

**Multi-Modal Transportation Commission
Agenda
August 27, 2014
3:00-5:00 PM
1st Floor Conference Room
City Hall**

3:00 pm – **Meeting Opening**

- Welcoming of members, staff and public
- Introductions
- August 27, 2014– Agenda – review and approval
- July 23, 2013 Minutes – review and approval

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

3:15 pm – **New Business**

- Walk Your City Wayfinding Presentation – Matt Tomasulo, Walk Your City
- On-Street Bike Parking Presentation – Mike Sule, Asheville on Bikes
- Closure of an Unopened Right-of Way off of Broad Street - attached report - Richard Grant
- Closure of a portion of Bradley Street – attached report– Richard Grant

4:00 pm – **Old Business**

- Sidewalk Planning – Ken
- Multimodal Plan Update – Mariate and Till

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

- Transit Committee
- Greenway Committee
- Bike/Ped Task Force
- Ex-Officio members' updates: on P & Z Commission; Sustainable Advisory Committee; Neighborhood Advisory Commission

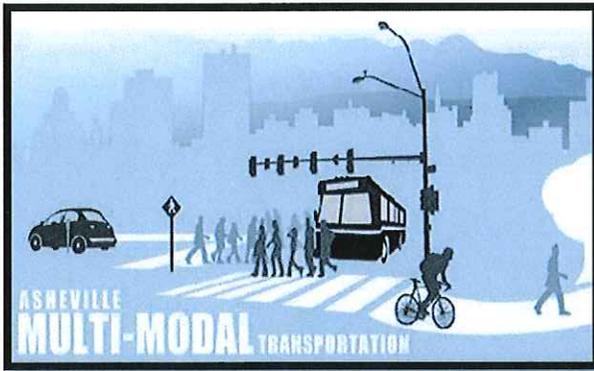
4:45 pm – **Staff Updates**

- 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
July 23, 2014
3:00-5:00 PM
1st Floor North Conference Room
City Hall**

Commission Members Attending: Jim Grode, Bruce Emory, Mary Weber, Till Dohse, Kristy Carter, Julie Mayfield, Terri March, Josh O'Conner

Commission Members Absence: Don Kostelec and Bob Roepnack

Council Liaison: Gwen Wisler

COA Staff Members: Ken Putnam, Mariate Echeverry, Martha McGlohon, Stephanie Monson and Janet GeorgeMurr,

Community Members: David Allen Wilson, Michael Sule and Gwynn Simpson.

- 3:00 pm - Jim Grode opened the meeting and welcomed Josh O'Conner replacing Lael Gray as the SACEE Liaison.
- July 23, 2014 Agenda: Approved unanimously.
- June 25, 2014 Minutes: Bruce motioned to approve the minutes; Terri seconded; carried unanimously.

● **Public Comment:** Michael Sule of Director of Asheville on Bikes. The mission is to cultivate the culture of urban and commuter riding through advocacy and events and push active transportation towards bikes.

- a. Michael has been working with staff member Barb Mee through the Bike/Ped Task Force with the idea of on-street bicycle parking or corral parking in automobile parking spaces.
- b. Asheville on Bikes will help fund and push it forward to get on the ground soon.
- c. Ken stated MMTC will be included in updates and that Transportation Dept will include Michael in a number of issues.
- d. Haywood Rd belongs to DOT and is a US business route. DOT may have issue with bike racks that are close to the travel lane, but this could be worked through.
- e. Another issue is City streets where there are metered parking how would the bicyclist pay to park or not?
- f. Metered parking is restricted to the CBD but as time goes on it may branched out to Biltmore Village; RAD; West Asheville.
- g. Kimley-Horn who has conducted most of the COA parking studies since 2008 is putting together a proposal for a parking study along the West corridor. The first aspects would be: what are the existing conditions; how many parking spaces are here; where are they; meet with the stakeholders; the business owners; what are their needs; meet with the residents on needs and problems.
- h. Mike stated that in terms of the study that one thing that is important is to include the bicycle counts on Haywood Road and the pedestrian as well.
- i. Also on the on-street bicycle parking Michael does not want to plant the idea of removing vehicular parking and replacing with bike corrals. There are lots of spots in the City and particular on Haywood Rd., for example at the Westville Pub where there is a giant utility pole on the side of the road where a car could be parked there.
- j. Ken added that the City does have problems with the mopeds in general. Where should they be; do we want them to park on the sidewalk. What Michael is offering is a way that could address that problem as well. Ken asked Michael to send him an email to indicate this in the parking study and to pass it on to the consultant.

- k. Terri reported there a meeting on 8/7 to discuss the count.
- l. Ken stated he is waiting on Kimley-Horn for the Scope of Work for West Asheville study. There was an initial meeting with K-H giving the basic parameters. This will move forward quickly so it should be taking place within the 90 days and obtaining the basic raw data first and then initial feedback as to what the issues are then we scope out what Phase II would be to define the final product.
- m. Michael requested to return to MMTC to give a presentation bicycle parking

● **Presentation:** Lindsey Simerly of Asheville Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC) presented the COA Strategic Goals 2014-2015 on meeting Asheville's needs for quality, affordable homes for current and future residents.

Action Steps:

- Action plan with Housing Authority for affordable mixed income redevelopment of a public housing community;
- Revisit land use regulations to identify changes that promote locational efficient affordable housing;
- Provide financial assistance and incentives for developers to increase production of affordable housing;
- Implement Affordable Housing Advisory Committee recommendations;
- Develop next steps to end homelessness.

AHAC Recommendations:

- The City's Housing Trust Fund should be increased starting in budget year 2014-2015 until it reaches the goals of 1¢ per \$100 assessed value of all property in the City.
 - COA should increase density for affordable housing throughout the City, and should change land use regulations to encourage affordable housing more zoning districts. Adopt inclusionary zoning and promote accessory unit development.
 - Permit and other development fees for affordable housing project should be waived in full.
- A cost sharing plan for utilities, roads, sidewalks and other infrastructure should be offered for affordable housing development.

- Increase land available for affordable housing.
- Building community support for the affordable housing.
- Improve public transportation services.
- Explore other models of housing affordability.
- Adopt living wage policies.

Questions/Answers/Comments

1. Kristy one of the conversations at P&Z meetings and will continue and Council is the issue of the vacation rentals and its impact on affordable housing. The more vacation rentals the City has the less affordable housing. Gwen stated that the City does not allow short term rentals less than 30 days is not legally acceptable except in central business district.
2. Lindsey stated that there are really no substantive studies that have been completed around it since it is so new in terms of it being so pervasive b/c of the internet and B&B so there is not a lot of proof. It will be HCD Council level discussion.
3. Is the COA having discussions with the County about affordable housing and are there conversations in the County on this matter? Josh stated that the County has several multi-pronged approaches and there are some consortiums that are meeting between the City, County and other regional agencies and also going back to change the land use policies to encourage infield development and how the County can incentivize affordable housing in that manner which has been very successful with the County b/c the County has moved away from subdivision type of development. The problem is how to keep those the houses affordable once they are built.

New Business:

● **Tourism Development Authority Grant Application for Endorsement:** Stephanie Monson in Office of Economic Development (OED) finished working with consultants on a grant application on the East of the

Riverway neighborhoods which is the River Arts District; and 8 surrounding neighborhoods to the East between Brevard District and downtown and there is further of data and recommendations for Council on the City Community Development webpage.

-Stephanie stated that the Tourism Product Development Fund application that OED is leading up on behalf of the COA and how it connects to MMTC's work and then talk about actions that MMTC might take.

-After Stephanie explained the proposal and a question and answer session, Julie moved to endorse and support the application for Buncombe County Tourism Development Authority Tourism Product Development Fund; Bruce seconded and carried unanimously.

●**MMTC Applications and Commission recommendation:** Jim stated open for discussion that would lead to a consensus and to vote. Issues that were discussed:

1. Two front runners: Steven Obremski and John Ridout. One approach is to recommend the two and not the third candidate. The idea is the question of diversity on the commission. The members who's terms are up include one white male, one white female, one African-American female; one of the Ex-Officio position has been changed from one white female to one white male. Five of the six applicants are white males and one white female.
2. No other ethnic and/or racial diversity with other candidates.
3. Recommendation to have all sectors of Asheville represented as a geographic diversity.
4. With Title VI, COA is required to have minority representation of racial and ethnic diversity.
5. Martha stated that it is best to have a board consists of the area that one represents and that it services.
6. Martha stated that it is important that outreach be made but should not replace experience, skill and aptitude to get the job done with ethnic minority or disabled individuals.
7. Julie made a motion to send to Council the names of John Ridout, Steven Obremski, Till Dose and Mike Sule; Mary seconded; carried unanimously.
8. Jim will forward the list to Boards and Commissions to Chris Pelly.
9. Jim raised a question/issue that this process has raised and mentioned to Chris Pelly recommending and Council will elect three At-Large members which means going forward that every three years all of the At Large members will cycle off or reappointment at the same time.
10. Martha stated that the time on the MMTC is governed by City Ordinance. Suggested amending the Ordinance as originally provided for staggered terms in order to maintain a certain experience on the MMTC that would accommodate the concern of having 3 At-Large members rotate off at the same time and bringing in those who may not be as experienced on the MMTC.
11. Martha stated that the time on the MMTC is governed by City Ordinance that reads until his or her successor is appointed. Suggested delaying that appointment for a certain period of time.

●**Sidewalk Discussion:** Ken stated that in the MMTC meeting materials includes New Sidewalk Priority Criteria, How Criteria are applied, a Sidewalk Project Data form; and a map showing sidewalks. City Council directive for staff and MMTC to work on for this year, which is the Neighborhood Sidewalk Program that was approved as part of the budget and for this year alone, \$100,000 was approved for this project.

1. Staff is charged with creating by the end of the year a master list of projects as to when the sidewalks will be built.
 2. Two criteria that we are using for the neighborhoods up for discussion by MMTC. Two base line criteria are:
 - a. A sidewalk project would be identified as needed linkage in the Pedestrian Plan.
 - b. The second criteria will not be a sidewalk on a US or NC route (i.e. Hendersonville Rd, Leicester Hwy, Patton Avenue to Merrimon Avenue) which was the concern that the neighborhood sidewalks were unfairly competing with bigger projects.
 - c. The other criteria are listed in the Pedestrian Plan, and MMTC will have an opportunity to add, subtract, change around the weights.
- This program is to build brand new sidewalks.

- Ken explained how the tasks of the criteria will work. There will be a lot of involvement with MMTC and perhaps a need to have a sub-committee that would work more closely with staff and come back to the bigger group.

- Jim received an email from Chris Pelly regarding a couple of neighborhood meetings to discuss sidewalks:
a. Jim will attend tonight's meeting at N Asheville Library with residents from Lakeshore Rd.
b. Jim invites MMTC to attend with Ken and Chris on 7/28 with residents from Royal Pines.

• **Discussion of Adjournment Time:** Jim requested a vote to extend the time for MMTC meeting to 5pm. Bruce moved to officially extend the adjournment to be 5pm; Till seconded; carried unanimously. Janet will send this information to City Clerk, Maggie Burleson.

• **MMTC Officers Discussion:** Jim realized when MMTC was formed, appointments of Jim as Chair and Bruce Vice-Chair were without term limits. The adoption of the By-Laws that indicate that Officers serve for one year or until their replacements are chosen and that the terms are to run on the calendar year. After a group discussion with MMTC and staff, since Council can appoint Jim's replacement, Julie suggested to ask Council starting next year to have MMTC appointments at the end of the year rather July to maintain the same cycle. Jim stated that unless he hears otherwise, MMTC will continue with Jim and Bruce as Chair and Vice-Chair.

• **Update on Multimodal Transportation Plan:** Mariate stated that in the MMTC meeting materials the following documents:

1. Scope of Work that is called Project Work Plan from Kimley-Horn and schedule. The consultants will target all of the activities and tasks with a schedule.
2. There will be a forming of a Project Oversight Committee (POC) and the first meeting will be 8/14/14. Mariate requested MMTC representation to the POC. The POC will meet about 4 to 5 times and the idea is to meet quarterly and will not be time consuming. Till volunteered and Bruce as alternate. Till will receive a letter from Ken explaining the POC and copy Bruce.
3. Branding of the MMT Plan that the consultants have developed the branding for the MMT Plan with two options: Asheville Mobility Plan (AMP) and the Asheville in Motion (AIM). After a group discussion it was voted by a consensus that AIM would be the best branding.

OLD BUSINESS:

• **Pedestrian Crash Data:** Jim is trying to schedule a meeting with APD before bringing this discussion back to MMTC.

-Ken stated that since the latest crash that occurred on Kimberly, Ken reached out to the City Manager and now have City Council endorsement to move forward that the Transportation Department and APD are teaming up to do a 90 day review of the pedestrian crashes. To concentrate on the crashes that have occurred in 2013 and 2014.

-Ken will be coming to a couple of the MMTC meetings to bring MMTC up to date and to attend the Public Safety Committee in October or November and follow-up to City Council.

-The Transportation Dept staff will be conducting an independent review from a traffic engineering standpoint on the Kimberly Avenue occurrence.

-Also receiving the actual crash report on the more serious accidents and taking a pattern after DOT to take a more in-depth look.

General Committee Updates:

• **Transit Committee (TC):** Julie stated that Itiyopiya stepped down not just from MMTC but also Transit Committee to pursue a PhD. TC will need MMTC to appoint a new person but will be discussed at the next Transit Committee meeting.

● **Greenway Committee (GC):** Mary stated that:

-Dana from Asheville Parks and Greenways Foundation did a presentation and talked about the Get Moving maps; their capital campaign to raise money for Carrier Park improvements, Pack Square Park and other projects; an office at the Visitors Center at Pack Square Park; and how GC could coordinate with the Foundation. There will be a fund raiser this Saturday night on 7/26 at the Highland Brewery called Ale Share and all the profits will go to the Parks and Greenway Foundation.

-Introduced two new GC members Lucy Crown and Forrest Merithew.

-Discussion of a planning retreat in Sept or October due new members and expansion in the number of members; and secondly with GC under Transportation instead of Parks to review GC's role and priorities and coordination.

-Ribbon cutting for the Reed Creek Greenway on the UNCA property on 10/9/14.

● **Bike/Ped Task Force:** Till did not attend, but he did read the minutes: The summer education program seems to be going very well. APD had their report and mentioned that bikes now need lights and sirens.

● **Ex-Officio members – P&Z:** Kristy reported that the next meeting and next mid-month meeting will be dealing with Haywood Rd form based code and hopefully to Council soon thereafter.

STAFF UPDATES:

●**Project updates:** Mariate reported that the Project Update list is in MMTC meeting packet.

- To delete the NCDOT easement acquisition.

- Added the Craven Street kicked off on 7/21/14 which is under construction.

Public Comment: Gwen Simpson introduced herself as the new Director of HR at Warren Wilson College for the past 6 months. Gwen had previous transit experience with AGM of Phoenix Transit; Houston Metro and VP of American Public Transportation of APTA. Jim invited Ms. Simpson to future MMTC meetings.

Agenda Items:

1. Pedestrian Crash
2. Mike Sule's presentation
3. Follow up on the sidewalk
4. Recurring item for the MMT Plan (AIM) from Mariate and Till

5:00 pm – Jim adjourned the meeting

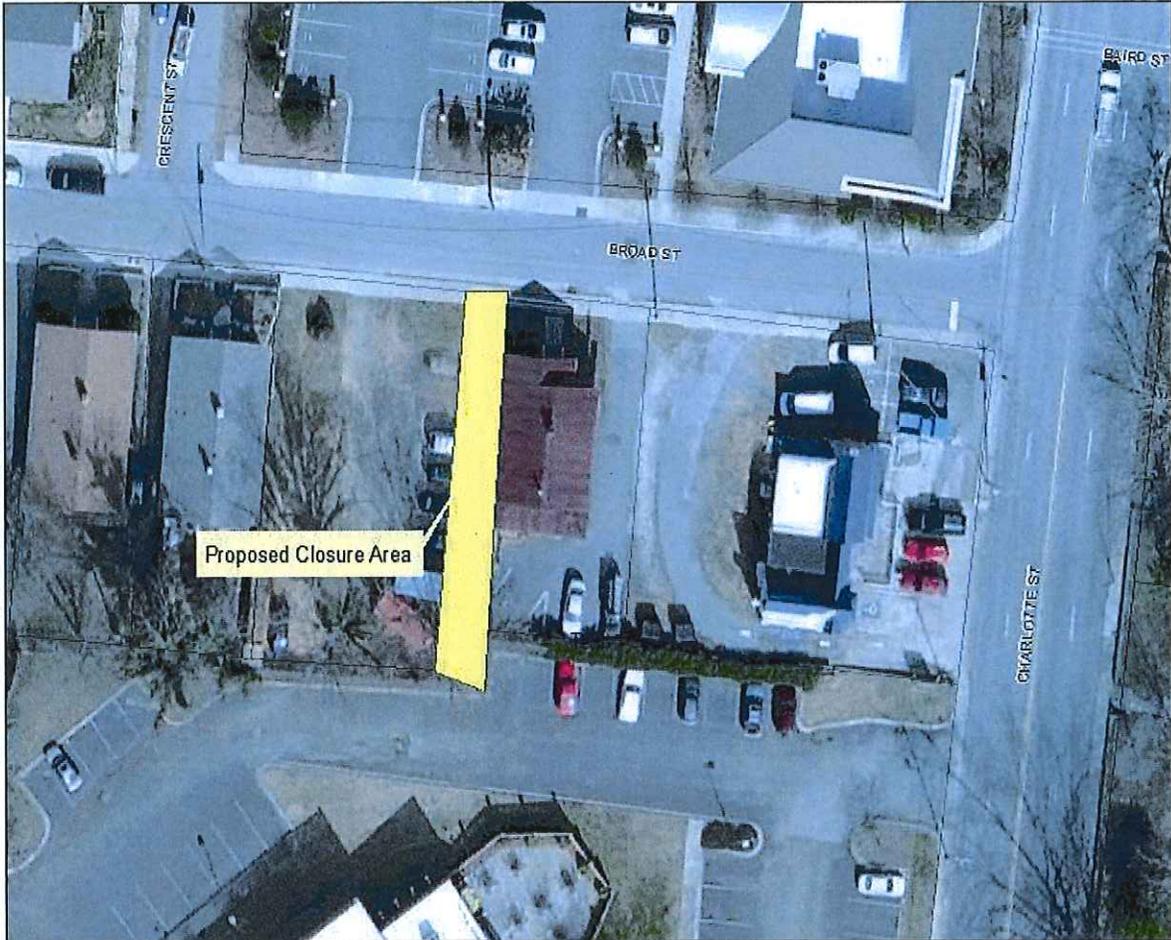


Right Of Way Closure

N



Closure of an Unopened Alley off of Broad Street



Legend

-  Local Interstate Highways (Buncombe County)
-  Local US Highways (Buncombe County)
-  Local NC Highway (Buncombe County)
-  Local Highway Ramps (Buncombe County)
-  Local Blue Ridge Parkway (Buncombe County)
-  NC Interstate Highways (Generalized)
-  Streets (Buncombe County)

 Proposed Closure Area



RESOLUTION NO. 14-

RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO PERMENTLY CLOSE AN UNNAMED ALLEY OFF OF BROAD STREET

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville is hereby declaring its intent to permanently close an unnamed alley off of Broad Street; and

WHEREAS, said rights-of-way are not under the control of the North Carolina Department of Transportation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

1. The City Council hereby declares its intent to permanently close an unnamed alley off of Broad Street; Beginning at (Description coming)
2. A public hearing on the question of permanently closing an unnamed alley off of Broad Street is hereby called for on October 28, 2014, at the regular meeting of the City Council beginning at 5:00 pm., in the City Council Chambers, 2nd floor of the City Hall Building, Asheville, North Carolina.
3. This resolution shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in Buncombe County, North Carolina, once per week for four successive weeks prior to the aforesaid public hearing on April 22, 2014.
4. The notice of closing and the public hearing herein ordered (copy of this resolution being sufficient for the purpose of said notice), shall be prominently posted in at least two places along the aforementioned unnamed alley off of Broad Street. Additionally, a copy of this resolution of intent shall be sent by registered or certified mail to all owners of property abutting this alley, not joining in the petition to close, as shown on the Buncombe County tax maps. The persons effecting the said posting and mailing shall file an affidavit thereof with the City Clerk prior to the public hearing scheduled herein.

Read, approved and adopted this 23rd day of September, 2014.

City Clerk

Mayor

Approved as to form:

City Attorney

STAFF REPORT

To: Multi Modal Transportation Commission Date: August 27,, 2014
From: Greg Shuler, Director of Public Works Prepared by: Richard Grant
Solid Waste Services Manager
Subject: Resolution of Intent to Permanently Close a Portion of Bradley Street

Summary Statement: The consideration of a resolution of intent to permanently close an portion of Bradley Street of Broad Street..

Review: N. C. Gen. Stat. sec 160A-299 grants cities the authority to permanently close streets and alleys.

Pursuant to this statute, adjoining property owners, Sandra Alexander of 8 Moore Avenue Megan and John Griffin of 430 State Street, Jay Fiano – multiple properties adjacent to the closure area, Aaron Marmaret and B. J. Harden Jones of 147 Bradley Street, have requested the City of Asheville to permanently close a portion of Bradley Street.. A copy of this resolution of intent shall be sent by registered or certified mail to all owner of this property abutting this alley, not joining in the petition to close.

This closure allows maximum land use potential for further development complying with the Asheville City Development Plan, Land Use. The Strategic Plan Goals most closely aligned with this closure request is the Job Growth and Community Development Goal in that it will provide infill growth to make efficient use of existing resources.

Pros:

- There will be no future compromise of ingress/egress to other property
- The closure would allow for more efficient use of the existing adjacent properties
- Meets Council's goals to promote sustainable high density infill growth that makes efficient use of existing resources

Con:

- Planning and Transportation Departments do not recommend closure due to right of way connectivity to State Street

Fiscal Impact: There will be no fiscal impact related to this closure.

Recommendation: City staff does not recommend City Council adopt the resolution of intent to permanently close a portion of Bradley Street..

Attachments:

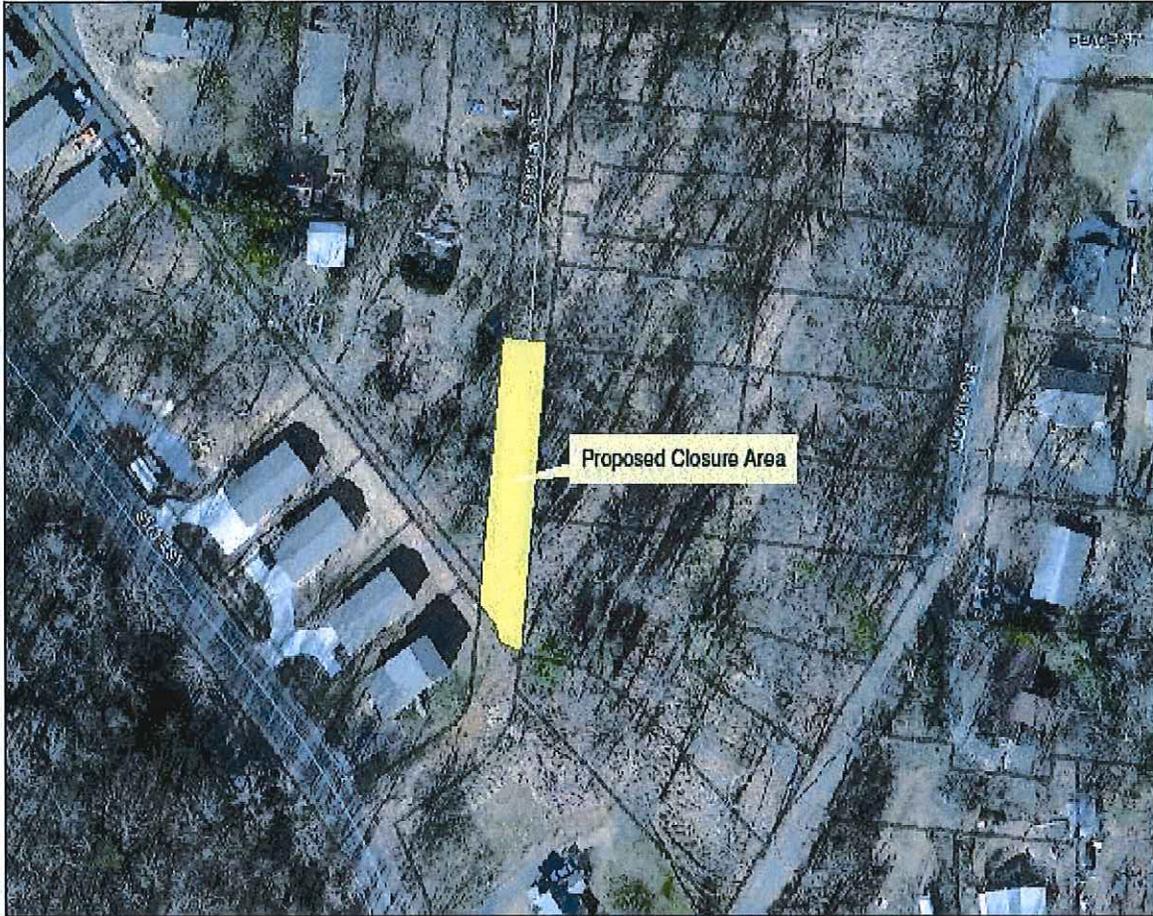
- (1) Location Map
- (2) Proposed Resolution



Right Of Way Closure



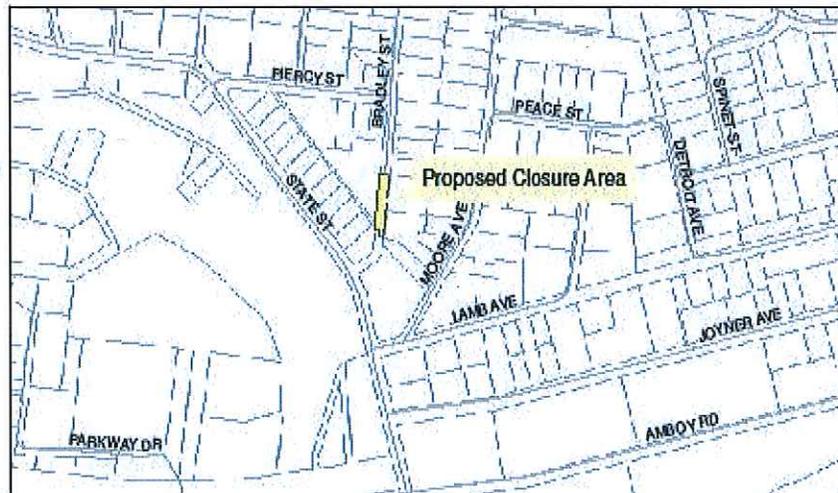
Closure of a portion of Bradley Street



Legend

-  Local Interstate Highways (Buncombe County)
-  Local US Highways (Buncombe County)
-  Local NC Highway (Buncombe County)
-  Local Highway Ramps (Buncombe County)
-  Local Blue Ridge Parkway (Buncombe County)
-  NC Interstate Highways (Generalized)
-  Streets (Buncombe County)

 Proposed Closure Area



RESOLUTION NO. 14-

RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO PERMENTLY CLOSE A PORTION OF BRADLEY STREET

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville is hereby declaring its intent to permanently close a portion of Bradley Street; and

WHEREAS, said rights-of-way are not under the control of the North Carolina Department of Transportation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

1. The City Council hereby declares its intent to permanently close a portion of Bradley Street; Beginning at a 5/8" Rebar w/ID cap "WCLS" being the northwest corner of Lot 2-R as shown in Plat Book 167 Page 80, having NC Grid Coordinates: Northing: 681,047.90', Easting: 937,397.01' NAD 83 (NSRS 2007), said rebar being located N 20°35'33" W, 751.87' (grid distance) (combined factor: 0.99979761) from N.C.G.S. "Papa Joe" having published NC Grid Coordinates: Northing: 680,344.07', Easting: 937,661.46' NAD 83 (NSRS 2007), Elevation: 1,980.5' (NAVD 88); thence from the Point of Beginning N 84°09'27" W, 15.13' to a calculated point in the centerline of a 30' private right of way named Bradley Street as shown in Plat Book 16 Page 10 & Plat Book 138 Page 94; thence with the centerline of Bradley Street N 05°46'02" E, 17.52' to a calculated point; thence N 84°07'48" W, 15.16' to an unmarked point being the northeast corner of Lot 12 as shown in Plat Book 111 Page 25, also being in the Western margin of the 30' right of way of Bradley Street as shown in Plat Book 138 Page 94; thence running with the western margin of the 30' right of way of Bradley Street the following two calls:

1. N 06°11'07" E, 13.88' to a 5/8" rebar with I.D. cap "WCLS", the southerly corner of Lot 13-R shown in Plat Book 138 Page 94;
2. thence N 05°50'33" E, 158.98' to a 5/8" rebar with I.D. cap "WCLS";

thence continuing with the right of way of Bradley Street for a turn-around as shown in Plat Book 138 Page 94 the following three calls:

1. N 84°09'27" W, 19.77' to a 5/8" rebar with I.D. cap "WCLS";
2. thence N 05°50'33" E, 29.03' to a 5/8" rebar with I.D. cap "WCLS";
3. thence with a curve turning to the left with an arc length of 8.44', with a radius of 23.00', with a chord bearing of N 77°49'59" E, and with a chord length of 8.39' to a calculated point at the intersection of the existing right of way of Bradley Street for a turn-around with the future realignment of said right of way for a turn-around;

thence with the future right of way line of Bradley Street for a turn-around the following two calls:

1. S 74°46'58" E, 53.31' to a calculated point;
thence N 15°13'02" E, 8.80' to a calculated point at the intersection of the existing right of way of Bradley Street for a turn-around with the future realignment of said right of way for a turn-around;

thence continuing with the right of way of Bradley Street for a turn-around as shown in Plat Book 138 Page 94 the following three calls:

1. with a curve turning to the left with an arc length of 8.44', with a radius of 23.00', with a chord bearing of S 66°08'47" E, and with a chord length of 8.40' to a 5/8" rebar with I.D. cap "WCLS";
2. thence S 05°50'33" W, 29.03' to a 5/8" rebar with I.D. cap "WCLS";
3. thence N 84°09'27" W, 20.00' to a 5/8" rebar with I.D. cap "WCLS";

thence with the eastern right of way of Bradley Street S 05°50'33" W, 190.38';
which is the Point of Beginning, having an area of 0.171 acres (7,446.4 square feet).

2. The City Council hereby declares its intent to permanently close a portion of Bradley Street. A public hearing on the question of permanently closing an unnamed alley off of Broad Street is hereby called for on October 28, 2014, at the regular meeting of the City Council beginning at 5:00 pm., in the City Council Chambers, 2nd floor of the City Hall Building, Asheville, North Carolina.
3. This resolution shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in Buncombe County, North Carolina, once per week for four successive weeks prior to the aforesaid public hearing on a September 23, 2014.
4. The notice of closing and the public hearing herein ordered (copy of this resolution being sufficient for the purpose of said notice), shall be prominently posted in at least two places along the aforementioned portion of Bradley Street. Additionally, a copy of this resolution of intent shall be sent by registered or certified mail to all owners of property abutting this alley, not joining in the petition to close, as shown on the Buncombe County tax maps. The persons effecting the said posting and mailing shall file an affidavit thereof with the City Clerk prior to the public hearing scheduled herein.

Read, approved and adopted this 23rd day of September, 2014.

City Clerk

Mayor

Approved as to form:

City Attorney