

**PEDESTRIAN SAFETY REVIEW BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
September 21, 2021
GOVERNMENT CENTER
10:00 A.M.**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Greg Brown, MBC Planning & Zoning, Chair
Rachel Hollar Umana, Bike Walk Macon, Vice Chair
Nigel Floyd, MBC Traffic Engineer
Lieutenant Scot Davis, BCSO
Charise Stephens, MBC Small Business Affairs
Henry Ficklin, MBC Dept. of Community Affairs
Michael Ryan, Citizen
Commissioner Elaine Lucas
Rob Ryals, MBC Facilities Management
Ron Wildman, Citizen

OTHERS PRESENT:

Anita Mohapatra, Bike Walk Macon
Liz Fabian, Mercer University CCJ
Kevin Poss, MBC Facilities Management
Kaye Cleveland, Recording Secretary
Taylor Stickels, Middle GA Regional Commission
Bob Dallas, Vision Zero

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

David Gowan, Bibb County School District
Myrtle Habersham, AARP
Molly Wilkins, Citizen
Major Brad Wolfe, BCSO

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

Approval of Minutes

On motion by Commissioner Elaine Lucas, seconded by Mr. Nigel Floyd and passed unanimously, the June 15, 2021 Minutes were approved.

Policy and Legislation

Vice Chair Umana gave an update regarding the Complete Streets Policy. Board members were informed said policy was passed by the Macon-Bibb County Commission. Mrs. Umana advised board members that as part of implementation of Complete Streets an advisory board was needed to ensure pedestrian and cyclist safety when new construction projected began.

Engineering

Mr. Floyd gave an update regarding the installation of cameras inside of School Zones. Board members were advised regarding issues with the Georgia Department of Transportation

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(GDOT). Mr. Floyd stated a meeting was scheduled to address said issues regarding running radar in school zones.

Board members were given a presentation regarding a proposed project which will be conducted by GDOT. Said project consists of traffic calming on Mercer University Drive, Eisenhower Parkway and Pio Nono Avenue. Traffic calming measures included reducing four-lane roads to two-lane roads, installation of medians and crossing signals.

Discussion ensued regarding the installation roundabouts would be on Mercer University Drive at Columbus Road and Burton Avenue. Pedestrian Safety Facilities such as shelters, and benches were included as part of the proposed GDOT Project. Other proposed projects included the installation of an R-Cut on Mercer University at Atwood Drive. Board members were advised the R-Cut would be large enough for cars and buses to maneuver.

Mr. Michael Ryan opened discussion regarding the installation of Pedestrian Activated Flashing Lights. On motion by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Dr. Henry Ficklin and passed unanimously the Pedestrian Safety Review Board will request the Macon-Bibb County Commission to work actively to press GDOT to install Pedestrian Activated Flashing Lights at two points on Mercer University between Pio Nono Avenue and Montpelier Avenue, Atwood Drive and Summerhill Drive based upon review of various County Departments.

Chairman Brown discussed citizen complaints regarding traffic calming in the Vineville Avenue Area and Middlebrooks Subdivision near Log Cabin Drive. Mr. Floyd stated he was familiar with requests regarding traffic calming on Vineville. Chairman Brown advised board members that he would discuss with Mr. Floyd what changes need to be made.

Enforcement

Lieutenant Scott Davis, Bibb County Sheriff's Office, informed board members regarding a case involving a hit and run. Lieutenant Davis informed board members a suspect was identified and would be prosecuted.

Commissioner Lucas opened discussion regarding the case of Irene Stubbs who was a victim in a hit and run in East Macon. Lieutenant Davis stated new evidence was discovered and the case would now be investigated as a hit and run with an open end.

Public Communication

Ms. Charise Stephens, MBC Small Business Affairs, briefed board members regarding National Pedestrian Safety Month. Ms. Stephens requested board approval of T-Shirts and Polo Shirts for members to wear to National Pedestrian Safety Month Events. Board members were informed t-shirts would also be made for giveaways. On motion by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Commissioner Lucas and passed unanimously, board members agreed to expenditures for polo shirts and t-shirts.

Ms. Stephens opened discussion regarding PSAs for National Pedestrian Safety Month. Board members were advised Dr. Jimmie Smith, Mr. Ryan, Commissioner Lucas, and a representative from the Sheriff's Office were chosen to participate. Ms. Stephens stated PSA Participants would meet at City Hall on Friday, October 1, 2021 at 1 p.m.

Ms. Stephens gave an update regarding Health Department Grant Funding. Board members were advised a final balance and report would be presented at the next meeting.

Interagency Coordination

No Report

Vision Zero Update – Bob Dallas

Mr. Bob Dallas gave a Vision Zero Workplan Update. Board members were advised an Intergovernmental Agreement between GDOT and Macon-Bibb County for the Transportation Safety Manager of the Vision Zero Workplan. Mr. Dallas asked Chairman Brown and Dr. Ficklin to meet with him regarding language needed in said agreement. Board members were advised regarding responsibilities of a Transportation Safety Manager.

Mr. Dallas advised board members if Congress passed the Infrastructure Bill, more funds would be allocated for transportation and pedestrian safety projects. Board members were advised said funds would come from GDOT and would be dispersed to counties in Georgia.

National Pedestrian Safety Month– Greg Brown

Chairman Brown opened discussion regarding Nation Pedestrian Safety Month. Board members were informed National Pedestrian Safety Month Committee Meetings were taking place every Friday to coordinate events.

Board members were informed the kickoff for National Pedestrian Safety Month would take place on Friday, October 1, 2021 from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. at 893 Riverside Drive. Chairman Brown asked board members to attend and support.

Other events scheduled for National Pedestrian Safety Month include Pedestrian Safety PSAs, Success Stories; Homeless Outreach; Trunk or Treat in coordination with MBC Recreation; a bike ride for Biketober, a Walking Audit at 3rd Avenue/Ward Street in Pleasant Hill and participation in Open Streets Macon. Board members were informed the National Pedestrian Safety Month Committee would meet again on September 24, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.

Vote: PSRB Brochure and RAC Cards

Chairman Brown opened discussion regarding a vote to adopt PSRB RAC Cards and Brochures. Board members were presented RAC Cards and Brochures that would be printed for distribution. On motion by Mr. Floyd, seconded by Commissioner Lucas and passed unanimously, board members adopted the PSRB Brochure and RAC Cards with changes in colors from yellow orange to fluorescent yellow to reflect standard safety colors.

Grant Funding: Governor's Office of Highway Safety

Chairman Brown opened discussion regarding Grant Funding from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety. He advised Macon-Bibb County was awarded \$18,200.00 on behalf of the Pedestrian Safety Review Board for FY 2022. Board members were informed the said grant funding would go before the Macon-Bibb County Commission at the October 12th Committee of the Whole Meeting to be recommended for approval.

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Zoom Meetings

Chairman Brown opened discussion regarding legislation passed by the Macon-Bibb County Commission in reference to Zoom Meetings. Board members were advised the chair of a board formed by the Macon-Bibb County Commission had the authority to decide if board meetings would take place via teleconference or in person due to the COVID-19 Resurgence. Board members agreed to a hybrid meeting board members having the option to meet via teleconference or in person. Board members also agreed to start hybrid meetings in October 2021.

Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:37 a.m.

Future meetings will be held on the following dates in 2021: October 19; November 16; and December 21.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaye Cleveland
Recording Secretary