborhood. It was held at the offices of the North Florida TPO. Wiatt invited all interested BPAC members to participate in this event. There was no registration fee for this event, which was sponsored and paid for by the APA FL First Coast Section.

(A public meeting, to be held on October 20 by the FL Office of Greenways and Trails, was announced at the October 6 BPAC meeting, but that event was subsequently postponed.)

The next BPAC meeting has been scheduled for November 3, 2022, beginning at 5:30 PM. It will again be a hybrid meeting. Instead of the 1st Floor Training Room of the Ed Ball Building, the in person November BPAC meeting will instead be held in Room 3112 of the Ed Ball Building.

V. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.