



- MINUTES - BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION Sonny West Conference Center

February 10, 2025

ATTENDEES

COMMITTEE

Chair Katherine McDonell, AJ Haney, Carey Rogers, KJ Garner, Nate McDowell, Anas Saba, Courtney Ross, John Norris, Liz Riggs

STAFF

Matthew Cushing, Diana Alarcon, Hal Balthrop, Marty Sewell, Brad Freeze, Justin Cole, Anna Dearman, Meghan Mathson, Brent Schultz, Shandira Edgecombe, James Guthrie (Metro Planning Commission Staff)

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Hal Martin, Ashleigh Wilson, Vice Chair Matt Hertz

1. Call to Order

The February 10, 2025, meeting of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission was called to order at 5:08 PM by KJ Garner.

2. Roll Call-above

3. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Rogers motioned, Ms. Ross seconded, and January meeting minutes were approved unanimously, unread.

4. Review of Agenda

Mr. Carey motioned to rearrange agenda so that Belle Meade Highlands project discussion was moved forward into public comment timeline because of the absence of the Kimley-Horn representative, it was seconded by Ms. Ross and approved by vote.

5. Public Comment

- Matthew Carver, President of SORBA – 20-year community advocacy group that builds, maintains and supports 14 mountain trail systems in and around Davidson County. 100% Non-profit wanted to express concern over the bequeath of the land to a private entity.
- Keith Walker - "Trail Boss" helps maintain the trail, believes that the biggest issue with Cheekwood is that there are single day events that bring in huge amounts of traffic. Disrupting the trail "boulevard" will critically impact the entire trail system in the park and break apart the two loops. In the original discussion about this plan, the mountain bike community was told they would be able to provide feedback, but it was not directly solicited. Cheekwood has around five annual events that create the largest amounts of congestion.
- Hope Walker – Mentioned that her kids and others should be able to stay away from screens by having continued access to the mountain bike trails.
- Youth members of cycling teams attending MLK, Hume Fogg, and some Williamson County schools mentioned their perceived personal loss. Said we need "more trails not less" - Percy Warner Park's trail system is a gathering place for the youth in their community and friend groups.
- Josh Wiggins – Lives in Williamson, mentioned that he moved away from biking for a while and returned when his son became interested in it, volunteers with the community teams, (WILCO) one of which has about 46 participants and 24 coaches. Mentions that the community around biking is very important.

Commissioner Comments:

Mr. Rogers mentioned that the family that deeded the park had it purposed for a "public park" in 1926. Ms. McDonnell said that her interest for this meeting was to receive further information from Planning and NDOT on the project, before creating any kind of resolution. Mr. Norris mentioned that the road would also have an impact on the biodiversity in the park. Mr. McDowell questioned whether the commission can ever be effective without having access to these types of plans ahead of actual decisions being made.



- MINUTES

BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION

6. Administrator Updates - Matthew Cushing, NDOT

- Mr. Cushing announced his departure from NDOT for GNRC.
- Metro Planning has approved the Belle Meade Highland project, and it has been passed on to NDOT. NDOT is assessing potential alternatives and will perform its own study. The NDOT project lead will be available to present to the commission at a later date.
- Bicycle Friendly Community Application: Bronze Rating, "Report card" online with ways to improve

7. Subcommittee Report Outs

- **Rules, Process, and Reporting Subcommittee-** Katherine McDonell, BPAC
 - Met on February 3rd, reviewed previous BPAC bylaws and committee is drafting some for the present BPAC.
 - East Bank Boulevard - Resolution to request all the designs be made available at the upcoming public meeting, including the two four-lane alternatives. Motion by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by KJ Garner, approved unanimously.
- **Community Engagement Subcommittee-** Nathaniel McDowell, BPAC
 - Discussion on logo and branding to increase the visibility of BPAC. Ms. Wilson designed "mock" informational tickets for those who park in the bike lane. Mr. McDowell mentioned that HubNashville responses are usually very fast - one audience member mentioned that reporting other obstacles besides vehicles needs to be mentioned in any flyers created as well. Discussion also involved ways to connect with other community organizations. Meetings are scheduled for the 3rd Thursday of the month.
- **Plan / Engineering Review Subcommittee-** Katherine McDonell, BPAC
 - Meetings will be 2nd Monday of the month, discussed BPAC mechanisms of knowing about current and future projects where feedback may be welcome, including identifying future repaving projects. Planning a site visit on Commerce to discuss what Athena. Inviting Vision Zero Committee members to better align their efforts.

8. Programmatic Update- Green and Complete Streets Policy Update, Part 1 – Justin Cole, NDOT

There is a planned presentation by the planning dept. on KPI's etc. (Part 2)

Mr. Cole provided the Smart Growth America definition of "Green and Complete Streets" and introduced the Executive Order which applies to all Metro Departments, particularly NDOT

Guiding Principles include: Safety, Accessibility, Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity, Land Use, Environment and Health, Economic Vitality

Complete streets are not just a "product" – it is about enacting a process that influences all projects, providing tools for the trade-offs and exceptions when they arise.

Complete streets" is a way to proactively implement Vision Zero, designing the streets in a way that anticipates and accounts for human errors, and prevents collisions.

Implementation Guide helps use Nashville's Modal Hierarchy to prioritize the safety of the most vulnerable road users, informed by crash history, creating ways to separate users in space and time, and aligning with existing plans and projects.

Updating and expanding standard Right of Way details, some of which have not been recently updated or previously existed. Updating and integrating Access Nashville 2040, MCSP and nMotion collaboratively with WeGo.

Standard street cross sections are being made more multimodal so that all new roads are built using the complete streets approach.

This implementation also involves developing a prioritization framework.

9. Discussion

Ms. Garner asked whether this framework would apply to the East Bank Boulevard development. Mr. Cole responded that all streets can not accommodate all modes at all times, but that this will be consideration given to all new streets through the chartering process. Mr. Rogers asked if greenways would have this mechanism applied. Mr. Cole said that NDOT and Metro Parks are in coordination about the greenways as part of the multimodal transportation network. Mr. McDowell asked if the pikes will be addressed using this framework, and Mr. Cole was confident that the CHYM coordination with TDOT will be effective.

10. Adjournment

Before ending, Ms. Garner made a motion to honor Mr. Cushing's work on BPAC. It was seconded, passed and he received a round of applause from the room. The February 10, 2025 meeting of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission was adjourned at 6:20pm. The next meeting is scheduled for March 10th, 2025.