



***NASHVILLE DEPARTMENT of TRANSPORTATION
& MULTIMODAL INFRASTRUCTURE***

**BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN
ADVISORY COMMISSION**

Minutes

**April 21, 2025
5:00 PM to 6:30 PM**

**Howard Office Building Sonny West Auditorium, Rooms C/D
700 2nd Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37210**

Committee Overview

This 13-member group serves to increase collaboration between the Metro Government of Nashville and Davidson County to ensure a commitment to increasing safety and the use of bicycle, micro mobility devices, and pedestrian travel as significant and beneficial modes of transportation and recreation.

Notice to Public

Agendas are posted online before each meeting at:

<https://www.nashville.gov/departments/transportation/boards/bpac>

Speaking to the Committee

Anyone can speak before the committee during a public hearing. An NDOT staff member presents each item, followed by public comment period, then committee discussion. Community members are asked to speak for two minutes each, at the discretion of the chair, and direct their comments to the committee.



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1) **Call to Order:** 5:12p.m.

2) **Roll Call**

Present: Courtney Ross; KJ Garner; Ashleigh Wilson; Katherine McDonnell; John L. Norris

Absent: Carey Rogers; Matthew Hertz; Nathaniel McDowell; Alvin Haney; Anas Saba, Liz Rigs

Staff: Brent Schultz; Robyn Strain, Marty Sewell

3) **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

March 17, 2025-No quorum

4) **Approval of Agenda**

No quorum

5) **Public Comments**

a) Charlie Weingartner-VZAC member

- Stated there were too many failures to cover and there is much to discuss
- Expressed extreme disappointment in the Mayor's office and NDOT leadership generally
- Believes ex-officio members of the Commission should attend meetings
- Expressed "outrage" that meetings are not recorded or streamed for public consumption or Commission review.

In response, John Norris asked if there were specific actions Mr.

Weingartner was asking BPAC to take, but there were not.

b) Max, a cyclist, expressed interest in incidents in July where bus drivers were running cyclists off the road. He said the same driver was recorded on video, but there has been no response despite submitting it through HUB Nashville. Specifically, Max would like to know what bus driver training involves relative to bicyclists. He has requested an explanation at the next BPAC meeting.

In response, KJ Garner asked Max to supply her with the HUB request number.

c) Patrick Garner, a lifelong cyclist, has seen excellent bicycle infrastructure but is disappointed that Nashville continues to rank as one of the worst in terms of cycle and pedestrian accommodation. In conversation with the Mayor's Office, Mr. Garner said the response has been that people don't ride in Nashville. Mr. Garner was an enthusiastic supporter of the current Mayor, but is now highly frustrated that "fruit" has not come from electing him. Specifically, his complaints are that



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- Bikeways are often blocked by vehicles
 - Metro is poor at data gathering and reporting.
 - Mr. Garner wants to know what BPAC is doing and has submitted an application to join BPAC.
- d) Council Member Kupin addressed the committee. He said he understood that there were many flashpoints but wanted the Commission to know that there are conversations behind the scenes advocating for cyclists. However, he emphasized that as a public servant, he must listen to all constituents, and that includes developers, businesses and residents as well. He personally is a proponent of more bikeways, safer bikeways, and connected bikeways. In an effort to continue outreach and learning about different needs, CM Kupin offered to ride with anyone interested.
- e) Jeremiah Wooten, a VZAC member encouraged BPAC to push back on the rules for adding issues to an agenda. He commented that “Our California transplant doesn’t know Tennessee law.”
- 6) Subcommittee Report Outs (20 min)**

Subcommittee Report Outs

- Rules, Process, and Reporting-
4/7-discussed bylaws and Belle Meade Highlands resolution; two vacancies they want to fill; Ms. McDonnell spoke with Mayor
- Community Engagement and Outreach-
Mr. McDowell was absent and there was no report
- Plan/Engineering Review-
Ms. Wilson has requested to be included in site visits and is awaiting a response. They want to be involved in any plans to change the infrastructure for bikeways. Additionally, the subcommittee emphasized their desire to have recorded meetings.



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7) Programmatic Updates

VZAC/BPAC Collaboration (10 min) – Peter Robison

- a) Mr. Robison-VZAC would really like to collaborate with BPAC and is interested in developing ideas of how they can work together;
- b) Mr. Norris asked about bicycle/ped deaths and the continued problems getting data from NDOT; the data is gathered, but where it is available to review is often unknown
- c) Mr. Robison-There is a report for every death that leads to a recommendation, however, many recommendations are not acted on.
- d) Mr. Norris- Is someone looking at all the data as a whole to see trends?
- e) Mr. Robison-VZAC communicates with NDOT regarding issues. There has been a sustained and passionate effort over months and years to get even one street improved.
- f) Mr. Norris-What can BPAC do to help improve safety?
- g) Mr. Robison wants assistance holding officials accountable for what they have agreed to do. We are 3 years into the 5-year Vision Zero initiative and not nearly enough has been accomplished.

Greenway Safety and Bikeway Integration (20 min) – David Diaz-Barriga (Metro Parks)

Mr. Diaz-Barriga provided information on how greenways are designed, specific details on rules of the greenway, signage specific to greenways, the function of Park Police, maintenance, communication avenues when greenways are closed, and specifics about ROW intersections.

Mr. Diaz-Barriga reported on upcoming Metro funded projects:

- Charlotte Corridor Rail with Greenway
- 440 Greenway Sevier Park to Browns Creek Park
- 440 Greenway Park Plaza to Centennial Park and 440 Greenway Phase One Lighting
- Whites Creek Greenway at Hartman Park
- Opry Mills Connector

KJ Garner asked several questions:

- Why is a bridge considered a Greenway?
- Why would it take a year to repair?
- Why was Shelby bottoms greenway bridge closed “for no reason”
- How can we accelerate repairs?
- Why are projects not made priorities for vulnerable populations?
- How many people are patrolling?



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Mr. Diaz-Barriga replied that everything in Metro is a process. Greenways are a priority. There are two dedicated officers in smaller vehicles and two more to be hired for Park police.

- Ms. McDonnell asked if there are safety guidelines published when greenways are closed so people don't have to go onto busy streets.

Mr. Diaz-Barriga said closures depend on options in the area

2025 Lime Mobility Insights Competition (10 min) – Megan Mathson (NDOT)

- NDOT applied for the 2025 Mobility Insights Competition on April 18.
- Goals of the application:
 - Analyze corral presence and compliance with parking requirements while exploring incentives
 - Learn more about ridership and how community and visitors are using micromobility devices with a focus on first and last mile connectivity
 - Better understanding micromobility user's comfort and stress levels with a focus on "near miss" experiences that will allow better planning for walking and bicycle facilities

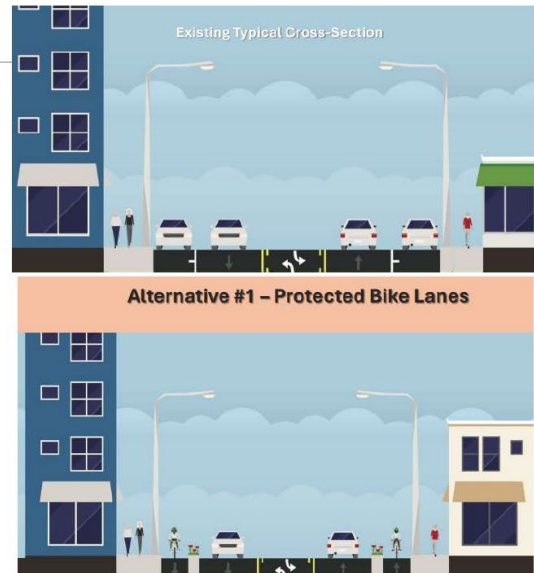
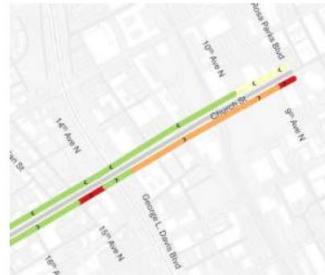
Mobility Lane Project Update Demonbreun east & Church (20 min) – Anna Dearman (NDOT)

- Church & Demonbreun East both Connect Downtown mobility lane and Choose How You Move Complete Street projects
- Will include bikeway/mobility lanes and pedestrian improvements
- Bikeways designed to Level of Traffic Stress 1 (lowest stress, highest comfort)
- Demonbreun East to build on Demonbreun Hill construction completed.
- Demonbreun Hill evaluation to inform modifications to Hill and design for East



Tradeoffs

- Road diet, some anticipated reduction in driving level of service
- Some impacts to on-street parking & loading zones



Mr. Norris brought up Magnolia at 16th/17th where there is a single bike lane surrounded by vehicle traffic on both side. Concrete curbs are most durable, but not typical for Nashville construction. When is Magnolia on the paving list?
Ms. Wilson asked if there has been any engagement in Sylvan Park

8) Regular Agenda (Voting Items)

- a) Resolution on Belle Meade Highlands Study
No quorum
- b) Bylaws
No quorum

9) Administrative Updates/Next Meeting

Encouragement to send in HUB Nashville bikeway improvements and repairs.
The Commission is interested in information on the East Bank meeting.

10) Adjournment

Motion for adjournment by Ms. Garner and seconded by Mr. Norris at 6:38 p.m.