

**PEDESTRIAN SAFETY REVIEW BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
October 20, 2020
Video Conference**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Greg Brown, MBC Planning & Zoning, Chair
Rachel Umana, Bike Walk Macon, Vice Chair
Commissioner Elaine Lucas
Nigel Floyd, MBC Traffic Engineer
Myrtle Habersham, AARP
David Gowan, Bibb County School District
Molly Wilkins, Citizen
Charise Stephens, Georgia Wellness &
Fitness Festival
Rob Ryals, MBC Facilities Management

OTHERS PRESENT:

Koryn Young, Bike Walk Macon
Bob Dallas, Vision Zero
Tom Ellington, Vision Zero Liaison
Alicia Wright, MBC Health Department
Liz Fabian, Mercer Univ. Center for
Collaborative Journalism
Kevin Poss, MBC Facilities Management
Janice Ross, MBC Clerk of Commission
Michele Harris, MBC Assistant County Attorney
Harold Young, Interim Director, Tubman
Museum
Kaye Cleveland, Recording Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ron Wildman, Citizen
Michael Ryan, Citizen
Lieutenant Scot Davis, BCSO
Captain Brad Wolfe, BCSO
Commissioner Joe Allen, MBC Health Dept.
Sam Henderson, Director, MBC Small
Business Affairs

Chairman Greg Brown called the meeting to order at 10:16 a.m.

On motion by Vice Chair Rachel Umana, seconded by Commissioner Elaine Lucas, and passed unanimously, the minutes from the September 15, 2020 Meeting were approved.

Policy and Legislation

Vice Chair Umana discussed the Complete Streets Policy. An overview of said policy was presented to board members. Vice Chair Umana advised the Complete Streets Policy was ready for presentation to the Macon-Bibb County Commission.

Engineering

Mr. Nigel Floyd gave an update regarding pedestrian crossings. He stated projects on Maynard Street and Tattnall/Monroe Street were completed. Board members were informed Pedestrian Warning Signs were installed on Ell Street. Mr. Floyd stated crosswalks would be installed after ADA ramps. Commissioner Lucas made a request for repairs to the flashing beacons and the crosswalk in front of Bentley and Son's Funeral Home on Montpelier Avenue. Ms. Koryn

Young, Bike Walk Macon, advised Ell Street would be apart of the next Open Streets Macon Event.

Enforcement

Mr. Floyd stated dirt bike and biker gangs have emerged in Macon-Bibb County. Board members were advised said gangs obstruct traffic by blocking lights. Mr. Floyd advised board members regarding the dangers to pedestrians and traffic.

Chairman Brown informed board members regarding citizen complaints of excessive speeding on Bob-O-Link Drive. Board members were informed law enforcement was aware and tickets had been issued but more action was needed.

Public Communication

Mr. Harold Young, Interim Director of the Tubman Museum, presented information to board members regarding pedestrian education campaigns and initiatives. Mr. Young discussed the “Do You See Me?” Initiative. Board members were advised said initiative would include boxes which stored reflectors that could be purchased for a small fee to make pedestrians more visible to drivers.

Ms. Charise Stephens added boxes would be added in areas with a high rate of pedestrian accidents. Commissioner Lucas recommended approving Mr. Young’s idea and distributing reflectors along with masks. A motion for the Pedestrian Safety Review Board (PSRB) to support the “Do You See Me?” Project Idea and endorse a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to start an initiative. On motion by Commissioner Lucas, seconded by Mr. Floyd and passed unanimously, said motion was passed.

Ms. Stephens stated masks and arm bands/reflectors would be passed out on October 24th from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Health Department during the drive-thru event hosted by the Tubman Museum. Board members were informed pedestrian education materials, reflectors and masks would be passed out during an event in the Pleasant Hill Area on October 31st.

Interagency Coordination

Mr. David Gowan, Bibb County School District, advised board members regarding the status of virtual and in-person learning. Mr. Gowan advised he would contact Ms. Stephens regarding the Safe Routes to School Initiative once in-person learning started. Board members were informed more details would be available at that time.

Mr. Gowan advised board members regarding traffic issues at several schools. Board members were advised of traffic issues at Vineville Academy. Mr. Gowan stated he would meet with Mr. Floyd and principals of schools with traffic issues to discuss the district’s traffic plan.

Vision Zero Update

Mr. Bob Dallas gave an update regarding the Vision Zero Work Plan. Mr. Dallas thanked Commissioners Allen and Lucas and the PSRB for their assistance with the work plan. Mr. Dallas stated the next steps in plan implementation were adoption by the PSRB followed by presenting said work plan to the Macon-Bibb County Commission. A motion was entertained for

the PSRB to adopt the final draft of the Vision Zero Work Plan. On motion by Mr. Floyd, seconded by Ms. Myrtle Habersham and passed unanimously, said motion passed.

Next, a motion to present Vision Zero Action Plan to the Macon-Bibb County Commission was entertained. On motion by Mr. Gowan, seconded by Commissioner Lucas and passed unanimously, said motion was passed. Mr. Dallas gave an overview of goals associated with the work plan and a timeline for completion. Ms. Michele Harris, MBC Assistant County Attorney, advised a resolution regarding the Vision Zero Work Plan would be drafted and read at the November 3, 2020 Commission Meeting.

Census Update

Ms. Janice Ross, MBC Clerk of Commission, gave an update regarding the 2020 Census. Board members were informed the response rate for Macon-Bibb County was 58.6% which was behind the state average of 68.6%. Ms. Ross stated Census Outreach Efforts ended, but enumerators continued to knock on doors and count residents. Board members were advised the response rate was higher than expected, however, the national average was low.

Ms. Ross stated differences in regulations regarding outreach efforts slowed the process of advertising for the Census. Board members were advised advertisements needed additional approvals before being aired or displayed.

Discussion: Orientation for New Administration

Chairman Brown opened discussion regarding orientation for the new administration. Mr. Tom Ellington stated he was in the process of contacting them regarding PSRB Matters. Commissioner Lucas requested Ms. Stephens to contact Mayor Elect Miller regarding an orientation for the new administration. Mr. Ellington advised the need to be respectful of new administration members as well as sharing information regarding the PSRB.

Discussion: Bylaws

Chairman Brown initiated discussion regarding establishing bylaws for the Pedestrian Safety Review Board. Board members were advised collaboration with the County Attorney's Office was needed to ensure compliance with the MBC Code of Ordinances. Vice Chair Umana, Ms. Habersham, and Mr. Ellington were appointed to work with Ms. Harris to draft bylaws.

Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

Future meetings will be held on the following dates: November 17, 2020; December 15, 2020; January 19, 2021 and February 16, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaye Cleveland
Recording Secretary