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BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:04p.

2) Roll Call

Present: Chair Katherine McDonell, Matthew Hertz, John Norris, Carey Rogers, Courtney Ross, AJ Haney

Absent: Anas Sabas, KJ Garner

Staff Present: Brent Schultz, Meghan Mathson, TD Schlafer, Melissa Hayes, Meredith King, Shandira Edgcombe, James Guthrie (Planning)

3) Approval of Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Ross motioned to approve the October minutes, with Commissioner Rogers seconding. October 20, 2025 minutes were approved unanimously.

4) Approval of Agenda

- Programmatic update from the East Bank team requested to be moved to next month's agenda. Diana Alarcon NDOT Director stated the East Bank Boulevard is in a "holding pattern" while the team is taking a more holistic view. The intention is to have the boulevard follow along with James Robinson Parkway and ongoing Gallatin/Main project discussions.

5) Public Comments – NONE OFFERED

6) Subcommittee Report Outs

- Rules, Process, and Reporting
 - Discussed Walk Month Proclamation, Commerce St. Bikeway
 - Creating 2025 Annual Report based on 2024 Report, with some new data points to be requested/added
 - Chris Weinman filling vacancy on BPAC joining next month
- Community Engagement and Outreach
 - Expressed appreciation to Courtney Stone (NDOT) for meeting on potential logo design, presented for BPAC commentary
 - Commission motioned to approve base design, with edits to size of "Nashville" and color density



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- Plan/Engineering Review (No update)

7) Programmatic Updates

- a) CHYM Update – Michael Briggs, Deputy Chief Program Officer, Choose How You Move (Office of Mayor Freddie O’Connell)
- Celebrated one year anniversary of the referendum’s passing with a ribbon cutting event on Murfreesboro Rd; Noted Nashville is being asked to be “a large city” after being scaled and staffed as “a medium city” in which most high frequency transit corridors were historically widened and are now serving without the sidewalk infrastructure needed.
- Shared draft (11.03.25) of initial phased projects, including WeGo service improvements, and fiber work at various stages and locations, including:
 - Journey Pass rollout: Journey Pass is the largest free-fare program in Nashville, using the housing assistance and SNAP criteria to disseminate through existing stakeholders and relationships, with a variety of planned engagement dates
 - Gallatin/Main study: Will first focus on immediate safety improvements before deeper study of the larger corridor; Gallatin Pike in Rivergate-area (near Alta Loma) is being studied through TDOT Long Range Planning process
 - Nolensville Pike (a planned All Access Corridor), study supported by the Safe Streets for All grant
 - Queue jump installation, and some Murfreesboro Rd. (another planned All Access Corridor) frequency improvements have already happened, beginning to look at a route diversion to BNA
- Commissioner Rogers asked about the plan for staffing such a large program, Mr. Briggs responded the CHYM leadership is aware of the potential staffing issues and is promoting the program to recruit talent particularly from cities where service cuts may already be happening. Chair McDonell asked if the funding received would be rolled out in addition to regular capital spending. Mr. Briggs said that, while it is intended to be additional, the budgetary actions of various future Metro Councils cannot be predicted. Chair also asked why the Gallatin/Main project was put on hold after seeming to be intended for 2026 delivery. Mr. Briggs responded that deeper study of the larger corridor will lead to an even more comprehensive plan.



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b) Ryman Hospitality's Greenway Design Update at Ascend Amphitheater – Sam Reed, Kevin Crumley

- Mentioned Ryman Crosswalk Tactical Urbanism project installation recently completed on 5th Ave. Now Ryman Hospitality, for the first ten years of its existence, the Ascend Amphitheater had a different management company. The company plans for the Amphitheater to have a more connected integration with the greenway and a 24-7 access solution, proposing an elevated greenway walkway connection, and new landscaping in addition to Amphitheater improvements, through discussions with advocacy groups, Metro Planning, Metro Parks, and other stakeholders.
- Planned bridge will be: 24" high at the transverse, have 12ft clearance, and a 4½% grade (ADA-compliant). Commissioner Rogers asked the designers to consider some physical separation for different types of users to a positive response. Commissioner Haney asked what protections would be put in place for people who may try to camp out to watch a show from the new walkway. Mr. Crumley stated that the landscaping is meant to provide a screen, but such attempts will need to be monitored. Commissioner Rogers asked Mr. Reed (as a side note) to check in on the proposed bridge to the Opry area at Two Rivers discussed several years ago.

c) All Access Management Manual – Melissa Hayes (NDOT), Meredith King

- Access Management Manual Project initiated in Feb. 2024, presently waiting legislative approval. Presenters gave a definition of and listed the benefits of Access Management, along with the challenges of Access Management at present, and the goals of the new Access Management Manual.
- As a stated action item in the Vision Zero Implementation Plan, and as an improvement on the present process, the manual is intended to make sure Vision Zero stated goals are prioritized, integrates policy, creating a reference manual for developers and all other parties involved. Builders reviewed peer cities' and industry best practices, existing policies at NDOT and TDOT, etc.
- Stated intention is to remove ALL access/driveway requirement language from the code to be replaced with an Authorizing Statement, referring to this manual. Provided a high-level summary of the developer requirements, waiver process and Code changes.



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d) Docked Bike Share RFP Update – T.D. Schlafer & Meghan Mathson (NDOT)

- RFP is still with the Mayor's office who are providing feedback on RFP. Commissioner Rogers asked if the fee structure in place for the other SUMD companies is intended to apply to whoever eventually wins the Docked bike share RFP, to which Mr. Schlafer agreed. There are intended to be 150 stations over the course of ten years.

8) Regular Agenda

a) 2025 **October as Walk Month** Proclamation - Commission voted to approve

b) Statement of Support for Commerce Bikeway Redesign

Chair McDonell read the statement into the record, along with the intended recipients:

Commerce Street has long been recognized as a critical connection in our bikeway network and is identified as a Priority Bikeway in the WalknBike Plan and as a Phase 1 upgrade in Connect Downtown. In its current form, it is unsafe and unfinished with inadequate protection. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission supports NDOT's proposal to upgrade the current two-way cycle track to a robust, concrete-protected bikeway that is safe for all ages and abilities.

We appreciate the presentation of the preliminary designs for this bikeway at our September 15, 2025 commission meeting and put forth the following recommendations:

1. We strongly recommend the use of concrete protection rather than flexible delineators, as the success and safety of this bikeway depend on the quality of its protection.
2. We also strongly recommend that this physical protection extend from 9th Avenue to 2nd Avenue, with the use of parking-protected arrangements as indicated to maintain protection and separation from vehicular traffic. We advise against leaving the segment between 2nd Avenue and 4th Avenue unprotected, as this will undoubtedly lead to illegal parking and conflicts with motorized vehicles.
3. We request that BPAC remain involved in the decision-making throughout this process and ask that any design changes and revisions be discussed with this commission.

We appreciate NDOT's leadership on improving this important part of our bicycle network and look forward to hearing more as these designs move forward.

Commission voted unanimously to approve sending the statement to the intended recipients, including Diana Alarcon, Director, Nashville Department of Transportation; Mayor Freddie O'Connell; Sabrina Sussman, Chief Program Officer, Choose How You Move; Michael Briggs, Deputy Chief Program Officer, Choose How You Move; Councilmember Jacob Kupin.



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9) Administrative Updates/Next Meeting/New Business

- Mr. Schultz stated that Anas Alrejjaal has responded to Commissioner Rogers' request on closure of the Cumberland River Greenway at Stockyard Street and will provide further follow up. Commissioner Rogers wants a HubNashville sort for Ped/Bike-specific requests. Chair McDonell asked again for a list of the locations of and removal of the "Make Eye Contact" signs. Director Alarcon responded that the locations will be ascertained, but that the signs are meant to increase awareness of all mode users around the posted intersections.
- **December Agenda Items for Discussion**
 - BPAC Annual Report
 - Reminder to calendar 2026 meetings to avoid upcoming holidays:
 - Jan 19 meeting to 26
 - Feb 16 meeting to 23

10) Adjournment

BPAC was adjourned at 6:45pm. Next meeting is scheduled for December 15.