

**MINUTES OF THE
MACON-BIBB PEDESTRIAN SAFETY REVIEW BOARD MEETING
February 18, 2025 – 10:00 AM**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Greg Brown, Chairman, MBC Planning and Zoning
Rachel Hollar Umana, Vice Chair, BWM
Rob Ryals, MBC Facilities Management
Lieutenant Scott Davis, BCSO
Charise Stephens-Merriweather, MBC Small Business
Nigel Floyd, MBC Traffic Engineer
Jimmie Smith, MBC Health Dept.
Ron Wildman, Citizen
David Gowan, Bibb County School District

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Michael Ryan, Citizen
Myrtle Habersham, AARP
Major Brad Wolfe, BCSO
Henry Ficklin, MBC Executive Dir. Of Community Affairs

OTHERS PRESENT

Adrianna Beavers, Assistant County Attorney
Todd Rhoad, Peachtree Recovery
Kaylee Pritt, BWM
Weston Stroud, MBC Traffic Safety Manager
Sheila Griggs, Deputy Clerk of Commission

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

Greg Brown called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

A 11-19-2024 PSRB Meeting Minutes

On motion of Rachel Umana, seconded by Nigel Floyd, and passed unanimously, the minutes from 11-19-2024 were approved.

3. Subcommittee Reports

A Policy and Legislation

Rachel Umana reported that Bike Walk Macon Inc. is making a donation to Macon-Bibb County. The final approval of acceptance will be at the Commission meeting tonight. The resolution reads in part:

A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the acceptance of eleven (11) bike racks and eleven (11) simme seats as a donation to Macon-Bibb County from Bike Walk Macon, Inc., to be installed at various locations in downtown Macon.

Complete Streets Report

Rachel Umana reported that the Complete Streets Compliance Committee had a meeting prior to PSRB that started at 9:00 a.m. During the meeting, Weston Stroud discussed grants that were on hold due to White House administration orders, GDOT Project for Gray Highway Sidewalks and multi-use access trails. Rob Ryals reported on the Vineville reversible center lane system and that GDOT is conducting traffic studies now to replace them. Weston Stroud also informed the committee that there will be 15 new bus stop shelters being installed throughout Macon. The exact locations are unknown at this time.

B Engineering

Nigel Floyd reported on the Cherry Blossom parade float. He stated that he had reached out to a vendor who is known to make floats, but he had not heard back from them. He also reported that the PSRB Board was created 10 years ago by Commissioner Elaine Lucas and that we should consider some event to celebrate the milestone.

Charise Stephens-Merriweather reported that the mascot had not arrived, but she does have large cones with reflectors that could be used in the parade.

Nigel Floyd reported on the Livable Cities Presentation that the Board received during the August 20, 2024 meeting via zoom. He has determined that placing the camera systems for traffic counts and pedestrian counts is not needed at this time. There was no further discussion on the matter.

Traffic Safety Manager Report

Weston reported that SDK Software is up for renewal in April 2025. It will cost \$46,000.00 for a 2-year agreement, he can send out the quote to the Board for review prior to the next meeting.

C Enforcement

Lt. Davis compared 2024 incidents with 2023 incidents and noted that the number is trending down. Macon-Bibb County closed the year 2024 with 30 incidents, 9 of them being pedestrian-related and 2023 with 53 incidents, 17 of them pedestrian-related.

D Public Communication

Charise Stephens-Merriweather reported that there are grant submissions due by March 15, 2025, and each objective needs to be

answered. The grants will go through Macon-Bibb County Grants Department. Charise also reported that the PSRB website needs updating, and she is requesting that Board members submit headshots to her to be placed on the website.

There is a grant from North Carolina State for \$10,000.00 to fund the Safe Routs to School Program. There is no hard due date, but it needs to be implemented by June 6, 2025, per Charise. The agency reached out to Weston asking that Macon-Bibb Apply.

On motion of Nigel Floyd and seconded by David Gowan and passed unanimously, the PSRB Board voted to submit the application for the Safe Route to School Program from North Carolina State.

The Board discussed doing a few road reductions at crosswalks at various schools. A few schools discussed were Ingram/Pye, Ballard Hudson and Miller.

Charise also reported that she attended the Health Department Safe Kids Committee meeting. She will be partnering with the Committee to provide helmets and also conduct an outreach at Southwest School on March 15, 2025.

Jimmie Smith invited the Board to attend the Community Resource and Family Health Expo, which is also on March 15, 2025, starting at 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at Southwest High School.

Greg Brown informed the Board that Brookdale called him requesting that PSRB come and speak with residents on March 7, 2025. He is working on getting it set up.

E Interagency Coordination

David Gowen reported that he is working with Weston and Charise on the Grant from North Carolina for the Safe Route to School Program. He is also working with Nigel at Northwood Academy for a remedy for parents doing U-turns in a no-U-turn area.

4. Old Business

Greg Brown is working with Dr. Moffett on a Vision Zero Action Plan (VZAP). *meaning: a comprehensive strategy, often adopted by cities and regions, aimed at eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries by focusing on proactive, systemic solutions rather than solely blaming individuals.* He would like to dedicate the next meeting to VZAP with Weston preparing a presentation. Weston would like to go through some action items and update the plan monthly, making it a monthly living document.

Nigel Floyd suggested that the Board designate a \$5,000.00 budget for

purchases contributed to events like parades, advertising and giveaways.

On motion of Nigel Floyd, seconded by David Gowan, and passed unanimously, the board voted to approve a budget of \$5,000.00 for parades, advertising and giveaways.

5. New Business

A Purchase Traffic Safety Interventions to be implemented in HIN and other areas of concern

Weston presented examples of crosswalk signs and aluminum solar-powered flashing road markers for crosswalks. He suggested areas like Tittnal and City Hall for test areas where he could make a video and bring it back to the Board for review. The Board discussed the maintenance of the lighting and Charise recommended using the Small Business Office to obtain local small business if the maintenance needs to be outsourced.

Here are a few different things that he and Nigel found that they think could be useful and easily installed by the Traffic Engineering Department.

The first two items would be useful are crosswalk signs and flashing road markers. They want to get a budget to buy these in bulk to save money and to be able to implement them.

1. [Crosswalk Sign \(STATE LAW YIELD TO PEDESTRIANS\)](#) \$159.95
(10 for \$143.95)

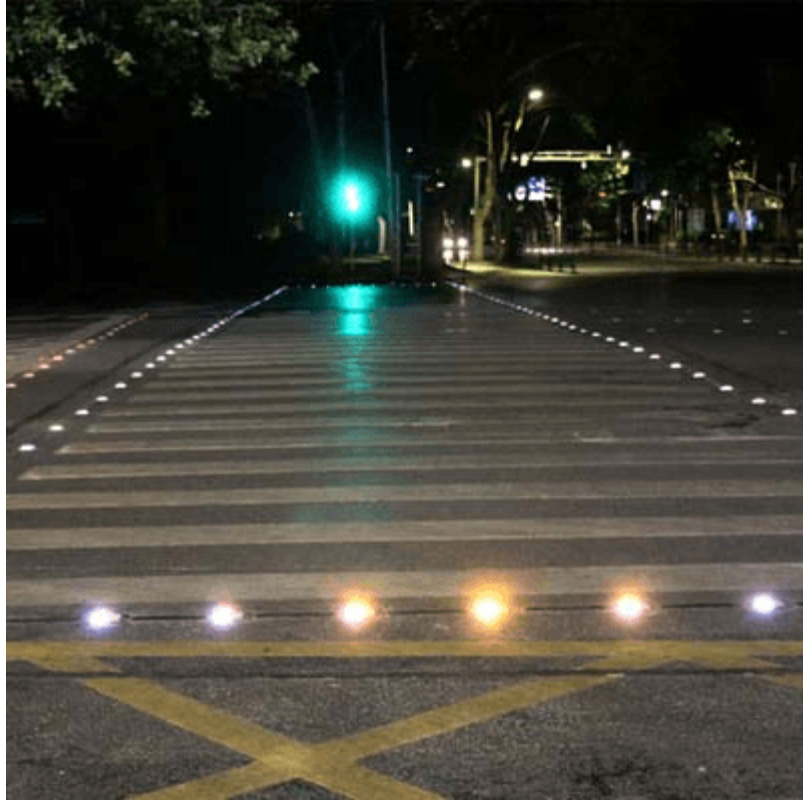


1.





2. 50 of these would be \$7,197.50 or lower
2. [Aluminum Solar-Powered Flashing Road Marker for crosswalks](#) \$23.95 (50 for \$19.95)



- 1.
2. 1000 would be \$19,950 or lower
3. 20 lights per Crosswalk signage
3. This would allow 50 locations throughout our High-Injury Network (HIN) to receive high-visibility crosswalks for \$27,147.50. We'd only use this intervention on county-owned roads in the HIN

On motion of Rachel Umana, seconded by Nigel Floyd, and passed unanimously, the Board approved a purchase, not to exceed \$30,000.00, for crosswalk signs and aluminum solar-powered flashing road markers for crosswalks to be paid from the Pedestrian Safety Review Board account.

B Todd Rhoad - Vehicular/Pedestrian Impact Report

Mr. Rhoad discussed the Vehicular/Pedestrian Impact Report for 2024.

6. Non-Agenda Public Comments

Commissioner Elaine Lucas had the following comments/suggestions.

- She asked that the PSRB consider moving non-agenda public comments to the top of the agenda in case visitors are unable to sit through the entire meeting.
- She suggested that all boards add non-agenda public comments to their agendas.
- She reminded the Board that PSRB is very successful and needs to have more publicity around it, there needs to be more

advertising.

- She informed the Board that Warner Robins is adopting some of the Macon-Bibb County Pedestrian Safety ideas and that's a wonderful thing.
- She encouraged the Board to vote in the upcoming election regarding SPLOST and to encourage as many people as possible to vote.
- She requested that Shurling Drive and Gray Highway be considered for the next re-striping project.
- She spoke about the school zone camera legislation that has been drawn up and that the cameras might go away; she encouraged the Board to keep informed about the new legislation.

Kaylee Pritt - BWM

- She invited the Board to participate in the Streets For All Fest events at Plaza Party Celebrating 10 years of Bike Walk Macon.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheila F. Griggs
Deputy Clerk of Commission