



MEMO TO TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Agenda Topic on the Transportation Commission Agenda

From: Walter Steed, Chair **Meeting Date:** March 7, 2022
Presenter: Walter Steed **Estimated Time:** 5 minutes
Topic: Transportation Commission 2021 End of Year Report

On March 8th the following report will be presented to City Council.

Meridian Transportation Commission

-Walter Steed, Chair	-Stephen Lewis	-Tom LeClaire
-Jared Smith, Vice-Chair	-Tracy Hopkins	-Zachary Shoemaker
-David Ballard	-Ryan Lancaster	-Joseph Leckie

The Meridian Transportation Commission was formed in February 2013 with Ordinance No. 13-152. The Commission consists of nine appointed commissioners and meets in the Council Chambers on the first Monday of each month, with the exception of September. Walter Steed and Jared Smith served as Chair and Vice-Chair (respectively) in 2021. Last month both were re-elected to their respective positions for 2022.

Representatives from ITD District 3, ACHD, COMPASS, Valley Regional Transit (VRT), and the West Ada School District attend as ex-officio members. Planning Division Manager Caleb Hood and Comprehensive Associate Coordination Planner Miranda Carson provide staff support. Ted Baird and Emily Kane, Deputy City Attorneys, provide legal guidance. Before being promoted in October, Lieutenant Brandon Frasier provided regular traffic issues and concerns from the Police Department to the Commission. Sergeant Justin Dance now provides those updates. City Staff provides monthly updates regarding the progress of ITD and ACHD projects that are in construction or soon to be constructed. Additional City staff and other staff from the ex-officio agencies interact with the Commission from time-to-time, as do members of the public.

Regarding what we did last year, in January 2021, the Commission discussed the ACHD Integrated Five-Year Work Plan (IFYWP) 2021-2025 Roadways and Intersections and Community Programs priorities. The Transportation Commission Project Review Subcommittee met and provided an update on the Eagle, Lake Hazel to Amity project. The Ordinance and Development Subcommittee met and provided an update on a proposed new ATV/UTV Ordinance.

In February, Zachary Shoemaker was appointed as a new member to the Commission. The Commission held a Public Hearing to discuss the ATV/UTV Ordinance draft. Eight community members provided testimony and six others signed up in opposition to the ordinance, but did not to provide testimony. COMPASS provided an overview of a High-Capacity Transit survey being done in the region for the Communities in Motion 2050 plan. The Transportation Prioritization Subcommittee was formed to review future IFYWP lists in depth. The new vision for 2nd Street, Broadway to Idaho was also presented and discussed.

In March, the Ordinance and Development Subcommittee again met and revised the proposed ATV/UTV ordinance based on citizen input. ACHD introduced the South Meridian Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan to the Commission. The Meridian Downtown Business Association presented input on alleyways in Downtown Meridian.

In April, a citizen concern regarding parking on Washington Street was discussed. The Prioritization Subcommittee met to begin reviewing projects for inclusion in the IFYWP. The Ordinance and Development Subcommittee again met to discuss the ATV/UTV ordinance draft.

In May, the Commission discussed a citizen concern regarding turning traffic at Chinden and Black Cat. The Ordinance and Development Subcommittee met to discuss the ATV/UTV ordinance draft, and Mr. LeClaire presented the draft to the Commission. A motion was passed to recommend the City Council adopt the proposed ordinance change.

In June, a citizen concern regarding parking on Deer Crest was discussed. ACHD introduced the new Livable Streets Performance Measure for All as a metric of pedestrians' and bicyclists' level of stress on the respective facilities. VRT presented possible solutions to the issue of parked cars blocking a future bus stop at Pine and 3rd. The Downtown Meridian Parking Study completed by the Community Development department was presented.

In August, ACHD provided an update on the South Meridian Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan to the Commission. COMPASS presented the FY2022-2028 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP).

In October, Girl Scout Troop 401 presented on a pedestrian crossing concern on McMillan between Ten Mile and Linder. Commission members were very impressed with their presentation and conveyed it to ACHD who is aware of the problem and plans to address it in the near future. The girls were encouraged to continue to speak up to public officials as they see things with which they are concerned.

In November, Valley Regional Transit presented on ridership of the fixed route, Harvest Transit, and VA Shuttle systems. Sergeant Justin Dance was introduced to the Commission as the new Police Department representative. There was a discussion regarding preservation for local road access to Chinden, west of ID-16.

In December, the Commission was given a demonstration on the use of various tools and resources that can be used to explore construction project updates that are not part of the regular monthly Transportation Projects Update memo.

A complete record of TC minutes can be found here:

<https://weblink.meridiancity.org/WebLink/Browse.aspx?id=222036&dbid=0&repo=MeridianCity>.

The Transportation Commission is grateful for the opportunity to provide service to the citizens of Meridian and City Council regarding transportation systems in our community.