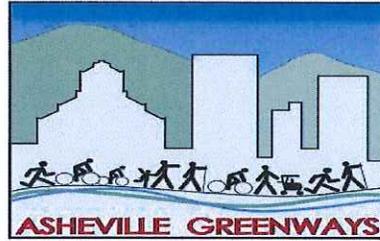


GREENWAY COMMITTEE AGENDA

August 14, 2014

3:30-5:00 pm

First Floor Conference Room-City Hall



3:30 pm - Meeting Opening

- Introductions
- August 14 2014 Agenda - review and approval
- July 10, 2014 Minutes – review and approval

3:45 pm Staff Updates

- Transportation –List of Projects (attached)

4:00 pm New Business

- Update on transition to MMTC – attached minutes of 4/9/13 - Cathy
- GC Work Session Thursday 10/30/14 1:30-5pm – Police/Fire Training Room – Municipal Bldg. – Bryan

4:20pm - Old Business

- Multimodal Plan Kickoff Party - Barb

4:25pm - Greenway Committee Updates:

- Multimodal Transportation Commission Update – Jim
- Community Outreach – Amy
- Friends of Hominy Creek: Amy
- Friends of Connect Buncombe: Lucy
- City of Asheville Parks and Recreation: Forrest
- Collaborative Greenway Partners: Lucy
- Asheville Parks & Greenway Foundation: Lucy/Kim
- Friends of Caney Creek: Rich
- Asheville Design Center: Mary
- UNCA Reed Creek: John

4:45pm - Public Comment

4:50pm – Discuss next Greenway Committee Meeting agenda items

5:00 Adjournment

Next Meeting: September 11, 2014 3:30-5pm, 1st Floor Conference Room, City Hall.

DRAFT
Greenway Committee Meeting Minutes
July 10, 2014

Members Present: Sue Barlow (chair), Bryan Mitchell (co-chair), Jim Grode, Mary Weber, John Ridout PhD, Forrest Merithew, Amy Vanden Heuvel, Lucy Crown, Rich Lee,

Staff Present: Barb Mee

Community Present: David Wilson (MMTC, transit committee), Dana Davis (Asheville Parks and Greenways Foundation), Greg (city transportation department)

Chair Barlow called the meeting to order at 3:31

Review and approval of 7/10/14 agenda – Mary moved and Forrest seconded; approved unanimously

Review and approve 6/12/14 minutes – Bryan moved and Forrest seconded; approved unanimously

Presentation by Dana Davis, Asheville Parks & Greenways Foundation

1. 2013-14 highlights: Get Moving Map; APGF office established at Pack Square Park Visitors Center (Paula Garber, administrator); Parks Day; Carrier Park Improvements; Parsec Prize of \$15,000 designated for foundation, \$7000 directed to Carrier Park improvements; Annual campaign goal \$275k, raised \$33,647.
2. July Events: Night Flight Race 7/12/14 and “Ale Share” Highlands Brewing Fundraiser projected to raise \$35-40k to be directed to East Asheville (Swannanoa?) greenway
3. Roles: Fundraising, fiscal management, advocacy, partnerships, education, greenways support for Town Branch, Clingman, Beaucatcher, East Asheville
4. Attendee David Wilson offered that value of new greenways needs to be represented to nearby communities in dollar amounts. Several committee members responded that research such as such as at <http://americantrails.org> does quantify the economic benefit of greenways.

Staff Transportation Updates

1. Barb reported on attached list of projects. Some news: JARC signals final approval has been obtained. Barb will ask about Multimodal Plan Kickoff Party – committee has not been aware of it. Duke Energy tract consultant still in negotiations. Beaucatcher Greenway – Barb will check if Stewart can present on progress at upcoming meeting.

New Committee Members Introduced

1. Lucy Crown
2. Forrest Merithew

New Multimodal Transit Commission Member Suggested

1. Previously there have been 3 representatives from each committee
2. The new formula is 2 members representing each interest group (greenway, transit, bike/ped) not necessarily drawn from committees, plus 3 at-large members. Because of members rolling off committee, all 3 members being recommended will be at-large. They will be asked to participate in committees, but will not be required to.
3. Jim offered that this is to bring the commission in line with other city appointed commissions. Several members offered that this is confusing.
4. Rich: Greenway Committee should always put forward a GC member for any opening in the interest of continuity and having strong GC representation.
5. Bryan: Only John Ridout should be put forward this round, to avoid diluting his chances.
6. Rich seconded. Motion to submit John Ridout for MMTC was approved unanimously.

Mary asked to have retreat in September or October

1. Proposed business: discuss Beaverdam and Swannanoa greenway RFP put out in October 2013 by Parks & Rec and withdrawn soon thereafter.
2. Committee and Mission Statement workshop, per Sue

Jim on I-26 Public Meeting

1. East side of I-26 greenway ("West Asheville Greenway" on Master Plan) may be infeasible because of historic property. May possibly need to be on west side of I-26. If infeasible on the east side, NCDOT may be under no obligation to design and build it. Suggested (at MMTC meeting) adding language that alignment isn't final or detailed enough to Greenway Master Plan.
2. Discussion among members -- is that language binding enough? Jim: There is general agreement that it is, this is better than going through the process of rewriting and reapproving the Master Plan.

Sue on GC Liasons

1. Friends of Hominy Creek: Was Marcia, now Amy
2. Friends of Connect Buncombe: was Marcia, now Lucy
3. Parks and Rec: Forrest
4. Collaborative Greenway Partners: was Marcia, now Lucy and/or Kim
5. Friends of Caney Creek: Rich
6. Asheville Design Center: Mary Weber
7. UNCA Reed Creek: John

Jim on MMTC Update

1. Most of last meeting's discussion was about parking concerns unrelated to GC.
2. Voted to add Lucy and Forrest to Greenway Committee

3. MMTC was asked to endorse grant for STP-DA & TA funding to MPO. Likely used to apply toward RADTIP if awarded (right-of-way, free city matching money for other projects, 1 replacement bus, and a bike share study)

John on UNCA Reed Creek status

1. To be completed in December, October 9 Ribbon Cutting in conjunction with Bulldog Bicycle Bonanza. Will explore GC and city representation at ribbon cutting.

Rich on Duke Energy Tract

1. Pole moving project started, to be completed by end-of-year. Duke will coordinate on stakeholder walkthrough after.

Amy on Outreach

1. Need to create a calendar of events, leverage volunteer list and get talking points.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00

Transportation Planning Division
Project update
July 23rd, 2014

On-going

- RADTIP

RADTIP - The final design process is underway. The aerial survey and ground survey are both complete. The consultant is updating the traffic analysis, and later in the summer will present options for additional improvements to the intersection of Craven St. and Riverside Drive. The consultants will present a preliminary design in November of 2014 and are expected to complete the final design by December of 2015. Right of way acquisition is planned for 2016.

The consultants were in town July 22nd and 23rd to meet with city staff. Also, we are applying for funding for Right of Way through the STP-DA call for projects at the French Broad River MPO.

- East of the Riverway Transportation Network Plan
 - Final draft is pending staff review and minor corrections.
- JARC Signals Design contract
 - Locations:
 - Louisiana & Haywood Rd
 - McDowell & Choctaw
 - South Charlotte & Biltmore
 - NCDOT has approved the final design and consultant is preparing the cost estimates.
- Multi-modal Transportation Plan.
 - Kick off meeting was June 27.
 - Branding to MMTTC to select the final.
 - First POC meeting planned for August 14, 2014.
- French Broad River Greenway (Duke Energy property) and connection between FBR Park and Carrier Park
 - RFQ evaluation process in the final steps. Staff will bring the contract to Council on August 26.
- Nextbus project
 - 100% implemented. Equipment installed and operational
 - Communications campaign on-going
- ISO 14000 - ART
 - Contract signed and project on-going.
- Charlotte Street

- RFQ is in process and will be released around December.
- ADA restructuring
 - Redefine service area
 - Streamline eligibility process

New

- Transit Station repairs
 - Working with CIP group in scope of work –

Other efforts

- TIGER VI grant application
 - Submitted April 28.
- Clingman Forest and Town Branch Greenways and Depot Street Roundabout (led by Al Kopf in Parks and Recreation Department).
 - Roundabout construction drawings are complete.
 - Greenways, final plans are expected by the end of the month.
- Beaucatcher Greenway: drawings are progressing in terms of certain portions of the construction documents being completed but staff is still working out some right-of-way questions before consultant can progress further.
- Haywood Rd. Multimodal Improvements (led by Robert Kun in PW). Staff received the encroachment agreement from NCDOT. Council approved the condemnation of the easement area of the last remaining property. We are ready to advertise, but the project has been put on hold.
- Paving FY14: City crews have completed ditching and clipping on all of the required streets. They have patched Ambler and are now Milling and patching on Vermont. The contractor has patched Fairway and has begun patching on Church.
- NCDOT Easement Acquisition: Have a signed easement from the Burleson Bros.. The daughter of the deceased property owner has contacted me and I should have some details on their easement soon.
- Gracelyn Rd. Sidewalk: Kun visited the project site, compiled pertinent information, and received a base map from John White. He has made plans for three different scenarios with accompanying estimates.
- Hendersonville Rd. sidewalk (led by Brian Estes in PW).
 - Design – Initial plan design continues.

Major changes:

We are in the final stage of comments from the Parkway. We will submit final plans to the Parkway for that section next week.

The analysis of the proposed design of the sidewalk at the Dingle Creek Shopping Center has indicated that it would create a rise in the floodway. I am looking into alternative designs to address this issue.

Approximately half of the easements for section 1 have been signed.

Section 1 (Seminole St. to Blue Ridge Parkway) and 2 (BRP to Long Shoals Rd.) are approximately 80% designed.

- Craven St. (led by McCray Coates in PW).

The Craven Street Project will be kicking off on July 21. Tennoca is the contractor for the project.

Tuesday – April 9, 2013- 5:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Present: Mayor Terry M. Bellamy, Presiding; Vice-Mayor Esther E. Manheimer; Councilman Cecil Bothwell; Councilman Jan B. Davis (left meeting at 6:39 p.m.); Councilman Marc W. Hunt; Councilman Christopher A. Pelly; Councilman Gordon D. Smith; City Manager Gary W. Jackson; Deputy City Manager Jeffrey Richardson; City Attorney Robert W. Oast Jr.; and City Clerk Magdalen Burleson

Absent: None

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

A. BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Regarding the Greater Asheville Regional Airport Authority, the following individuals applied for the vacancy: Albert Anderson, Bradley Cain, Julian Jones, Aixa Wilson, Ken Hawkins, Charles Larrick, John Hayler, George Lycan and Grant Osborne. In addition, two late applications received were from Douglas Tate and Phillip Kelley. It was the consensus of City Council to interview Grant Osborne, Douglas Tate, Phillip Kelley, Albert Anderson, John Hayler and George Lycan.

Regarding the Citizens-Police Advisory Committee, the following individuals have applied for the vacancy: Karl Katterjohn, Fred Cooke, Scott Steele and Grant Osborne. Because the vacancy is for a south representative and only one applicant from the south applied, it was the consensus of Council to re-advertise.

Regarding the Neighborhood Advisory Committee, the following individuals with the 28803 or 28704 zip code have applied for the vacancy: Teddy Jordan, Aixa Wilson Spencer Hardaway, Neil Barrett, Amy Evans and Grant Osborne. It was the consensus of City Council to interview Amy Evans and Spencer Hardaway.

Multimodal Transportation Commission

Executive Director of Public Works and Multimodal Transportation Cathy Ball updated Council on the possible creation of a Multimodal Transportation Committee which will eliminate the formal Council appointed Greenway Commission and Transit Commission.

At the February 2013 Boards and Commissions meeting, staff presented a model for combining/augmenting various transportation and neighborhood related boards by forming a Multimodal Transportation Commission.

Since then staff and/or Council members have met with the various boards and commissions and have tweaked the initial recommendations. After additional discussions, and after the Boards & Commissions Committee meeting on April 9, it was the consensus of staff and the Boards & Commissions Committee that the membership of the Multimodal Transportation Commission be as follows: 3 members of the Transit Commission (which will now be the Transit subcommittee), 3 members of the Greenway Commission (which will now be the Greenway subcommittee) and 3 members of the Bike and Pedestrian Task Force, with 1 ex-officio non-voting member from the Planning & Zoning Commission, 1 ex-officio non-voting member from the Neighborhood Advisory Committee and 1 ex-officio non-voting member from the Sustainable Advisory Committee on Energy & the Environment. Those names will be provided to City Clerk

Burleson to include in the resolution appointing members, noting that City Council will have the ultimate authority to endorse those members.

The Transit Commission and the Greenway Commission discussed the roles of the subcommittees. While the subcommittees will receive technical support and staff attendance at meetings, they would not staff the meetings in terms of taking minutes, preparing the agendas, etc. The Greenway Commission has requested that Council consider that they have dual relationships with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Multimodal Transportation Commission. They requested a relationship with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for the purpose of making recommendations on the aesthetics of greenways, such as benches and lighting.

In meeting with the Transit Commission and the Greenway Commission, there were some strong suggestions about the process for appointments on the sub-committees and the Multimodal Transportation Commission. The current members of these commissions had concerns over having a balanced sub-committee if there was no structure. Staff recommendations address their concerns.

This action would comply with one of Council's Strategic Goals by supporting multimodal transportation planning.

Pros:

- Compliments the organizational alignment of the organization.
- Reduces the number of Council Appointed Commissions by one.

Con:

- None.

Because this is an update only, staff recommended that (1) an ordinance establishing the Multimodal Transportation Commission be placed on the May 14 agenda; (2) ordinances repealing the Transit Commission and the Greenway Commission be placed on the June 11 agenda; and (3) a resolution appointing members to the Multimodal Transportation Commission be placed on the June 11 agenda with an effective date of July 1, 2013.

Councilman Hunt understood that once the ordinance creating the Multimodal Transportation Commission is adopted, the Greenway Commission and the Transit Commission ordinances would then be repealed. He felt that when the Multimodal Transportation Commission is created the Greenway subcommittee and Transit subcommittee may not have traction to remain in existence. He totally supported the initial recommendations by the Greenway Commission, Transit Commission and Bike & Pedestrian Task Force; however, was uncertain about having to rely on the then-subcommittees to make a recommendation for a vacancy is troubling. He felt that was too much reliance on the existence of subcommittees. He supported flexibility and less structure by allowing the Multimodal Transportation Commission the flexibility to create subcommittees that they feel are important. He suggested language in the ordinance that states that the Multimodal Transportation Commission has the authority to designate subcommittees that they feel are important.

Ms. Ball said that she has met with the Chairs and members of the Transit Commission, Greenway Commission and Bike & Pedestrian Task Force to address the issue of making sure that the subcommittees exist and do provide meaningful input to the City in making decisions. For example, if the City has a Transit subcommittee, there are several federal requirements that must be met in order for the City to receive funding.

Ms. Ball further explained that after the first year as positions become vacant on the subcommittees (with the exception of the Bike and Pedestrian Task Force), the Transit and Greenway subcommittee members would be appointed by the Multimodal Transportation

Commission with applicants submitting their applications to the Multimodal Transportation Commission. The Multimodal Transportation Commission would then appoint the members to the subcommittees so we continue to make sure those groups are balanced. Some concern expressed was that if people are not appointed to a subcommittee, they don't tend to regularly show up or give as good of input. When the ordinance is drafted, staff will try to include that structure so that people feel comfortable that that role is not being diminished.

VII. INFORMAL DISCUSSION AND PUBLIC COMMENT:

Closed Session

At 6:49 p.m., Councilman Pelly moved to go into closed session for the following reasons: (1) To consult with an attorney employed by the City about matters with respect to which the attorney-client privilege between the City and its attorney must be preserved, including potential litigation. The statutory authorization is contained in G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3); and (2) To prevent disclosure of information that is privileged and confidential, pursuant to the laws of North Carolina, or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes. The law that makes the information privileged and confidential is N.C.G.S. 143-318.10(e). The statutory authorization is contained in N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1). This motion was seconded by Councilman Smith and carried unanimously.

At 7:38 p.m., Councilman Bothwell moved to come out of closed session. This motion was seconded by Councilman Pelly and carried unanimously.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Bellamy adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

Multi-Modal Transportation Commission

