

Multi-Modal Transportation Commission
Agenda
April 22, 2015
3:00-5:00 PM
1st Floor Conference Room
City Hall

3:00 pm – **Meeting Opening**

- Welcoming of members, staff and public
- Introductions
- April 22, 2015– Agenda – review and approval
- March 25, 2015 Minutes – review and approval

3:10 pm - **Public Comment - I**

3:15 pm – **New Business**

- Multimodal allocation for CIP – Mariate and Barbara Whitehorn, Director of Finance
- Discussion of creating a standing subcommittee of MMTC that meets regularly w/NCDOT – Julie
- Discussion of publication of Commission and Committee minutes – Jim
- Ecusta Trail Endorsement - Mary

4:15 pm – **Old Business**

- MMTC Retreat Update
- Neighborhood Sidewalk Program - Mariate

4:30pm - **General Committee Updates**

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

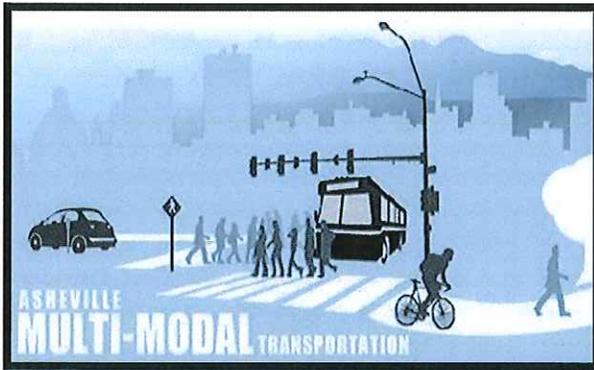
4:45 pm – **Staff Updates**

- 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
March 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, Kristy Carter and Don Kostelec.

Commission Members Absent: Josh O'Connor, John Ridout and Steven Obremski

Council Liaison: Absent

COA Staff Members: Mariate Echeverry, Martha McGlohon, Jeff Moore, Janet GeorgeMurr, Barb Mee.

Community Members: None

▪ March 25, 2015 Agenda: Request from Julie to add under Old Business: DOT Study on Pedestrian Safety; Mariate requested to combine sidewalk discussion under New Business and Old Business into one agenda item. Mary moved to approve the agenda with above mentioned edits; Bruce seconded; carried unanimously.

▪ February 25 2014 Minutes: Julie moved to approve the minutes; Bruce seconded; carried unanimously.

● **Public Comment:** None

New Business:

● **Sidewalks-CIP list from last year's projects:** Staff attended the Festival of Neighborhoods to obtain input on how to weigh the criteria for the Neighborhood Sidewalk Program. Tabulation will be available in approximately 3 weeks either through the Transit and Greenway Committees or to MMTC. A handout showing the list of candidates for FY13-14 for CIP consideration was discussed at the Transit and Greenway Committee meetings.

Q&A:

-Bruce asked the status of the GIS data – Barb stated that the data should be complete in a couple of days and the Neighborhood Sidewalk Committee meeting will be scheduled.

-Julie asked about the allocation of funding for multimodal projects in the CIP. MMTC will need to review the updated list to recommend where funding would be applied. Staff will review..

● **Maintaining Pedestrian Traffic During Construction:** Jim stated that the issue is during building projects often the sidewalks adjacent to those projects will be closed down without accommodation for pedestrian traffic. Does this get considered; what are the laws; and how to affect that.

-Barb explained that the laws for maintaining pedestrian traffic during construction are ADA and Federal Manual and Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

-Barb explained the process for street closure permitting to include special events, development and maintenance for private building; utility cuts and repairs; City projects and other request for street/lane closures.

-A question was asked if there is a policy in place for pedestrian safety during construction.

-Martha recommended reviewing the Public Works Department's factors, standards, guidelines in closing a sidewalk.

-Don stated that restoring the conditions after construction should also be part of the guidelines.

-Martha explained that in the restoration of cuts there is a process set forth in the Public Works Department and is contracted with MSD.

-Jeff stated that this could be added to the Standards and Specifications.

-Jim would like to see this moved forward as this will continue to be an issue as more development occurs and densifies.

-Terri stated not only to maintain the corridor for pedestrians during construction to include bicycling or any kind of transportation.

●**Traffic Calming Program:** Jeff reported that traffic calming is one of the most important issues that Transportation deals with and the biggest part is changing driver behavior.

Summary:

-Jeff is using a “tool box” of several different approaches.

-The most visible are speed humps. In order to meet the standard of fire coverage, a list of 25 of 27 locations for speed humps were submitted to the Fire Department, 18 did not meet the standards. The Fire Department loses up to 11 seconds of delay in areas that have speed humps.

-23 project locations for speed humps were recently submitted to the Fire Department.

-Jeff informs the neighborhoods by correspondence that they do not meet Fire Department’s standard of fire coverage but will try other means of traffic calming.

-Education; enforcement; and engineering, a three prong approach.

-Neighborhoods would pledge to drive the speed limit (to include stickers and signs in neighborhoods and in the City);

-“Shareways” is under discussion and development, which are streets that may never have a sidewalk, due to volume and/or location; to inform people to share the road with all modes of transportation; and the citizens are interested and willing to help.

-Jim stated that there are a lot of parallels between the traffic calming program and the Neighborhood Sidewalk Program.

-Jeff stated now that funding is available the need to determine how to implement the programs. The criteria is based on volume and speed.

-Jeff has determined from the counters that give speed and volume that speed is not the issue; therefore speed humps are not the appropriate treatment Traffic calming is being focused on speed humps for the funding.

-Bob suggests having the speed indicators.

-Jeff stated that the speed indicators are effective in school zones and in the future to have the same equipment installed at schools in Asheville.

-NCDOT has invited City Transportation to meet with the road safety review team to help with Spears and Annandale.

-NCDOT is also having a pedestrian study in Asheville. This is an opportunity to discuss Tunnel Rd, Patton Ave, and Leicester Hwy.

- Julie emphasizes that MMTC members need to be part of the study and list was sent to Ken.

-Jeff suggests that when DOT does the scoping to invite them to MMTC meeting to listen to some of the areas of concern.

-Julie stated this is a City problem and as multimodal leaders of this City need to be in the forefront. It is great that DOT is funding a study; but MMTC could bring a lot to the conversation that DOT is leading.

-Jeff will talk with Regional Safety Engineer from the Division,

OLD BUSINESS

● **AIM Update:** Mariate reported that the AIM Charrette was very successful.

Summary:

The consultants developed the street typologies during the charrette; consultant met with public and staff; 100+ in attendance; the consultants will produce a report and discuss the next steps. Next steps: Developing the priority matrix; develop land use community’s typologies in order to feed the transportation portion to determine how the priorities fall; a 2nd Symposium, date not yet determined.

●**Retreat Update:** Jim reported that the poll will be sent out to the MMTC members; and looking at May as the feasible date.

General Committee Updates:

●**Transit Committee (TC):** Julie reported:

1. TC gained 2 members and lost 1 member;
2. A Riverlink representative recommended lowering the advertising rates for non-profits; Mariate stated that staff will come back to TC due to unclear policy language; and will need to be discussed.
3. TC is working on a behavior guidelines for riders, drivers and the City’s system to have clarity on how to act and setting exceptions appropriately between and among those three entities; and the possibility of presenting at one of the MMTC meetings.

● **Greenway Committee (GC):** Mary reported:

1. In lieu of a regular meeting, GC took a field trip to the entire Swannanoa River proposed greenway which is one of the feasibility studies.
2. Visited Azalea Road with the new bridge and bikes lanes; and walked the section opposite the soccer fields which features wetlands, birding, agricultural area, and a connection to Highland Brewer which is interested in partnering with the City to help on greenway.
3. Toured the proposed Beverly Hills and Haw Creek greenways;
4. Future fields trips proposed – West Asheville
4. Discussion on advocacy with Council to have a multimodal feasible study to make the Azalea Road corridor adequate to handle the stresses that will be put on it and would be a priority, as well as the rest of the Swannanoa Greenway and Reed Creek extensions.

● **Bike/Ped Task Force:** Terri reported that there was not a meeting in February due to weather but will meet on 3/26/15;

1. Don reported that Bike Friendly and Walk Friendly application stats and the update;
2. Two “bike-friendly” community signs went up on Merrimon and Amboy Roads;
3. 515 participants in the Bike of the Irish;
4. Barb reported that the Task force is working with her on the Watch For Me application that is a pedestrian safety campaign that NCDOT provides.

● **P&Z:** Kristy reported that P&Z had mid-month meeting to start on the planning issues; but Kristy was unable to attend.

● **Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC):** Bob reported:

1. NAC very interested in the Sidewalk Committee. Marsha gave a presentation and questions generated as to why Haw Creek was picked for sidewalks without the criteria. Alan Glines of Planning would like to be informed on the criteria developed by the Sidewalk Committee.
2. City wide clean up date in April with all neighborhoods in conjunction with Asheville Greenwerks.
3. Evaluation of Festival of Neighborhood and the comments on the feedback were mostly positive and well attended;
4. In May there will be East Regional Planning meeting. More information is forthcoming.

SACEE: Julie reported:

1. Ken did a presentation on U-Haul Car Sharing Program.
2. Trying to do more marketing on social media of the Car Sharing program with Ken.
3. Engaging some nonprofits to help promote to their members i.e., Asheville on Bikes, Mountain True, etc.
4. Talking with the Convention and Visitor’s Bureau advertising in the tourist package.
5. Terri stated that Ken mentioned that several downtown residents have foregone their vehicle due to the Car Sharing Program.

STAFF UPDATES:

♦ **Project updates:** Mariate stated the City received 25% design drawings for the RADTIP, staff is reviewing it and the next step is to have a public meeting to be determined in the next two months.

-Bruce asked about the New Hawk Creek Sidewalk that pushed back to FY16-17. Staff will find out.

● **Public Comment:** None

● **Agenda Items:**

1. CIP project funding on multimodal allocation;
2. Discussion on creating a standing subcommittee of MMTC that meets regularly with NCDOT.

4:25pm – Jim adjourned the meeting

Transportation Planning Division
Project update
April 22, 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
 - A site visit with staff, Stewart Engineering, Site Design Studios and Baker Engineering to discuss the terrain and other design challenges. Several trail alignments are feasible. The consultants are continuing to work on the designs and plan to have the 25% designs finished by mid-May. Staff is waiting on survey information from Duke Power. Everything is on schedule.

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

- **Charlotte Street**
 - This project has been delayed until FY19.

- **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 for the greenway and trailheads are in progress and due to be completed in May. The open house in February was cancelled due to inclement weather and staff is developing an online site for individuals to view the presentation in the near future. Individuals will be able to contribute comments via the site as well. A public meeting is tentatively scheduled for June when information regarding the greenway will be also shared in person.

- **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**

- 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 Rd, this section of roadway is closed and is expected to be closed until spring, and the roadway in this section is nearing finished elevation and is expected to be paved by the end of April. The rough grading for the greenway is taking place with the sewer line 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 complete. With warmer weather, the project is

expected to accelerate. The stream restoration work has begun with the wall treatment being constructed currently.

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

- Construction of the project is in its final stages, the contractor is currently working on the punch list items. It is with excitement that the new traffic patterns are in place. The streambank work has been finalized. NCDOT has constructed the turning lanes and the traffic signals are functioning. The final stages of the water connections should be made over the next couple of weeks. The project is expected to be totally completed by end of April.

- **Livingston St. Complete Streets**

- RFQ has been released, due date April 30.

CPMD Project Narrative Report

CPMD PM: Alvin Fuller

Cedar Street Bridge Rehab

Feasibility study has been completed by WSP, Inc. Recommendations have been made and the findings have been reported to the Public Works Streets Division. Awaiting funding to implement recommendations.

Milestones:

Right of Way:

Last Project Update On: 3/30/2015

Hendersonville Rd Sidewalk

Right-of-Way Certification has been obtained. Preparing erosion control submittal to NCDOT, plan to submit Wednesday, April 1, 2015. We will also submit final plans for Categorical Exclusion Wednesday. After receiving both approvals, we will submit the final plans and contract to NCDOT for Authorization to Construct.

Milestones:

Mar15 - Easements Complete

Right of Way:

3 - to be recorded
24 - Complete

Last Project Update On: 3/30/2015

Lakeshore Drive Sidewalk Improvements

All major construction is complete. Contractor to install final pavement markings this week (3/30 thru 4/3). Walk thru will be scheduled for next week to close the project out.

Milestones:

Final Walk Thru - 4/6/2015

Right of Way:

N/A

Last Project Update On: 3/30/2015

S. Lexington Utility Relocation

Invoice from Duke Energy has been paid. Awaiting the scheduling of the work order. David Martin in the contact at Duke.

Milestones:

Mar15 - Begin construction

Right of Way:

2 - Donated

Last Project Update On: 3/30/2015

Shiloh Road Sidewalk Improvements

The project is complete. Final invoice was paid on March 3, 2015. Final Acceptance Letter was issued March 4, 2015. Lein Waiver has been received. (Armen Construction is the contractor.)

Milestones:

Feb15 - Project Completion. Final Acceptance

Right of Way:

13 - donated

Last Project Update On: 3/30/2015

CPMD PM: Chuck Watson

Concrete Maintenance

Contractor is still working on Montford due to additional work orders. Also, contractor will be starting a project on Victoria Road next week to coincide with spring break for AB and Asheville High.

Milestones:

Construction ongoing

Right of Way:

None

Last Project Update On: 3/27/2015

CPMD Project Narrative Report

Downtown Cleaning

Held kickoff meeting for new contract this week. PW staff suggested several modifications to contract. Will start working on contract in two weeks

Milestones:

Right of Way:

none required

Last Project Update On: 3/27/2015

Montford, Soco, Cullowhee Intersection Improvement

We have been given the go-ahead by Transportation to advertise this project. Expect to advertise the week of April 13.

Milestones:

Design Phase

Right of Way:

None

Last Project Update On: 3/24/2015

Transit Station Fuel Tank Installation

Checked with contractor on 3/24 and due to delay in receiving materials it appears that construction will begin in late May.

Milestones:

Pre-construction meeting scheduled

Right of Way:

None

Last Project Update On: 3/24/2015

CPMD PM: Robert Kun

Haywood Multimodal

Likely delay of start, may begin Summer '15. Revised estimate to \$268k from \$220k due to recent rise in contractor bids. Will likely need an additional \$70k in funds to complete this project. A total of 20-on-street parking spaces are proposed on the West side of the road from Riverview Dr to Avon Ave, and revised estimate to reflect this. Right-of-entry agreements renewed with property owners. Preliminary striping for lane shift and bike lane are complete.

Milestones:

Design Phase Complete, All Easements Acquired, Waiting on Craven St. Project

Right of Way:

8 Donated - 1 Condemned

Last Project Update On: 3/30/2015

New Haw Creek Sidewalk

Project has been pushed back to FY16-17. Recommendations given by NCDOT. New plans and estimates (\$219,000 plus money for City Staff time) have been made based on recommendations and presented to Ken Putnam. Have rough estimate on pedestrian bridge and are exploring options.

Milestones:

Design Phase

Right of Way:

None Yet

Last Project Update On: 3/30/2015

CPMD Project Narrative Report

Paving FY 14

All streets have been paved. We are currently working on the Punch List. We have moved Shiloh to FY15 paving in order to accommodate the recent sidewalk project there. It is estimated that there will be \$257,000 remaining after the payment of the final invoice. Current estimate for paving Shiloh is \$160,000 and at least that much will need to be moved to FY15 budget to pay for it.

Milestones:

Right of Way:

Last Project Update On: 3/30/2015

Paving FY15

Gathering quantities and taking core samples for individual streets. Maps and cross-sections prepared for all streets. Work has begun on contract documents.

Milestones:

Roads Selected, Cross Sections and Maps Complete

Right of Way:

None

Last Project Update On: 3/30/2015

CPMD PM: Vinnie Sullivan

482 Sunset Drive Retaining Wall

Coping, curb, and guardrail installation completed. Road repair started last week, milling to continue this week, with safety rail and wall painting work as well. Contractor to continue removing bench materials.

Milestones:

Right of Way:

1 donated

Last Project Update On: 4/6/2015

Bent Tree Retaining Wall

Project construction complete. Final piece of asphalt paving to be completed this week, weather permitting, then submit final pay app.

Milestones:

Right of Way:

2 donated

Last Project Update On: 3/24/2015

Finalee Avenue Retaining Wall

Pile installation continuing; bench getting lowered and piles lowered to new bench level for anchors installation.

Milestones:

Feb15 - Begin Construction

Right of Way:

1 purchased

Last Project Update On: 4/6/2015

Leucothoe Lane

No Change - Consultant conducted project kick-off meeting with the City and Biltmore Farms. Next step is confirming funding of the project, still chasing that down.

Milestones:

Conducted project kick-off meeting, waiting for budget from Greg Shuler

Right of Way:

Last Project Update On: 4/6/2015