

**PEDESTRIAN SAFETY REVIEW BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
September 15, 2020
Video Conference**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Greg Brown, MBC Planning & Zoning, Chair
Rachel Umana, Bike Walk Macon, Vice Chair
Commissioner Elaine Lucas
Commissioner Joe Allen, MBC Health Dept.
Myrtle Habersham, AARP
Michael Ryan, Citizen
Sam Henderson, Director, MBC Small
Business Affairs
Molly Wilkins, Citizen
Charise Stephens, Georgia Wellness &
Fitness Festival
Rob Ryals, MBC Facilities Management

OTHERS PRESENT:

Holly Wharton, Middle GA Regional Comm.
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
Kaye Cleveland, Recording Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ron Wildman, Citizen
David Gowan, Bibb County School District
Lieutenant Scot Davis, BCSO
Captain Brad Wolfe, BCSO
Nigel Floyd, MBC Traffic Engineer

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

On motion by Mr. Sam Henderson, seconded by Vice Chair Rachel Umana, and passed unanimously, the minutes from the August 18, 2020 Meeting were approved.

Policy and Legislation

Commissioner Elaine Lucas informed members an Ordinance, introduced by Commissioner Mallory Jones, was passed during Committee Meetings to reduce the speed limit on a portion of Tucker Road near Peake Road. Said legislation was scheduled for a vote by the Macon-Bibb County Commission before becoming law. Commissioner Lucas told members to let her know of any requests to reduce speed limits so legislation could be introduced and passed.

Engineering

Commissioner Joe Allen opened discussion regarding repair of the bridge on Bass Road by I-75. Board members were advised regarding barriers installed after a wreck in said area damaged the bridge. Commissioner Allen stated the narrow area of the bridge was unsafe for

pedestrians and drivers. He made a request for the Pedestrian Safety Review Board to ask Mayor Robert Reichert to contact the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) Bridge Crew to repair the bridge as soon as possible.

Chairman Brown gave an update regarding an inquiry regarding crosswalk installation at the Ocmulgee National Monument Heritage Trail. He stated a representative from NewTown Macon, Inc. needed to be invited to a future meeting to discuss the process of crosswalk installation and connecting said trail to the Davis Home Area.

Board members were told crosswalks had been installed on Maynard Street and Williams Street in East Macon. Chairman Brown advised that crosswalks would be installed in conjunction with future Open Streets Macon Events. Vice Chair Umana shared photos of previously installed crosswalks. Board members were informed future Open Streets Events would take place on Monroe Street near Pleasant Hill and Second Street near Memorial Gym. Vice Chair Umana informed board members regarding "Love Your Street" Initiative Events occurring at Tattnell Square Park, Harold Son's Barber Shop on Bay Street and Washington Avenue near the public library.

Enforcement

No report

Public Communication

Ms. Charise Stephens informed board members regarding upcoming Pedestrian Safety Education Events. She stated the Bibb County School District completed training for the Walking School Bus Initiative. Board members were advised a district-wide Walking School Bus Program was scheduled to take place when schools began in-person attendance.

Ms. Stephens gave information regarding the Georgia Walks Summit scheduled to take place September 17 – 19, 2020. Board members were advised a presentation of work done because of efforts made by the Pedestrian Safety Review Board.

Mr. Henderson stated all grant funding reports had been submitted. Board members were informed the term for grant funding ended in September and some requirements had not been met due to social distancing guidelines. Mr. Henderson stated to ensure future funding, documentation could be presented stating which requirements could not be met due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Interagency Coordination

No Report

Census Update

Ms. Janice Ross gave an update regarding the 2020 Census. She stated there was an increase in the participation rate which was 51.4%. Board members were informed the deadline to participate was moved up to September 30, 2020. Ms. Ross informed board members the average for Macon-Bibb County outperformed the state average, however, was lower than surrounding counties. Board members were advised enumerators faced challenges while

canvassing neighborhoods to encourage participation. Ms. Ross stated efforts were made to reach out to large private employees to encourage participation. Mr. Henderson stated fear of the loss of benefits and/or adverse legal action were factors which created distrust in the government resulting in low participation.

Vision Zero Update

Mr. Bob Dallas presented the current version of the Vision Zero Work Plan. Mr. Dallas thanked the PSRB, the Mayor, Commissioners, and other stakeholders for their participation in developing the work plan. Board members were informed current goals were for board members to review the current version and give all feedback and comments by October 2, 2020. Mr. Dallas informed comments would be taken, and a revised plan would be presented before the PSRB Meeting scheduled to take place on October 20, 2020.

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. Mr. Ellington advised the need to be respectful of new administration members as well as sharing information regarding the PSRB.

Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:41 a.m.

Future meetings will be held on the following dates: October 20, 2020; November 17, 2020; December 15, 2020; and January 19, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaye Cleveland
Recording Secretary