



**Multi-Modal Transportation Commission
Meeting Minutes
May 27, 2015
3:00-5:00 PM
1st Floor Conference Room -
City Hall**

Commission Members Attending: Jim Grode, Bruce Emory, Mary Weber, Terri March, Don Kostelec, Kristy Carter, Till Dohse and John Ridout.

Commission Members Absent: Julie Mayfield and Steven Obremski.

Council Liaison: Absent

COA Staff Members: Mariate Echeverry, Martha McGlohon, Martha McGlohon, Chad Bandy and Janet GeorgeMurr

Community Members:

- **May 27, 2015 Agenda:** Till motioned to approve the agenda; Bruce seconded; carried unanimously.
- **April 22, 2014 Minutes:** Terri motioned to approve the minutes; Bruce seconded; carried unanimously.

• **Public Comment:** None

New Business:

• **Proposed alley closure between Wyoming and Keebler Road:** After Chad Bandy presented and MMTC discussion of the proposed alley closure, Bruce motioned to recommend to City Council; Till seconded; carried unanimously.

• **Bob Roepnack resignation from Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC) & MMTC Ex-Officio:** Elaine Poovey of NAC stated that there are two positions open for appointments and applications are being received by June 4th. When there is a full NAC, Ms. Poovey will ask for a volunteer to be a liaison to the MMTC as Ex-Officio.

• **Child Declaration for Road Safety Resolution:** Don is requesting that MMTC draft a resolution for Council adoption. After a group discussion Martha McGlohon suggests to have a proclamation which she will draft; and Don will email Martha a summary format.

• **Watch For Me NC Kickoff:** Till and Terri explained the effort to enforce pedestrian safety on the roads. At this time, a whole support resource package behind it and strong votes on law enforcement side.

• **NCDOT Customer Survey:** Jim sent out a link to MMTC to be aware about the survey and talked about sending the survey out by mail and Jim is curious if any has received the survey by mail. Jim has completed the survey he interested in anyone else thoughts on the survey.

OLD BUSINESS

• **MMTC Retreat Update:** Jim stated the retreat is on for 6/16/15 from 9a-3pm in the Police/Fire Training Room. Bruce, Jim and Mariate will be meeting on 6/4/15 with the mediator, Sara Bensman. If any of the MMTC members have other agenda items to let Jim or Bruce know before the 6/4 and will accommodate in the best way.

• **Neighborhood Sidewalk Program:** Mariate stated that the group met twice since the last MMTC meeting and went through the weighting process, scoring and now refining the scoring and a couple of things that need to be tweaked; and in the next week or two and should have the final product a ranking; then present to MMTC as to what has risen to the top.

• **AIM Update:** Mariate stated

1. A public roll out for the AIM will be at the end of August.
2. Project Oversight Committee meeting on 6/25/15.
3. Urban typology that will drive the land use and how that determines the street typology and what are the elements of the street typology that will give a path to prioritization matrix. Developing the street typology and how as a City the corridors will be developed which will be in the public roll out.
4. Discussion of a mobility plan to make it part of the complete streets policy which would mean revising the policy.
5. Bruce recommends having the consultants brief MMTC.

● **Fare Free Zone Updates:** Mariate stated that Council approved to rescind the Fare Free Zone as being eliminated and will resume. After a group discussion:

1. Goal is to bring every fees and charges to MMTC for consideration. The Fees and Charges process begins in October; to Budget in December; to Finance Committee in Feb or March; and to Council in a draft in April. If we wait for the Transit Master Plan (TMP) we lose one year. There will be a public hearing in Jan/Feb after posting.

2. Frequent small increases are better for the public.

After a discussion of pros and cons, the Transit Committee will be involved to have a fuller discussion. The fare increase and fare free zone is part of the whole per Gwen Wisler who asked to include them both.

● **Standing Subcommittee of MMTC and NCDOT:** Jim stated that since Julie had a preliminary discussion with Gwen Wisler and will have another discussion with Gwen if there was any traction in NCDOT.

● **DOT Pedestrian Safety Study:** Mariate asked DOT and they responded that they have hired a consultant and they were working on correcting the data base due to some problems with City wide. Jim wants to know the pressure points and how MMTC to be involved. MMTC recommends having City staff to ask DOT to update the MMTC on the study.

General Committee Updates:

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

1. Free Fare Zone discussion and a good public turn out at the TC meeting.
2. Strive Not To Drive (SNTD) update – free fare day.
3. Ads on the bus what the policy and types of ads – at this time the only allowable ads are commercial and government; no ads for non-profits. There is a general feeling among the TC members that the Ad Policy was too restrictive and to look at other cities that would be more expansive.

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

1. Two new members’ recruitment.
2. Discussion on feasibility study and advocacies and pursuing partnerships in trying to raise money.
4. Exploring the idea of goat trails or foot paths and formed a subcommittee of people who are exploring further.
5. Lucy is updating the web page.
6. Friends of Connect Buncombe hired a marketing/branding firm out of Greenville. Mary is on the steering committee and they are moving forward.
7. Announced of public greenway meeting on 6/27/15 11-1pm at Carrier Park Pavilion. Involvement with Stewart Engineering having their public meeting for the French Broad Greenway on the Duke Property, RADTIP, Clingman, Town Branch and Beaucatcher.

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

1. Reapplying for Bike Friendly Neighborhood and Terri will have completed by the end of the summer.
2. Discussion on SNTD of the planning of various groups.
3. Walk the Talk – 15 people of different neighborhood participated.
4. Downtown Association are getting people together including people in wheelchairs to different corridors in the City and to give recommendations to the City for varies upgrades; and another walk through at night especially at the south slope to look at the conditions of the lighting visibility perspective.
5. Vision Zero which is goal to aim towards zero crashes.
6. Asheville was selected for the Watch For Me NC campaign.
7. There is a need for volunteers for the bike count.
8. Discuss on volunteers to clean up sidewalks.

9. PACE pilot program in the Grove Park area of volunteers to agree that they will go the speed limit and obey traffic laws and APD is involved. A campaign will roll out in a couple of weeks.

10. Mike Sule discussed about the need for better pedestrian crossing at McCormick Field; Short Coxe.

- **P&Z:** Kristy – Planning Director is still ongoing.

- **Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC):** Elaine Poovey of NAC reported:

1. The new concern was library space for East Asheville and the Community Center. The City negotiated a contract with LEAF to rent the building and many of the neighborhood organizations are now without a meeting place. Negotiations are continuing.

2. Highland Brewer is having two fund raisers for the Friends of Connect Buncombe for the greenways.

- **SACEE:** None

STAFF UPDATES:

- **Project updates:** Mariate reported:

2. East of the Riveway – Barb is working on finalizing the document.

3. Public Meeting for the French Broad West – the 25% plans will be ready soon.

4. ISO1400 – next week is the first audit; already had the internal audit. There will be a second audit before the certification.

5. NCDOT approved the encroachment agreement for bike corral on Haywood Road and Barb is working with Asheville On Bikes to setup.

6. Watch For Me campaign will be in August.

7. Transit Station repairs – RFQ is out. Pre-bid meeting 5/28 and the due date is next week. Further analysis may need to be done if there are stormwater issues.

8. Tiger VI – Dan submitted the first draft.

9. Clingman and Town Branch – have not changed. There are several steps happening now.

Clingman Forest – there is an easement with the Asheville Middle School and Nikki in Economic Development is working on this.

10. Beaucatcher Greenway – project soon to complete.

11. Craven Street is continuing with the construction.

12. Updates from the capital projects were attached in the List of Project. If MMTC has questions, suggested to have Walter Ear or the project managers to attend MMTC for updates.

Announcements: Don stated that from the Board of Directors perspective from Bike/Walk NC were closely tracking several bills that went to the general assembly notably a study bill related to the guide of bicycle safety.

Compliment by Don to Chad Bandy of COA that Don was riding his bike on Haywood Road behind the COA vehicle in which he dutifully came to a stop to allow pedestrians to cross the street and it was most appreciated.

- **Public Comment II:** None

- **Agenda Items:**

1. Proclamation draft on Child Declaration for Road Safety

2. Ask DOT to update MMTC on ped safety study

3. Kimley-Horn consultants to update MMTC on AIM

4:34pm adjourned