

Meeting Minutes

Meridian Transportation Commission

Monday June, 05, 2023

Council Chambers – Meridian City Hall • 33 East Broadway Ave., Meridian, Idaho

Roll Call (3:35pm)

<u>X</u> David Ballard	<u>X</u> Stephen Lewis	<u>X</u> John Wasson (ex-officio-ACHD)
<u>X</u> Zachary Shoemaker	<u>X</u> Jared Smith	<u>X</u> Lila Klopfenstein (ex-officio-COMPASS)
<u>X</u> Ryan Lancaster	<u>X</u> Tom LeClaire	<u>X</u> David Reinhart (ex-officio-WASD)
<u>X</u> Walter Steed	<u>X</u> Hoyoon Song	<u>X</u> Alissa Taysom (ex-officio-VRT)
<u>X</u> Tracy Hopkins		<u>X</u> Justin Price (ex-officio-ITD)

Others Present: M. Carson, K. Starman, S. Hunt, C. Hood

Adoption of the Agenda

Motion by Commissioner LeClaire to adopt; 2nd by Commissioner Ballard - All ayes; Passes

Approval of Minutes

1. May 1, 2023

Motion by Commissioner Lancaster to approve; 2nd by Commissioner Hopkins, adopt with some changes - All ayes; Passes

Old Business Items

2. Housekeeping Reminders- M. Carson

Reminder to the commissioners to speak into the microphones and to work with the chair to know who spoke when to keep that clear in the minutes. Request for subcommittees to give ample notice, so M. Carson is able to get agendas created and published in time.

3. Transportation Projects Update - M. Carson

Ms. Carson provided the following updates from the memo and stood for questions:

Linder, Overland to Franklin project will now include Overland at Linder intersection redesign with pedestrian improvements at that intersection. This was not part of the original scope of the project.

On Page 7 of the packet; Amity Road, Locust Grove to Mary McPherson kick off meeting was held to look at several possible scopes for improvements to Amity. This project may be combined with the Amity/Locust Grove intersection project later in the design project.

On Page 8, Stoddard Road, Victory to Overland, Locust Grove at Palermo, and Locust Grove at Ten Mile creek plan in hand meeting was held and 95% design meeting was scheduled.

On Page, 10, the Chinden/Highway 16 intersection construction is underway. There will be flaggers and road construction signs for the next several weeks.

On page, 11 The Black Cat at Gondola hawk signal design is complete and a contractor has been selected. A preconstruction meeting was held in late-May. The project is expected to be complete in August 2023.

Ms. Carson stood for questions, there was some further discussion.

New Business Items [ACTION ITEM]

4. Valley Regional Transit Service Change - S. Hunt

S. Hunt shared an overview of public comments received on a recent service proposal survey. They completed the survey in May, and received 386 responses. 41 or 42 of those responses were from Meridian. The changes focused on reducing the service footprint, in order to increase the service frequency. They are seeing a need to increase the frequency of the span of service, so they were looking at the current budget to look for places that they could focus service to fewer corridors.

Valley Regional Transit is exploring options for possibly combining routes 45 and 30 to connect Nampa, Meridian, and Boise. He also provided some information on the Route 30 ridership. The highest ridership stops are Overland and Black Marlin by Wahooz, and Linden and Pine. Mr. Hunt stood for questions.

Chairman Steed noted that these changes are driven by budgetary needs at Valley Regional Transit.

5. Ex-Officio Updates- Ex-Officio Members

J. Wasson began with some updates. Both the City and ACHD have agreed to allow parking on Centerpointe, North of Ustick on one side and bike lines on the other. Which side of the street has yet to be determined. Meridian Police Department has requested ACHD evaluate parking on Magic View Circle to the West of Wells. Lastly, ACHD has received a request for traffic calming on Thornwood, Bowstring, and Woodhaven. The streets do meet the criteria for traffic calming, but thus far the neighbor has not been supportive of installing signage and bumps.

L. Klopfenstein began with four updates. The first being COMPASS is holding education presentations on Smart Cities June 7th and 8th 2023. COMPASS will have survey open on the TIP June 30-July 31st 2023, and an open house will be held on July, 11 2023. The Safe Street Action Plan RFP is open to retain a consultant. The 2022 Development Monitoring report is out on the COMPASS website.

D. Reinhart began with updates on West Ada School District. They have a new bus contract for the school years 2024-2025 with Durham. This will include about 220 new busses of various sizes. Beginning this school year 2023-2024 they will be implementing a bus passes for students to scan when they get on and off the bus. They have also assumed the routing in house for the 2023-2024 school year. D. Reinhart stood for questions. Some further discussion.

A. Taysom reported that Ridership with Valley Regional Transit as of April is up 10% from 2022.

J. Price updated that Chinden, Meridian to Locust Grove is complete with 5 lanes now open.

W. Steed shared a personal anecdote of seeing a cyclist crossing at Chinden/Linder and a SUV steering into the crosswalk while the cyclist was trying to cross. Luckily the cyclist was not hit.

6. Staff Communications – M. Carson

Ms. Carson began congratulating Commissioners D. Ballard, Z. Shoemaker, and W. Steed on being reappointed by City Council on May 23, 2023.

Next update was that the Celebration at Cinema conversation is continuing between the Mayor's office and ACHD administration regarding removal of the parking restrictions on Cinema Drive.

ACHD has a safe sidewalk program that currently has a backlog for repairs. The resident that had the complaint on Meridian Road has received the update.

A citizen requested a speed reduction at Ustick, Meridian to Eagle and street lighting updated on Locust Grove, Chinden to Fairview. Ustick, Eagle to Meridian speed limit evaluation showed no justification to lower the speed. Street lighting from Locust Grove, Ustick to Chinden is part of ACHD's 5-year work plan scheduled for FY25 and FY26, and public works is in the process of updating a Master Street Light Plan which will go to Council later this year.

There was also a request from a resident about stripping on Chinden, between Linder road and Ten Mile Road.

Ms. Carson stood for questions on the updates.

Final update is from a request from a resident to add a 3 way stop sign to put in at the intersection of W Belltower Dr and N Coppercloud Way. The Mayor has requested the Transportation Commission to review this concern and discuss possible mitigations. Ms. Carson opened for discussion. J. Wasson didn't feel it would be the appropriate time to evaluate with school being out. Mr. Landcaster discussed what type of signage was already there, felt that by putting in stop signs would remove the crossing signs. This could be evaluated for speed limit signs or an RRFB.

Some follow up on the evaluation done by ACHD. Mr. Wasson provided information about the evaluation for an all way stop. ACHD evaluates traffic volume, crashes, pedestrian/cyclist volumes, children crossing volumes, sight distance at the posted speed. When this was last evaluated this location did not warrant a 3 way stop. Further, stop signs are not an appropriate mechanism for traffic calming devices.

There was further discussion about trimming the trees for better visibility of signage. ACHD will send out a crew out to evaluate if the trees need to be trimmed. If they do need to be trimmed, ACHD will send a letter to the HOA. If they are not trimmed after four weeks, ACHD will trim them.

7. McMillan Corridor Review - C. Hood

Mr. Hood shared an overview of the McMillan corridor and trip generation rates. He included a brief history of past McMillan planning efforts. Encumbrances to widening to 5 lanes were explained. The City did request that ACHD preserve right of way for 5 lanes, but so far ACHD has only planned for 3 lanes. There was some further discussion of development along the corridor.

Commissioner Ballard made a motion for a recommendation that McMillian right of way be preserved for a 5-lane width including widening the Highway 16 underpass to accommodate 5 lanes. The motion was 2nd, by Commissioner LeClaire.

Further discussion between Mr. Hood and Mr. Wasson as they shared the opinion that ACHD can preserve the right of way for 5 lanes now, before land prices raise even higher. The right of way could then be used for widening to 5 lanes for bike/pedestrian facilities. Commissioner Song echoed this opinion. Commissioner Lancaster noted that, as Mr. Hood shared in his revision the Highway 16 design will need to be changed as construction has begun. The current City comprehensive plan also has McMillian as a 3-lane corridor.

A vote was taken on Commissioner Ballard's standing motion; All ayes, the motion passes.

FUTURE MEETING TOPICS

- 8. Lost Rapids Crossing and Traffic Calming Requests -**
- 9. Linder, Ustick to Pine Concept**
- 10. American Fork/Linder Crossing Request**

Next Meeting Date: July 10, 2023

Adjournment

(AUDIO RECORDING AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST)

APPROVED:

WALTER STEED, CHAIR

DATE

ATTEST:

CHRIS JOHNSON (City Clerk)

DATE