

**PEDESTRIAN SAFETY REVIEW BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
January 18, 2022
GOVERNMENT CENTER
10:00 A.M.**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Greg Brown, MBC Planning & Zoning, Chair
David Gowan, Bibb County School District
Nigel Floyd, MBC Traffic Engineer
Ron Wildman, Citizen
Charise Stephens, MBC Small Business Affairs
Henry Ficklin, MBC Dept. of Community Affairs
Myrtle Habersham, AARP
Rob Ryals, MBC Facilities Management

OTHERS PRESENT:

Taylor Stickels, Middle GA Regional
Commission
Kaye Cleveland, Recording Secretary
Adrianna Beavers, MBC Asst. County Attorney
Robert Harden, Citizen
Stanley K. Dale, Citizen
Gerald Charles, GFC Traffic

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Molly Wilkins, Citizen
Rachel Hollar Umana, Bike Walk Macon, Vice
Chair
Lieutenant Scot Davis, BCSO
Major Brad Wolfe, BCSO
Michael Ryan, Citizen
Commissioner Elaine Lucas

Chairman Greg Brown called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes

On motion by Dr. Henry Ficklin, seconded by Mr. Rob Ryals and passed unanimously, the December 14, 2021 Minutes were approved.

Policy and Legislation

Chairman Brown gave an update regarding Irene's Law. Board members were notified the Macon-Bibb County Commission would take a vote regarding said legislation. Adrianna Beavers, MBC Assistant County Attorney, stated the Complete Streets Policy would be referred to as Irene's Law and some additions would be made regarding streetlighting policies.

Engineering

Mr. Nigel Floyd, MBC Traffic Engineer, gave an update regarding the results from the Road Safety Audits on Pio Nono Avenue and Mercer University Drive. Board members were presented information regarding lane reductions and the installation of pedestrian crosswalks on Pio Nono Avenue. Dr. Ficklin asked if the crosswalk in front of Cirrus Academy would remain in

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place. He expressed concerns regarding the danger of students crossing the street in said area. Mr. Floyd advised Cirrus Academy went to the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and requested a crosswalk in front of the school. Dr. Ficklin stated the administration of Cirrus Academy requested to move the crosswalk because of the danger to the students. Mr. Floyd stated GDOT would be contacted regarding the crosswalk at Cirrus Academy.

Mr. Floyd addressed requests regarding the installation of streetlights on Mercer University Drive near the Georgia Department of Labor. Board members were informed GDOT proposed to install a roundabout at said intersection. Mr. Floyd stated it would be best to wait until the roundabout was installed and then revisit the possibility of installing pedestrian activated crosswalk lighting.

Chairman Brown opened discussion regarding a citizen request for more crosswalks and lighting on Vineville Avenue. Mr. Jardine Hetty, sent an email requesting the installation of crosswalks on Vineville Avenue away from downtown near the Goodwill and Clisby Towers. Mr. Floyd stated there was already a crosswalk and lighting installed in said area and made a request for more information. Chairman Brown stated he would contact Ms. Hetty and ask her to be more specific regarding her request.

Enforcement

No report

Public Communication

Ms. Charise Stephens, MBC Small Business Affairs, opened discussion regarding the Senior Pedestrian Safety Day Event at the Elaine Lucas Senior Center. Board members were advised efforts would be made to educate older citizens regarding pedestrian safety. Pedestrian Safety Day would take place on January 25, 2022.

Ms. Stephens stated once Irene's Law was passed by the Macon-Bibb County Commission, an event to commemorate the passage of said legislation would take place on New Clinton Road where Ms. Stubbs was hit and killed. She stated more information would be released soon.

Ms. Stephens discussed the results of the Walking Audit in Pleasant Hill. Board members were advised citizens stated more lighting was needed. Ms. Stephens asked the Board if the results from the walking audits would be used to proposed new infrastructure projects. Mr. Floyd replied said results would be compiled and concerns would be sent to the corresponding department in the Macon-Bibb County Government. Board members were advised all walking audits would be completed by April 2022.

Discussion ensued regarding scheduling a Pedestrian Safety Summit. Ms. Stephens stated said summit would need to take place before the end of the Macon-Bibb County Fiscal Year in June. Board members discussed having a Pedestrian Safety Summit on June 1st. On motion by Mr. David Gowan, seconded by Dr. Ficklin and passed unanimously, the Pedestrian Safety Review Board decided to host a Pedestrian Safety Summit on June 1, 2022.

Board members were advised two more Public Service Announcements (PSAs) would be made before the end of 2022. Board members were asked to volunteer to participate. Ms. Stephens advised she was working with Mr. Chris Floore, MBC Public Affairs, to draft scripts for the PSAs.

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Interagency Coordination

Mr. Gowan advised opened discussion regarding the Safe Routes to Schools Program. Board members were advised Ms. Patty Sistrum was contacted regarding restarting the Safe Routes to Schools Program. Mr. Gowan advised the program would be introduced at the Pedestrian Safety Summit in June.

Vision Zero Update – Bob Dallas

Chairman Brown gave an update regarding Vision Zero. Board members were advised Mr. Dallas was working on revisions to the Memorandum of Understanding with GDOT for the Vision Zero Transportation Safety Coordinator Position. Chairman Brown stated once Mr. Dallas was finished the final draft would be sent to GDOT for review.

Citizen Request – Robert Harden – Nottingham/Gray Highway

Mr. Robert Harden, citizen, expressed concerns regarding high-speed traffic on Nottingham Drive. He stated efforts to reduce the speed of traffic worked but during the pandemic, even though traffic decreased speeding increased. He asked for an update regarding more recent efforts to reduce speeding on Nottingham Drive.

Mr. Floyd stated MBC Engineering explored the concept of installing a crosswalk at Jackson Springs on Nottingham. Board members were advised to install a sidewalk, it would be coming down to a hill which would be dangerous for wheelchair users. Mr. Floyd stated before installing a crosswalk the proposed design would need to meet the standards of the Americans with Disabilities Association. Board members were notified MBC Public Works was in the process of finding funds and proposing a design for leveling off said area so a sidewalk could be installed.

Mr. Harden also asked if there is a process for revitalizing the crosswalk paintings and perform routine maintenance or provide advance warning signs for drivers. Mr. Floyd stated it was Macon-Bibb County's Policy to provide advance warning signs for crosswalks to drivers. He also stated MBC Facilities Management regularly monitors crosswalks to see if they need to be repainted and if any signage or signals need to be replaced. Mr. Rob Ryals advised there was no established preventative maintenance program in place regarding crosswalks, signage and signals due to lack of man power and work load issues.

Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Future meetings will be held on the following dates in 2022: February 15, March 15, April 19, and May 17.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaye Cleveland
Recording Secretary

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