

## PROJECT ADVISORY GROUP MEETING 1

### MINUTES

**Project:** Pine Island Road from Stringfellow Road to Veterans Parkway, Lee County

**FPID:** 436926-1-22-01

**Date/Time:** April 26, 2021 / 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

**Location:** GoToWebinar / Virtual Meeting

**Team:** Steven Andrews (FDOT), Jennifer Marshall (FDOT), Lauren Peters (FDOT), Anthony Castellone (Pennoni), Betsie Hiatt (Pennoni), Jennifer Dorning (Atkins)

**Project Advisory Group (PAG) in attendance:** Nancy Buthman, Carie Call, Marta Elva Gibbons, Nancy Cote, Michael Ilczyszyn, Bernard Johnson, Benjamin Mickuleit, Dr. Thomas Millins, Dan Moser, Judd Payne, Rob Price, Michael Shevlin, Michael Sweeney, William Tidball, Michael Silberg

**Not in attendance:** Matthew David, Steven Longest, John Lynch, Michael Martin, Leoma Lovegrove (sent alternate – Michael Silberg)

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The meeting commenced shortly after 10:30 AM. Following some general “Housekeeping” items, the points of discussion were noted:

#### A. Agenda

FDOT’s Project Manager, Steven Andrews, welcomed everyone to PAG Meeting #1, outlined the meeting agenda and introduced both the FDOT and Consultant Team.

#### B. Goals of Project Advisory Group

Project team outlined the primary goals of the PAG, essentially:

##### a. Provide Overall Stakeholder Input into the Feasibility Study

- Local knowledge and “pulse” on key issues

##### b. Assist Project Team in Developing Project “Core Values”

- Essential in developing a project Vision

##### c. Review & Comment on proposed Shared Path Design Concepts

- Once Team develops typical section alternatives based on Design Criteria, Stakeholder input

A brief “roll call” of the PAG was performed, the PAG was thanked for their participation and then four (4) quick poll questions were asked of the group:

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1. Poll Question #1  
DO YOU THINK A SHARED USE PATH WOULD BE A GOOD ADDITION TO PINE ISLAND ROAD?
2. Poll Question #2  
DO YOU THINK THE PATH WOULD NEED TO PROVIDE A CONTINUOUS CONNECTION FROM PINE ISLAND TO CAPE CORAL?
3. Poll Question #3  
DO YOU THINK THAT THERE IS A NEED TO ENHANCE PEDESTRIAN/ BICYCLIST SAFETY ALONG PINE ISLAND ROAD?
4. Poll Question #4  
DO YOU THINK PARKING ENHANCEMENTS SHOULD BE A PRIORITY?

It was noted that these questions and responses were “for information only” and did not represent a vote. All responses were anonymous (see attached). FDOT’s Project Manager, Steven Andrews, continued with the agenda items.

### C. Overview of Project

#### a. Location

The project limits extend from Stringfellow Rd on Pine Island, east thru Matlacha, and end at Veterans Memorial Parkway in Cape Coral. The project consists of incorporating an 8 to 10-foot shared use path to be used by both pedestrians and bicyclists. It was noted that:

- FDOT is administering the project on behalf of Lee County,
- This project would be eligible for future state, county and/or federal funding following this feasibility phase, and
- The intent of the Study Team is to take a holistic approach with the community to determine feasible, context sensitive solutions for a shared use path.

#### b. Trail Connectivity

FDOT’s Project Manager, Steven Andrews, showed how this proposed project would fit into the Collier-Lee Bi-County Regional Transportation Network, specifically the “Pathways” component.

#### c. Development Process

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FDOT's Environmental Project Manager, Lauren Peters, then walked the PAG thru the FDOT Project Development Process; noting that the Feasibility Study was the "first step" in the Planning Process with the overall goal of identifying short and long-term transportation system needs within the project area and with community input. The Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study will dig further into "feasible" alternatives utilizing the NEPA process to determine a "preferred" Alternative. This Alternative would then be recommended to be advanced thru Preliminary and Final Design, and Right-Of-Way acquired (if necessary) prior to advancing to Construction.

### D. Guided Discussion

FDOT's Environmental Manager, Jennifer Marshall, introduced an exercise to provide the study team with local perspectives. The PAG was asked about their different perspectives, thoughts, and questions about a path in this area. These local perspectives would include: Local Users, Local Businesses, Pedestrians and Cyclists, Community Services, Environmental Considerations and County Stakeholders. The Team is cognizant that some of these perspectives could/would overlap. Since this is a Lee County roadway, consideration of this partnership must also be taken into account as the project Team moves forward.

The Group Discussion touched on Members' concerns that exist today in the study area, concerns, and benefits of including a pathway in the area, and characteristics that are important to the community.

FDOT noted the following during the Group Discussion:

- *The Study Team's goal is not to force any improvements...but rather to look at the most holistic approach that balances the needs of all stakeholders. Noting considerable safety concerns, one goal of the Study Team will be to benefit the community, not destroy it.*
- *The NEPA process in Phase 2 of the project will require specific environmental coordination with multiple agencies.*
- *The Study Team wants to make sure that we have a very clear project going forward. This informal "Focusing" stage raised some very important concerns for the Team to address, such as Safety, Parking, and potential impacts to businesses.*
- *The Team will also maintain clear communication with Lee County, including Ped/Bike Coordinator, to address and balance the needs of all stakeholders.*

**Attached to these Minutes is the summary from the brainstorming group exercise.** This summary will be used by the Study Team in advance of the next PAG meeting to summarize core values that the project Team needs to follow for the next PAG meeting; and review those design criteria that will be utilized to address the concerns noted during the guided discussion when developing future design concepts for the project. These concepts will be reviewed and discussed during future PAG meetings.

### E. Next Steps

FDOT Project Manager, Steven Andrews, summarized the project's "Next Steps" by reviewing the project schedule; noting that this schedule was subject to change. The next PAG meeting will occur during the Summer



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and a Public Workshop is tentatively planned for late 2021. This schedule is also shown on the project website and a link to this website was provided in the meeting “chat box”:

[www.swfroads.com/pineislandroad/sharedusepath/](http://www.swfroads.com/pineislandroad/sharedusepath/)

FDOT Project Manager, *Steven Andrews*, ended the meeting by thanking everyone again for their input and participation in today’s PAG Meeting #1, while providing his contact information:

Steven A. Andrews  
Florida Department of Transportation District One  
Project Manager, Environmental Management  
Office: 863-519-2270  
Fax: 863-519-2892  
[steven.andrews@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:steven.andrews@dot.state.fl.us)

The meeting ended at approximately 12:07 PM.



# POLL RESPONSES



# Pine Island Road Shared Use Path - Project Advisory Group Meeting #1

Monday, Apr 26, 2021 10:12 AM EDT - 12:11 PM EDT

DOWNLOAD

Polls Survey Q&A

**4** **16** **78 %**  
Poll questions Attendees Avg. Response Rate

Q Search poll questions or answers

1 of 4. Do you think a shared use path would be a good addition to Pine Island Road? 12 of 16 Attendees responded

Multiple choice with single answer

83.33%	Yes	10 Responses
16.67%	No	2 Responses

2 of 4. Do you think the path would need to provide a CONTINUOUS connection from Pine Island to Cape Coral? 12 of 16 Attendees responded

Multiple choice with single answer

91.67%	Yes	11 Responses
8.33%	No	1 Responses

3 of 4. Do you think that there is a need to enhance pedestrian/bicyclist safety along Pine Island Road? 13 of 16 Attendees responded

Multiple choice with single answer

100%	Yes	13 Responses
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4 of 4. Do you think parking enhancements should be a priority? 13 of 16 Attendees responded

Multiple choice with single answer

69.23%	Yes	9 Responses
30.77%	No	4 Responses

You have reached the end of the list.

# **“MIND MAP” GROUP EXERCISE**

