



## Multimodal Transportation Commission Minutes

Regular Meeting  
August 26, 2015

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**Commission Members Attending:** Jim Grode, Chair, Bruce Emory, Vice-Chair, Julie Mayfield, Kristy Carter, Philip Lenowitz, Terri March, Mary Weber, Till Dohse and Steven Obremski.

**Commission Members Absent:** Don Kostelec, John Ridout, and Josh O'Conner.

**Council Liaison:** Gwen Wisler

**COA Staff Attendance:** Mariate Echeverry, Martha McGlohon, Walter Ear, Vaidila Satvika and Janet GeorgeMurr

**Community Members:** Rich Lee

Jim Grode, Chair, called the meeting to order.

- August 26, 2015 Agenda approved on Board Member Till Dohse motion, Board Member Steven Obremski second and carried unanimously.
- July 22 2015 Minutes approved on Board Member Mary Weber motion, Board Member Till Dohse second and carried unanimously.

**Public Comment:** None

### **Unfinished Business:**

**Neighborhood Sidewalk Program and Proposed Policy:** After a group discussion, MMTC recommended to adopt the policy on Board Member Julie Mayfield motion, Board Member Bruce Emory second and carried unanimously.

**NCDOT Pedestrian Safety Study:** Mariate presented answers to the MMTC questions to NCDOT. After a group discussion it was recommended that MMTC accompany NCDOT on the study and on corridors. The study will begin at the end of September and MMTC is invited on the two day extensive study of three locations. Don and Terri have been reviewing crash data to Emergency Room data.

**AIM Update:** A decision was made to have a public meeting later in the fall. The consultants are determining what materials to finalize for the public meeting.

**Announcement of the MMTC/Committee Social 9/23 after MMTC meeting at Hi-Wire:** Jim reminded MMTC of the social. Jim will send out an email invitation as well.

### **New Business:**

**MTP Update:** Bruce updated on Metropolitan Transportation Plan which is the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) The Executive Committee met a week ago and the plan began on developing goals, criteria and measurement factors to identify transportation projects that will go into the LRTP. The LRTP will include the projects that are in the State's DOT Transportation Improvement Program which is tilted toward big highway projects and not so much neighborhood projects or pedestrian/bike projects. The MPO wants to adopt this plan by end of September in order to meet federal regulation. The MPO staff will be presenting to the MPO Plan Board on 8/27/15 and will have a public comment period in 21 days.

**MMTC Involvement in the TRC process:** Yuri prepared the options to MMTC to be part of the development process of the TRC; become involved and if any there were any items that should come to MMTC's attention. Kristy stated that this may better serve MMTC by looking at the policies.

**General Committees:** Jim announced that the latest agendas from the general committees will be part of the meeting materials.

**Transit Committee:** Julie reported:

1. Several openings on the Transit Committee will be coming available. Julie will be coming to MMTC to request potentially four seats for new members to TC.
2. Tom Tomlin request to remain on TC for another year since his term ends at the end of 2015. After a group discussion of MMTC and City Attorney recommendation, Board Member Steven Obremski motioned subject to the TC vote to waive the TC rules for a 3 year term; and appoint Tom Tomlin to serve another year; Board Member Julie Mayfield second and carried unanimously.
3. Just Economics request an RFP for another Management Company and a presentation to MMTC next month.

**Greenway Committee:** Mary reported:

1. GC received eight applications for new members; a decision will be made to have 2 or 4 members; and will bring to MMTC to vote in September.
2. Continuing to look at “goat trails” which are natural service trails; possibly using Rhododendron greenway as a pilot program.
3. Article of Mountain Express: The best of projects that Asheville would like to see local government do:
  1. Greenways; 2. More sidewalks; 3. More bike lanes; 4. Better bike infrastructure.
4. Working on East Asheville Greenway feasible study. Asheville Parks and Greenways Foundation have had fund raisers.
5. In October a joint field trip with River Front Redevelopment Commission to the FBR greenway (Duke Property); MMTC is invited.
6. Researching the proper etiquette on trails.

**Bike/Ped Task Force:** Till and Terri reported:

1. Organizing the Bicycle and Pedestrian Census for mid-September; identifying and prioritization locations; asking for volunteers; visit Asheville On Bikes website to sign up; and also asked a retirement community to assist.
2. A sub group of Walking Friendly Community Group that is meeting to look at some of issues and write Council to remind them of priorities.
3. Watch for Me campaign – to help people obey the law when crossing streets. Citations will begin on 9/1/15. Raleigh has a consultant to get the news out. There was a discussion of getting the word out to the tourists and public in Asheville.
4. Bike Friendly Application – on hold until the next round when the League of Bicyclists and Pedestrian visits Asheville.

**P&Z:** Kristy reported: New Director of Planning, Todd Okolichany, will begin on 9/18/15.

**SACEE:** Kristy asked if the Ex-Officio Member wishes to no longer be an Ex-Officio Member would the rules need to be amended accordingly. There was a question of the need to have a SACEE member on MMTC due to having a designated relationship and when mutual interests come together.

**NAC:** Philip reported:

1. Jim presented to the NAC on the neighborhood sidewalk program, which was endorsed by NAC.
2. Accepting new plan for 2015-2016 including going out in the 5 regions of neighborhoods associations with city staff, APD, and Marshal Stickford to share information.
3. Struggling with issues where should NAC be involved.
4. Working on the Citizen Academy to teach how the City works through Marsha Stickford, COA Neighborhood Coordinator.
5. Meeting with South Region on 9/28 and invites MMTC to come to the library on Overlook Road.

Adjournment 5:06pm