APPENDIX 3
COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

CAPE CORAL BICYCLE + PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN
ADOPTED 2017
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Introduction

The planning process was designed with several meetings and an online interactive map to make it easy for people to provide input on what they want for the Cape Coral community. There were two public meetings and three Project Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings. The online map was available throughout the entirety of the process. The comments collected during these meetings and on the interactive map directly informed project priorities. For example, the public indicated a strong concern for safety, need for better sidewalk coverage, and park access as a priority.
Planning Process Summary

The first public meeting was held on April 20, 2016, at the Green Room in Cape Coral. Participants responded to key questions that helped guide early planning recommendations:

> What does it mean to you to walk and bike in Cape Coral?
> How can we improve bicycling and walking in Cape Coral so you can safely and comfortably access shopping, school, and work?
> What would encourage you to walk and bike more frequently?
> How can we make better connections to daily destinations for transportation recreation?
Through PAC meetings in February and July, community stakeholders refined the details of how the plan’s recommendations could guide the City of Cape Coral in developing a well-connected, safe bicycle and pedestrian network.

The project team used a data-driven approach to measure “demand” for walking and biking and “supply” of the infrastructure necessary to do so. This suitability analysis highlighted areas that are good candidates for walking and biking projects. The results from the analysis and feedback from the community was used to develop a proposed project list including walkways, bikeways and multi-use paths. Since safety is a major concern, the recommendations also identified particularly dangerous intersections and corridors that require safety improvements. The project team also conducted a funding analysis and estimated costs for proposed projects. A data-driven process prioritized the walkway, bikeway and multi-use path projects to determine which would have the greatest influence on walking and biking. The model assigned a higher priority to a project if someone had left a comment about that project area on the online interactive map.

Finally, the draft recommendations were presented to the public at an open house meeting on August 24, 2016, and at the PAC and Lee County MPO BPCC meetings in October, 2016. Feedback from these meetings informed refinements for the final plan and its recommendations.
The online map is an efficient and effective way for community members to share nuanced local knowledge and point out issues with geographic precision.

Overview

The online map is an efficient and effective way for community members to share nuanced local knowledge and point out issues with geographic precision. The map received many more comments than typical for public meetings because the map can be accessed anytime during the day and is user-friendly. Cape Coral’s interactive online map was launched in March 2016 and stayed active throughout the project. Community members selected to leave a comment about walking or biking, placed a point or drew a line, and then left a comment. Others could see past comments and respond to them. The project team reviewed the comments, identified major concerns, and then addressed them in the program and infrastructure recommendations. The comments were also used in the prioritization model. If a comment was left on some part of the proposed project, then it received a higher priority rank.

BY THE NUMBERS

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KEY THEMES

| Sidewalks should be present on the majority of streets. | Speeding is frequent on quiet roads; justification for better separation and perhaps traffic calming. |
| Conventional bike lanes on heavy streets do not provide enough protection or comfort. | Safe routes to school are important given the lack of bus transportation for kids who live within two mile radius of schools. |
| Mid-block crossings are needed when there are significant distances between intersections. | Bridges as a major barrier - existing inter-city bridges lack adequate facilities or have no facilities for people walking plus crossing over canals or rivers limits route options. |
| Safety is a major concern mentioned in most of the comments. | |
PUBLIC KICK OFF MEETING
“Would love to bike everywhere if major roads had bike lanes and intersection markings” - Public Meeting Attendee

Overview

A public kick-off meeting was held on April 20, 2016. This meeting was held to share findings of the existing conditions assessment and gauge public opinion on what should be included in the plan’s recommendations. Members of the project team introduced themselves to attendees and gave a presentation on the project. The presentation included the project’s goals, anticipated schedule, previous planning efforts, Cape Coral’s accomplishments to date, and an existing conditions assessment. Community members voted on which programs and types of infrastructure they would prefer. They also left comments responding to the following five questions:

> Could you imagine walking and biking to work one day a week? What about to the grocery store or to a park? Why or why not?
> What’s the best place to walk or bike in Cape Coral?
> What are the priority walking and biking issues and needs in Cape Coral?
> What three words describe what you want your community to be in the future?
> If Cape Coral were a person, how would you describe him/her?

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<th>BY THE NUMBERS</th>
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<td><strong>31</strong> people signed in</td>
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<td><strong>153</strong> votes to prioritize infrastructure and program recommendations</td>
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<td><strong>11</strong> detailed comment sheets submitted</td>
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KEY THEMES:

> Sidewalks and separated paths are a much appreciated resource
> Improve safety and comfort of walking and bicycling, especially along and across major roadways and at intersections
> Improve connectivity for recreation AND for transportation
> Improve driver awareness and education
PROGRAM PRIORITIES:

Figure 1 summarizes the results of the voting for education, encouragement, and enforcement programs. There were a total of 88 votes assigned to 17 types of programming. The programs receiving the most votes are car-free street events and bicycle and pedestrian safety campaigns. A second tier includes bicycle and pedestrian resource website and employer-based encouragement. These top four represent diverse program types.
Car-free street events
Bicycle and pedestrian safety campaign
Bicycle and pedestrian resource website
Employer-based encouragement
Wayfinding signage
Guided nature walks and rides
School-based trail activities
Trail user etiquette campaign
Family biking programs
Silver sneakers seniors program
Launch parties for new bikeways
Biking/transit maps and guides
Interpretive signage
Outdoor public art
Happy trails to healthy foods
Personal travel encouragement programs
Diversion class

Figure 1. Program preference voting results from public kick-off meeting
Meeting attendees did a similar vote for the type of infrastructure they prefer. Figure 2 summarizes the results. Shared-use sidepaths along the roadway, bicycle-friendly intersections, and protected bike lanes were the top priorities.
Overview

The Public Open House was held on August 24, 2016, to share and collect input on the draft recommendations for the plan.

KEY THEMES:

> Potholes are a safety issue for people biking and driving. Maintenance should be a priority for funding.

> Plan implementation should start immediately and be consistent in order to achieve the goals for the plan within a reasonable timeframe.

> Infrastructure improvements should focus on areas around schools.

> Infrastructure improvements should support access to transit which can help improve rider safety and increase LeeTran ridership.

“Plan implementation should start immediately and be consistent in order to achieve the goals for the Plan within a reasonable timeframe.”

- Public Open House Attendee
PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Overview
The Project Advisory Committee (PAC) provided technical review and guidance for the development of the Cape Coral Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. The PAC met four times during the development of this Plan and helped to shape the recommendations, provided technical input, and spread the word about public meeting opportunities.

COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES
- Cape Coral Bike-Ped Committee
- Florida Department of Transportation
- Lee County Department of Transportation
- LeeTran
- Lee County School District
- Lee Memorial Health System
- Injury Prevention Coalition
- BikeWalkLee
- Cape Coral Public Works
- Cape Coral Planning Department
- Cape Coral Parks and Recreation Department
- Cape Coral Police Department