

Jacksonville BPAC Meeting Notes
Hybrid Meeting
February 2, 2023 @ 5:30 PM
Ed Ball Building – 3rd Floor Conference Room
214 N Hogan Street – Jacksonville FL

Copies of presentation materials from the February 2, 2023 BPAC meeting may be viewed or downloaded from the COJ BPAC page on the City of Jacksonville website. A link to the COJ BPAC page is [HERE](#)

Meeting Attendees:

(in person): Chris Burns (Chair), Peter Borenstein (Vice Chair), Steve Tocknell (Secretary), Larry Roberts, Troy Mayhew, Monty Selim, Lisa Wright, John Wright, Connie Smith, David Cox (Honey Pot Bike Collective), Kristopher Smith (LISC), Sharon Murchison (UNF IPTM), Darrell Edmonds (UNF IPTM), Ray Hannah (UNF IPTM), Juan Cardona (FDOT D2), Jon Askins (FDOT D5), Sgt. Ron Hungerford (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office), Matt Fall (COJ Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinator)

(virtual): Scott Manning, Chris Schoenig, Clark Letter (NF TPO), Derek Dixon (FDOT), Lauren Christiansen (COJ Parks Department),

Chris Burns chaired the meeting.

I. Introductions and Adoption of Minutes

Troy Mayhew moved for the adoption of the notes for the BPAC meeting that was held on December 1, 2022. Larry Roberts seconded the motion. The vote to approve the meeting notes was unanimous.

Chris Burns reported that Linda Bremer has resigned from the Jacksonville BPAC. On behalf of the BPAC, Chris thanked Linda for her contributions to the BPAC over many years.

Chris further noted that the BPAC is searching for new members, to provide for more diversity and to better represent pedestrians. He announced that a new slate of BPAC officers would be presented at the next BPAC meeting.

II. Presentation – Pedestrian and Bicycle High Visibility Enforcement Projects Sharon Murchison, Assistant Director, Institute of Police Technology and Management (IPTM), University of North Florida (UNF)

Sharon introduced her fellow attendees from the Institute of Police Technology and Management (IPTM) at the University of North Florida (UNF) (as noted above), as well as Juan Cardona, the Florida Law Enforcement Liaison representing FDOT District 2, and John Askins, representing FDOT District 5. She noted that as of 2020, the State of Florida is ranked #1 for bicycle fatalities in the US, and #2 for pedestrian fatalities.

The IPTM funds High Visibility Enforcement (HVE) projects for the 25 counties in Florida that have the highest pedestrian and bicycle crash rates, including Duval County and Alachua County in FDOT District 2. These projects include overtime payments for enhanced law enforcement activities at approved high crash locations, at times and days when crashes are most frequent. There are 37 approved high crash locations in Duval County. Sharon passed out a set of the educational items that are distributed to contacts at these locations. Officers distribute at least one item per contact. Copies of these items, along with other items related to bicycle and pedestrian safety, may be downloaded at www.alerttodayflorida.com

Sharon introduced JSO Sergeant Ron Hungerford, who discussed the Duval County HVE project in greater detail. Sgt. Hungerford also responded to questions and comments from BPAC members in attendance.

Peter Borenstein asked if there is an age at which a child could walk unsupervised on sidewalk. Sgt. Hungerford replied that he is not aware of any law that would address that, but that a parent would be accountable if a child is injured while walking.

As an attorney experienced with cases involving bicyclists, Chris Burns noted that crashes often occur when a vehicle pulling out of a shopping center driveway hits a pedestrian or bicyclist while driving across a sidewalk. When a driver is looking for a gap in oncoming traffic, he/she tends to look to the left but not to the right. Chris also noted that it took three years after the 3' law was enacted before a ticket was issued; that he had received several e-mail messages from bicyclists who felt that they had been incorrectly accused of a violation for riding two abreast on San Jose Blvd.; and that texting while driving is classified in Florida as only a nonmoving violation.

Scott Manning asked if video evidence of a driver violation would be sufficient for the issuance of a citation. Sgt. Hungerford replied that a video might not show both sides.

As the FDOT District 5 Law Enforcement Liaison, Jon Askins suggested that although the electronic version of an advisory pamphlet is not legal advice, an advisory pamphlet accessed through a mobile device could help bicyclists to resolve legal issues at the scene of a crash. To view and download relevant available advisory pamphlets, go to www.alerttodayflorida.com

III. Presentation – Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan – Clark Letter, Director of Planning and Analytics, North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (TPO)

Clark Letter reviewed the scope, schedule, and types of recommendations for a regional study that will guide planning for future bicycle and pedestrian facilities. The study area includes Duval, Clay, Nassau, and St. Johns Counties.

The regional study recommendations will include policy recommendations, recommendations for subarea or trail studies based on priority areas, and design guidelines for bicycle facility projects. Regional study recommendations will not include project lists, an existing conditions inventory, or recommendations for unpaved recreational paths.

The study findings may be used to set priorities for SUN Trail projects, other trail projects, and sidewalk projects to be funded through the Transportation Alternatives Program.

Collaboration meetings will be held with a technical group of municipal and agency staff members, and an advocates advisory group. The study will also include a public survey. The regional study began in December/January 2022, and is scheduled for completion by the end of July 2023.

IV. Wrap-up / Announcements / Next Meeting Info

Matt announced that Florida Greenways and Trails would hold a public meeting on February 16, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM, in the Ed Ball Building.

FDOT scheduled a public meeting for the SR 211 Resurfacing Project, held on February 15. The

project is proposed to include new bicycle lanes between San Juan Avenue and the new roundabout at St. Johns Avenue, and shared lane markings (sharrows) between the new roundabout north of Fishweir Creek and the I-95 overpass at the Fuller Warren Bridge.

David Cox announced that on February 25, the Honey Pot Bike Collective would host a bicycle safety rodeo at Windy Hill Elementary School.

The next BPAC meeting is scheduled for March 2, 2023, beginning at 5:30 PM. It will again be a hybrid meeting.

V. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.