

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY REVIEW BOARD

May 16, 2017

10:00 A.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Michael Ryan, Chairman
Elaine Lucas, Commissioner
Violet Poe, Citizen Member
David Gowan, BOE Risk Management
Nigel Floyd, MBC Traffic Engineer
Tom Ellington, Professor, Wesleyan College
Bessie Brown, Pilot International
Rob Ryals, Facilities Management

OTHERS PRESENT:

Gregory Brown, MBC P&Z
Kevin Poss, Facilities Management
Greg Boike, Middle GA Region Commission
Judy Gordon, BSO Neighborhood Watch
David Fortson, County Engineer
Deborah Evans, Citizen – Fort Hill Area
Stanley Stewart, Citizen – East Macon
Barbara Neally, Citizen – Lake Arrowhead
Anthony Mathis, Citizen – King's Park Circle

OTHERS PRESENT Cont'd:

Theresa Hughley, Citizen – King's Park Circle
Camille Watson, Health Department
Beverlyn Ming, Health Department
Denise Kelley, Asst. Clerk of the Commission
Carrie Barber, Citizen – Walnut Creek Village
Joi Dukes, 41 NBC
Mary Wimberly, Greenbriar Neighborhood Association
Kaye Cleveland, Admin. Asst. to Clerk of the Commission

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sam Henderson, Mayor's Representative
Chris Tsavatewa, Co-Chairman
Captain Brad Wolfe, MBSO
Leon Jones, Coroner
Myrtle Habersham, AARP
Brad Belo, MBC P&Z Planner

Approval of April 18, 2017 Minutes

On motion by Mr. Tom Ellington, seconded by Mr. Robert Ryals and passed unanimously, the minutes were approved.

Policy and Legislation

No report

Engineering

Mr. Nigel Floyd briefed the group regarding the speed bump installation at Pendleton Homes. Mr. Floyd informed the group the project has been approved, but funding sources are still being pursued for said project.

Mr. Floyd informed the group GDOT performed a Safety Audit on Eisenhower (around Alphabet City) and street modifications, including crosswalks with flashing lights will be installed at C Street and Eisenhower.

Mr. Floyd updated the group on pedestrian issues at Cirrus Academy and Pio Nono. Mr. Floyd stated GDOT will be installing a pedestrian refuge isle along with flashing beacons and a crosswalk for students to cross safely.

Enforcement

No report

Public Communication – Ms. Violet Poe

The vinyl, movable billboard scheduled for posting at Pio Nono Avenue and Spencer Circle during the month of April was found in the shop area of Lamar Outdoor Advertising by Michelle Veno. The billboard was re-posted at Pio Nono Avenue and Spencer Circle on April 19th, and remained at this location until the end of April. The billboard for the month of May is located on Gray Highway, near Hall Street.

A meeting was held with Ms. Kaye Cleveland and Ms. Janice Ross on April 20th regarding a logging system for callers from the community who are interested in reflector strips being placed on their medical equipment, following the notification to the senior citizens attending the Triad/S.A.L.T. Council Meeting on April 20, 2017.

Chairman Michael Ryan and Ms. Poe attended the Triad/S.A.L.T. Council Meeting on April 20th at the Macon-Bibb County Senior Citizen Center per the request of Myrtle Habersham (AARP), and shared information regarding the Macon-Bibb County Pedestrian Safety Review Board and the "CROSS-THE-WALK" Pedestrian Safety Education Campaign. During the information session, the seniors in attendance were provided with Ms. Cleveland's telephone number in order to request the placement of reflector strips on the medical equipment of their family members and friends. To date, Ms. Cleveland has not received any callers requesting this service.

PEDORA the Pedestrian attended the Pilot International Inc. Bike Safety Fair at the William S. Hutching Building on Saturday, April 22nd, and explained each of the GOHS pedestrian safety tips, how to use the crosswalk traffic control device, and allowed the participants to practice walking inside of the lines of a replica crosswalk. PEDORA also took photos with each participant and distributed Arrive Alive wrist bands.

A special thank you to Rob Ryals and Kevin Poss for allowing Joey (Fabricator), to print the signs to create a replica of a crosswalk traffic control device for use during the safety fair.

Concerns regarding pedestrian safety from Dr. Gail Fowler, Principal of Cirrus Academy Charter School on Pio Nono Avenue, were forwarded to Mr. Floyd. Work activities for improvements to the area near the school, have been scheduled by GDOT; this information was shared with Dr. Fowler.

Upcoming events and ongoing activities include the following:

PEDORA and PEDDY the Pedestrians will visit Cirrus Academy Charter School and M.A. Evans Academy on Thursday, May 18th to promote pedestrian safety and provide pedestrian safety tips to the kindergarten classes of Ms. Williams and Mrs. Jackie Lamar-Epps, and encourage each student to have a safe summer by continuing to utilize the safety tips during their summer break.

Mini-presentations will be provided again this year during the Macon-Bibb County Recreation Department's Summer Camp. These presentations will be provided by the campus police department of the Bibb County School District during the first week of the camp, which begins

Monday, June 5th. PEDORA and PEDDY the Pedestrians will visit the camps to promote pedestrian safety and crosswalk use.

Visits to senior living communities to place reflector strips on the medical equipment of the residents will continue throughout the summer months.

Ms. Poe will continue placing the 8 X 26 cling window graphics on the doors or windows of convenient and package stores throughout Macon-Bibb County.

Angela Matteo and the members of the Middle Georgia Demons Roller Derby League would like to support the efforts of the Macon-Bibb County Pedestrian Safety Review Board by placing information on their social media account, flyers, program booklets, and make announcements during their home games to promote pedestrian safety and crosswalk use.

As part of the "CROSS THE WALK" Pedestrian Safety Education Campaign, a request is being made to start a Pedestrian Injury Survivor and Pedestrian Fatality Grief Support Group.

On motion by Commissioner Elaine Lucas, seconded by Mr. Ellington and passed unanimously, the Board will support outreach efforts to clergy and other organizations to adopt a Grief Support Group Project for accident survivors and families of pedestrians killed in accidents.

Other Matters

Mr. David Fortson, Macon-Bibb County Engineer, informed the group there will be new traffic signals installed at Emery Highway/Jeffersonville Road and Millerfield Road/Jeffersonville Road.

Mr. Fortson also stated new Pedestrian Safety Features on Jeffersonville Road would include a 4'11" sidewalk on the south side of Jeffersonville Road and Northeast side of Millerfield Road and a 7'10" sidewalk on the north side of Jeffersonville Road would extend all the way to New Clinton on Millerfield Road.

The sidewalk on the north side of Jeffersonville Road was referred to as a multi-use path until GDOT Standards were reviewed. There will be Pedestrian features installed on the sidewalk as well as a bridge with a 10.8 Ft path on one side and a 5.4 Ft sidewalk on the other side.

Mr. Fortson expressed new Pedestrian Safety Features at the intersection of Jeffersonville Road/Emery Highway consisted of a standard pedestrian crossing which bicyclists could use as well. Mr. Fortson also informed the group the entire intersection would be reconfigured, and light fixtures would be installed throughout the corridor. There would only be crosswalks at the intersections and be two lanes in each direction with a center lane and no pedestrian refuges.

On motion by Mr. Ellington, seconded by Ms. Bessie Brown and passed unanimously, Commissioner Lucas will present four Pedestrian Safety Recommendations for Jeffersonville Road Project to the Public Safety Committee. Said recommendations are: 1.) Speed limit of 35 MPH; 2.) At least one additional crosswalk; 3.) Replacement medians with left turn lanes; and 4.) Pedestrian Refuge Areas/Crossings.

Mr. Fortson notified the group a redesign of the Pedestrian Safety Features on Jeffersonville Road will be presented at a future meeting.

Mr. Kevin Poss, Facilities Management, notified the group he had spoken with Mr. Floyd regarding Alphabet City. Mr. Poss reported GDOT would be installing pedestrian crossings and traffic calming features on C Street which would decrease the car crossings and right turns.

Mr. David Gowan, BOE Risk Management, gave an update on the recommendations for Anthony Road and Ingram/Pye. Mr. Gowan briefed the group about a meeting held on May 9th with the School District's Safety and Security Committee, in which they discussed previous suggestions regarding crosswalks at Anthony Rd/Felton Ave and Ingram/Pye. Mr. Gowan presented a letter to the group from the Bibb County School District stating their recommendations regarding Ingram/Pye. Said recommendations were: 1.) The two (2) school zone flashing traffic signs be relocated to the intersections of Felton Ave/Anthony Rd and Ballard Dr./Anthony Rd; 2.) The two painted crosswalks be installed at Canton St/Anthony Rd and King St/Anthony Rd.

Mr. Poss stated more suggestions for Anthony Rd and Ingram/Pye were in the formulation process. Mr. Gowan requested said suggestions be presented at the next District Safety and Security Committee meeting. Mr. Ryals briefed the group about a meeting held with the designers of the Tindall Heights rebuild. Mr. Ryals affirmed eight additional crosswalks were installed around Tindall Fields, including in the Ingram/Pye area.

Ms. Carrie Barber, Citizen – Walnut Creek Village, presented Pedestrian Safety Plans endorsed by the Eastside Neighborhood Association. Ms. Barber expressed concerns about students walking through the residential area of Clinton Rd and crosswalks around the Northeast High School/Upper River Road area. Theresa Hughley, Citizen – King's Park Circle, expressed citizen concerns regarding sidewalks and pedestrian issues in said neighborhood.

Ms. Brown thanked the Board for helping her with the Safety Fair. Ms. Camille Watson, Health Department, invited the group to the Health Department's Teen Health Center Summer Bash on May 17th from 3p.m. to 6p.m. on Cherokee Street. Ms. Judy Gordon, BSO Neighborhood Watch, thanked the Board for allowing them to participate in the meeting and invited them to their National Night Out on August 1st. Chairman Ryan thanked the citizens for their communications and for participating in the meeting and encouraged them to express concerns.

Commissioner Lucas proposed a discussion at the next meeting about new officers for the Board and elections for them.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Ryan.

The next meeting will be held on June 20, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kaye Cleveland
Recording Secretary