

**PEDESTRIAN SAFETY REVIEW BOARD
AMENDED MINUTES
MARCH 21, 2017
10:00 A.M.**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Michael Ryan, Chairman
Chris Tsavatewa, Co-Chairman
Elaine Lucas, Commissioner
Violet Poe, Citizen Member
Brad Belo, MBC P&Z Planner
Nigel Floyd, MBC Traffic Engineer
Bessie Brown, Pilot International
Stephanie Hyman, Dept. of Health
Captain Brad Wolfe, Bibb County Sheriff's
Dept.
Lieutenant Scott Davis
Leon Jones, Coroner
Tom Ellington, Professor, Wesleyan College

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jo Ann Lamb, MTA
Henry Poole, MTA
Dave Golder, MTA
Tavares Jones, WGXA
Joi Dukes, 41 NBC
Greg Boike, MGRC
Denise Kelley, Asst. Clerk of the Commission

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Rob Ryals, Facilities Management Dept.
Sam Henderson, Mayor's Representative
Myrtle Habersham, AARP
David Gowan, BOH Chairman

Approval of February 21, 2017 Minutes

On motion by Mr. Brad Belo, seconded by Ms. Violet Poe and passed unanimously, the minutes of February 21, 2017 were approved.

The Board and guests embarked on a field trip to assess the areas where pedestrian injury or fatality has recently occurred. The Macon Transit Authority provided transportation. The group travelled a fixed-route of Pio Nono Avenue.

A synopsis of the trip is below:

Chairman Michael Ryan led the Board in a discussion to review the Pio Nono Avenue field trip route and possible recommendations to be considered and/or taken.

Ash and Hazel Streets – There are no sidewalks in the area and there is no proper lighting. On motion by Ms. Bessie Brown, seconded by Ms. Violet Poe and passed unanimously, the Board will recommend to the Commissioners the restoration of sidewalks on the west side of Ash Street and sidewalks to be installed on the east side of the street.

Pio Nono/Houston and Broadway Intersection – On motion by Commissioner Elaine Lucas, seconded by Mr. Belo and passed unanimously, Planning & Zoning and the Traffic Engineering Department will coordinate their efforts to provide the Board with all information regarding the proposed reconstruction of that intersection.

Pio Nono and Dewey Street

Chairman Ryan noted that there are no sidewalks or crosswalks at this intersection. He added that there are many food service stores and residential community which results in a heavy pedestrian use. Discussion ensued on the matter.

On motion by Mr. Belo, seconded by Commissioner Lucas and passed unanimously, a request will be made to GDOT to perform a road safety audit on Pio Nono between the southern end of the street and Vineville Avenue. Commissioner Lucas added that she would prepare a Resolution to the Commission for a road safety audit request.

Pio Nono and Rocky Creek Road

Mr. Belo reported that there is a lack of lighting, lack of crosswalks, and no pedestrian refuge/raised median in the center-turn lane. He added that Mr. Nigel Floyd reported that there is SPLOST funding for the intersection that will provide for proper lighting and crosswalks in Fiscal Year 2018.

Mr. Belo will prepare a spreadsheet that lists all projects discussed that will include the status, possible solution and outcome of each project. Commissioner Lucas stated the document would benefit the Board to better inform the Commissioners on the work being performed by the Pedestrian Safety Review Board.

Rice Mill Road and St. Charles Place

There are no sidewalks along Rice Mill Road, but there is a nearby crosswalk that crosses Pio Nono. Lt. Scott Davis recommended that rumble strips be installed at Rice Mill Road near Rocky Creek and St. Charles Road where vehicles tend to increase speed. The strips would help to slow the flow of traffic.

On motion by Commissioner Lucas, seconded by Captain Brad Wolfe and passed unanimously, the Board recommends the installation of rumble strips and improved lighting to the Rice Mill Road and St. Charles Place area.

Pio Nono and Spencer Circle

Mr. Belo stated that this area will be included in the GDOT RSA Program.

Anthony Road between Canton Street and King Street (School Zone Crosswalk)

Mr. Belo stated that a road diet might be considered for the area. The Board discussed the immediate needs for the area such as adding crosswalks and appropriate lighting.

Mr. Ellington recommended adding bicycle lanes and narrowing the four-lane highway and narrowing the four-lane highway along a section of Anthony Road near Ingram/Pye.

On motion by Commissioner Lucas, seconded by Ms. Poe and passed unanimously, the Board recommends the installation of two crosswalks and an evaluation to be conducted of street lighting in the area.

Public Communication – Ms. Violet Poe

Ms. Violet Poe gave special thanks to the entire Macon-Bibb County Pedestrian Safety Review Board for their support of the debut of PEDORA The Pedestrian (Tesia D. Smith) on Friday, March 3, 2017 at the HAWK System in front of Alexander II Magnet School on College Street.

Chris Floore is to be commended for his role in getting each of the local television stations, The Telegraph, and Channel 14 to cover the event.

The movable billboard for the month of March is located at the T-intersection of Mercer University Drive and Oglesby Place.

The third Public Service Announcement is rotating on WIIHB-FM (97.3 and 96.5) and WRBV-FM (V101.7) for the month of March.

Michael Ryan and Ms. Poe attended the GOHS 2018 Highway Safety Grant Application Training on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 in Atlanta, GA.

The order of 100 additional static cling double-sided window/door signs arrived on March 1, 2017, and the signs are still being placed on the windows or doors of convenient and package stores throughout Macon-Bibb County.

Simeon Cullens, a junior Chemistry Commerce major at Mercer University, is interested in volunteering and serving as PEDDY The Pedestrian. Simeon was interviewed on March 8, 2017 and has submitted the necessary paperwork to Sam Henderson for a Criminal Background Check.

An application has been submitted to the Cherry Blossom Festival for PEDORA and PEDDY The Pedestrian to participate in the 35th Annual Cherry Blossom Festival Parade on Sunday, March 26, 2017 in downtown Macon. Participation is pending upon receipt of a Waiver of Liability from the Legal Department for each mascot to sign. The mascots will walk a portion of the parade route, handing out campaign wrist bands, encouraging pedestrian safety and crosswalk use. One of the MTA Para-Transit buses which displays the campaign's message will follow behind the mascots along the parade route. A waiver from the Legal Department will need to be signed by Ms. Smith and Mr. Cullens before they officially begin representing the Macon-Bibb County Pedestrian Safety Review Board in this role.

Deputy Chief Prater of the Bibb County School District Campus Police Department has asked that the Board review two crossing guard areas: 1) Forest Hill Road at Newport Road (no crosswalk markings) for the Lane Elementary School students, and 2) Anthony Road (crosswalk markings are faded) near Hartley Elementary School.

Per Dr. Tsavatewa's request at the January meeting, Ms. Poe received a copy of the expenditures for the "CROSS THE WALK" Pedestrian Safety Education Campaign from Julie Moore (02/19) of the Budget and Strategic Planning Office. There have been additional expenditures added to the list. Ms Poe will be meeting with Ms. Moore today on March 21st to discuss these expenditures, and to request a three-month (April-June) extension of the PSAs (\$750), Billboard (\$1,500) and Bus cling wraps (\$1,800), totaling \$4,050.

Other Matters

Chairman Ryan reported that signs have been changed on Nottingham Drive and lights have been installed. Chairman Ryan also stated that Mr. Harden had sent him pictures of the changes that have been made in the area.

Chairman Ryan inquired as to whether there have been any changes to the Montpelier Avenue area. Commissioner Lucas reported that the Facilities and Engineering Committee has moved to repave a portion of Montpelier Avenue. Chairman Ryan added that the repaving would be from I-75 to Pio Nono. It will be voted upon at the next Commission meeting.

Mr. Belo reminded the Board about the Georgia Walks Summit to be held in Augusta on May 4th and 5th. He will participate in a Summit Session to discuss the Pedestrian Safety Review Board's purpose and activities.

Mr. Belo informed the group that there's a "Safer After-School" function at the MGRC on March 22nd from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Commissioner Lucas will ask the County Health Department to help fund 25 safety vests for the Board plus and additional \$8,100 for a 6-month extension for the billboards, PSAs and bus cling wraps. Otherwise, the billboards will be removed and the PSAs will be stopped.

On motion by Mr. Belo, seconded by Ms. Poe and passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be held on April 18, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Denise Kelley
Recording Secretary