

**Multi-Modal Transportation Commission
Agenda
March 25, 2015
3:00-5:00 PM
1st Floor Conference Room
City Hall**

3:00 pm – Meeting Opening

- Welcoming of members, staff and public
- Introductions
- March 25, 2015– Agenda – review and approval
- February 25, 2015 Minutes – review and approval

3:10 pm - Public Comment - I

3:15 pm – New Business

- Sidewalks – CIP list from last year’s projects – attached - Mariate
- Maintaining Pedestrian Traffic during construction - Barb
- Traffic calming program- Ken or Jeff

4:15 pm – Old Business

- Sidewalk Planning Committee update —Mariate
- AIM Updates
- MMTC Retreat Update

4:30pm - General Committee Updates

- Transit Committee
- Greenway Committee
- Bike/Ped Task Force
- P & Z Commission
- Sustainable Advisory Committee;
- Neighborhood Advisory Commission

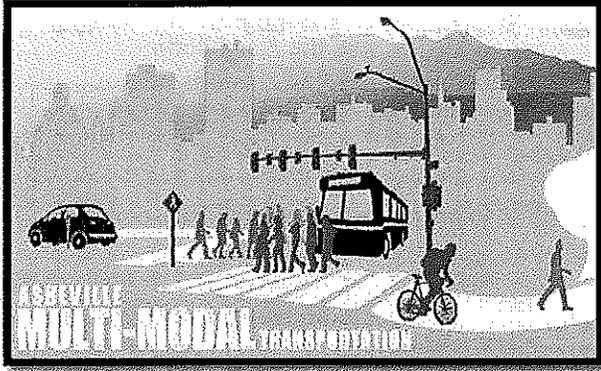
4:45 pm – Staff Updates

- Project Updates – attached (Mariate)

4:50 pm – Public Comment - II

4:55 pm - Next Meeting Agenda Items

5:00 pm - Meeting Adjournment



**Multi-Modal Transportation Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 25, 2015
3:00-5:00 PM
1st Floor Conference Room -
City Hall**

Commission Members Attending: Jim Grode, Bruce Emory, Julie Mayfield, Till Dohse, Terri March, , Mary Weber, Bob Roepnack, Steven Obremski, Kristy Carter, Don Kostelec.

Commission Members Absent: Josh O'Connor, John Ridout

Council Liaison: Gwen Wisler

COA Staff Members: Mariate Echeverry, Janet GeorgeMurr, Gregg Godwin, Martha McGlohon, Barb Mee, Chad Bandy.

Community Members: David Wilson

▪ **February 25, 2015 Agenda:** Bruce stated that he will have an announcement later in the meeting. Steven moved to approve the agenda Bruce seconded; carried unanimously.

▪ **January 28, 2014 Minutes:** Bruce moved to approve the minutes with minor edits; Steven seconded; carried unanimously.

• **Public Comment:** None

• **New Business:**

♦ **E-Cigarettes** - City Attorney, Martha McGlohon requested an endorsement by MMTC to approve the ordinance amending Chapter 11 of the Code of Ordinances pertaining to Smoking. Following a number of complaints from riders of the City's transit buses, pertaining to secondhand exposure to vapors released from e-cigarettes, the City's Transit Committee requested that the City's Smoking Ordinance be amended to include e-cigarettes; Safety Committee also approved the amended ordinance. Martha presented the staff report and the revised Ordinance for MMTC review. After a group discussion, -Julie moved to approve the endorsement to amend the Chapter 11 Ordinance Pertaining to Smoking; Bruce seconded; carried unanimously.

• **Closure of Right-of-Way Bradley Street** – Chad Bandy, Manager, City of Asheville Street Division stated that MMTC had approved this closure before, but the survey metes and bounds needed to change. After a group discussion, -Steven moved to approve the closure with the change; Mary seconded; carried unanimously.

• **MMTC approval of two Transit Committee Members:** – After MMTC reviewed the applications and group discussion, Julie moved to approve Brooke German and Ed Johnson as Transit Committee members; Bruce seconded; carried unanimously.

• **Greenway Feasibility Study Endorsement:** Mary recommends MMTC to move forward with the feasibility study with a ranking system. It is desirable to always having greenways in the pipeline and the feasibility study would identify the greenway to prevent delays; and to set aside CIP funds (as operational budget) as a placeholder as recommended by Mariate. The ranking by the Greenway Committee as follows:

1. Swannanoa River Road, Amboy to Tunnel Road
2. Reed Creek Connection South to Downtown to Clingman;
3. French Broad River West from New Belgium to Richmond Hill

Julie stated that Swannanoa River Road to Tunnel is also in the 10 year STIP DOT list. After a group discussion, Julie moved to have a full analysis of the Swannanoa River Road if there is sufficient funding for the Swannanoa River Road; Bruce seconded and carried unanimously.

●**Neighborhood Festival Participation** – Bob announced the 2015 Asheville Festival of Neighborhood on Sunday, March 15 at the AB Tech in the Ferguson Building. An agenda was provided to MMTC and the Neighborhood Policy. B Outline Proposal for review. The Greenway Committee will have table at the festival to have this benefit sidewalks and infield. Barb Mee will have surveys for the participants to complete regarding sidewalks. Bob encouraged MMTC representation.

●**City Council Retreat**: Julie stated that the good news is that City Council is focusing on multimodal transportation, UDO and development

●**ANNOUNCEMENT**: Bruce announced that NCDOT drafted a State rail plan which includes passenger service from Asheville to Salisbury in the 2020-2035 year plan. Bruce recommended going to the website ncbytrain.org NCDOT for further information. Comments are due by March 21st.

OLD BUSINESS

●**Retreat Update**: Terri will be sending to MMTC a Retreat Poll requesting date preferences, availability and rank topics to discuss.

●**Sidewalk Planning Committee Update**: Mariate stated that a policy draft and priorities to bring to Council when policy is ready. Also, recommending going to the neighborhoods for input as to what are the most important criteria.

1. To have a program established and produce a list of priorities; and
2. The Committee met in November and discussed sidewalks at Tunnel Road and New Haw Creek.
3. CIP drew the cost estimates for FY15/16 in the amount of \$218,000; and
4. Mariate recommended MMTC to move forward on the design around the right-of-way issues; bridges.
5. Developing a CIP list by April and ways to increase sidewalk funding to reallocate funds.

Other MMTC recommendations:

1. Bond issue;
2. Sidewalk utility fee;

Steven move to support this project and keeping in mind the accessibility issue and ADA pedestrian sign accessibility, Julie seconded; carried unanimously.

General Committee Updates:

●**Transit Committee**: Julie announced the ADA public meeting on 2/26/15.

●**Greenway Committee**: Mary reported:

1. Duke has granted permission to enter land for engineering. Design phase will be done by end of September.
2. Parks update on Beaucatcher community and considering alternatives to reduce ROW impact. Construction drawings completed; and a meeting on 2/26 was cancelled due to weather and to be rescheduled.
3. Rhododendron Greenway – resident on Davenport would like access to Hominy Creek trail which ends at the Amory property and needs permission to use City of Asheville parking lot.
4. Smith Mill Creek Greenway – found walk through study from 2011; not full feasibility study. Need to identify routes in advance of I-26 connector; a lot of constraints; recommends feasibility study

●**Bike/Ped Task Force**: Terri reported that a pilot effort for Grove Park neighborhood speed reduction program called “PACE car.” Neighborhood would make a pledge to go the speed limit; and a parallel program on safe route initiative; a Walk Friendly Route meeting on 3/11/15.

●**P&Z**: Kristy reported that March 19th is the next meeting to discuss planning issues.

●**Neighborhood Advisory Committee**: Bob reported on the 3/15/15 Neighborhood Festival; and in May to go to different quadrants of neighborhoods to involve each neighbor.

STAFF UPDATES:

◆**Project updates:** Mariate stated that the updates are in the List of Projects document. Announced the Asheville in Motion (AIM) Charrette 3/11-14/15; Mariate will send MMTC schedule.

●**Public Comment:** None

●**Agenda Items:** East of Riverway endorsement; sidewalks-CIP list from last year project.

4:40pm – Jim adjourned the meeting

Transportation Planning Division
Project update
March 25, 2015

On-going

- **RADTIP**
 - The design process for RADTIP is ongoing.
 - The target date to begin right-of-way acquisition is July of 2015.
 - The start of construction is targeted for 2017.
 - Consultants delivered 25% complete design plans.
 - Staff review of construction plans is underway.
 - Public meeting anticipated in early summer.

- **East of the Riverway Transportation Network Plan**
 - Still pending a few final changes, mostly maps.

- **JARC Signals Design contract**
 - Locations:
 - Louisiana & Haywood Rd
 - McDowell & Choctaw
 - South Charlotte & Biltmore
 - Firming up funding to move forward with two of three signals

- **Asheville in Motion Plan.**
 - Charrette produced the street and community typology needed to continue the project. Eight strategic corridors were on the list, featuring geographic location, type of land use served, and different typologies. We had 108 attendees. Report will be read by the end of April. The next steps are to refine the scenario analysis, develop a street design priority matrix, corridor profiles, and typical sections and provide prioritization criteria to apply these principles in future projects and symposium #2.

- **French Broad River Greenway** (Duke Energy property) and connection between FBR Park and Carrier Park
 - Staff was accessed to the property from Duke and the surveying has been completed. The consultants, Stewart Engineering are working on the design and will have 25% level design complete in late April. Consultants will be in town the week of 3/23/15 for site work.

- **ISO 14000 - ART**
 - Desk review with no findings.

- **Charlotte Street**
 - This project has been delayed until FY16.

- **ADA restructuring**
 - No updates

New

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

Other efforts

- **TIGER VI grant application**
 - Awarded and going through the steps to sign the grant agreement.
- **Clingman Forest and Town Branch Greenways and Depot Street Roundabout**
 - Staff is working out the land acquisition in the next months; completing the documents needed for Categorical Exclusion status; and working on construction timelines for 2017 with Capital Projects Team.
- **Beaucatcher Greenway:**
 - The construction drawings are progressing which was provided by staff in February regarding the greenway alignment and design features. The open house in February was cancelled due to inclement weather and staff is developing an alternative means to share information and gather comments.
- **Haywood Rd.**
 - Multimodal Improvements (led by Robert Kun in PW). Preliminary striping for lane shift and bike lane complete. Produced AutoCAD drawing for artwork and sent to involved party. Go-ahead from Legal that the condemnation process is to the point that they can proceed with the project. Met with sidewalk art group to discuss design, materials and locations of artwork. They have received the encroachment agreement from NCDOT. Staff received the encroachment agreement from NCDOT. The project has been put on hold in order to allow cyclists' access to Waynesville Ave while the Craven Street project is finished. No additional updates.
- **Craven Street**
 - All the water line installation has been completed. The stream restoration work has begun. The retaining walls associated with the Greenway and the stream is expected to be completed by mid-May. The bridge for the greenway is expected to be installed by early summer. Progress is expected to pick up with warm weather.
- **Hendersonville Rd. sidewalk** (led by John Gavin and Alvin Fuller in PW).
 - Plan and Bid documents are being finalized for submission to NCDOT. The language of all easements have been agreed upon. All but 2 haven been signed. ROW certifications has been filed with NCDOT and awaiting approval and hopes to advertise the project June 1, 2015.
- **Craven St.** (led by McCray Coates in PW).
 - Construction activities continue to move along. The arch culvert has been installed and the road is now open between Waynesville Ave. and Georgia Ave. Work is currently taking place between Waynesville Ave. and Hazel Mill, this section of roadway is closed and is

expected to be closed until spring, the roadway in this section is nearing finished elevation. The rough grading for the greenway is taking place with the sewer line is completed. The fill for the LID parking lot is in with continued work on the sidewalk and stone placement in the parking lot. The reconfiguration of Hazel Mill Road and Emma Road had taken place and is open to traffic currently. The water line construction is moving forward with and is expected to be completed by April.

- **New Haw Creek Sidewalk:**

- Project has been pushed back to FY16-17. Recommendations given by NCDOT. New plans and estimates have been made based on recommendation and presented to Ken Putnam. Have rough estimate on pedestrian bridge and exploring options.

- **Shiloh Road Sidewalk Project:** Construction is complete.

- Contractor's Waiver of Lien has been received, final payment has been made to the contractor, and the Final Acceptance Letter has been issued with Armen Construction.

- **Lake Craig/Azalea Road Improvements:**

- Construction of the project is in its final stages. It is with excitement that the new traffic patterns are in place. The major components of the project are complete with some additional work in the area of the stream bank necessary. NCDOT has constructed the turning lanes and the traffic signal signals are functioning. The final stages of the water connections should be made over the next 4-6 weeks. The project is expected to be finalized by mid-April.