

# Meeting Minutes

## Meridian Transportation Commission

January 3, 2022

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

### Virtual Meeting Information

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83136458810>

Or join by phone: Dial 669-900-6833 and enter Webinar ID: 831 3645 8810

### Roll Call

(Meeting called to order at 3:32 p.m.; YouTube started and roll taken)

<u>  </u> David Ballard	<u>  </u> Stephen Lewis	<u>  </u> Shawn Martin (ex-officio-ACHD)
<u>  </u> Zachary Shoemaker	<u>  </u> Jared Smith (zoom)	<u>  </u> Toni Tisdale (ex-officio-COMPASS) (zoom)
<u>  </u> Ryan Lancaster	<u>  </u> Tom LeClaire	<u>  </u> RD Huntley (ex-officio-WASD)
<u>  </u> Walter Steed	<u>  </u> Joseph Leckie	<u>  </u> Stephen Hunt (ex-officio-VRT) (zoom)
<u>  </u> Tracy Hopkins (zoom)	<u>  </u> Luke Cavener (ex-officio-City Council)	<u>  </u> Justin Price (ex-officio-ITD) (zoom)

Others Present: Ted Baird, Miranda Carson

### Adoption of the Agenda

Chairman Steed called for a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Lewis motioned to adopt; second by Commissioner Hopkins - all-ayes – motion carried.

### Election of the Officers

Commissioner Ballard nominated Walter Steed for a second term as Chair. Commissioner Lancaster motioned for Chairman Steed to remain as Chair; second by Commissioner Hopkins – all ayes – motion carried.

Commissioner Lewis nominated Jared Smith for a second term as Vice Chair. Commissioner Ballard motioned for Commissioner Smith to remain as Vice Chair; second by Commissioner Lewis – all ayes – motion carried.

#### I. Approval of December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting minutes.

Commission Ballard motioned to approve the meeting minutes with the no changes; second by Commissioner LeClaire – all ayes - motion carried.

### Old Business Items

## **2. Transportation Projects Update (M. Carson)**

Ms. Carson noted that new updates are in bold and she will highlight a few of the items from the Memo in the packet, but not all. If the Commission has questions regarding any of the information in the packet Ms. Carson will stand for questions at the end of the update.

Ms. Carson began on page 6 with the ACHD Integrated Five-Year Work Plan and highlighted that the City was invited to participate in a workgroup evaluating and updating the prioritization methodology.

The next item Ms. Carson noted was the Linder, Overland to Franklin project and that the design consultant was selected.

Ms. Carson continued to page 7 with an update that the Locust Grove Road, Victory to Overland and roundabout at Victory project will be signed at 35 MPH with virtually no traffic calming included in the design. It was also noted that the hawk signal will be moved to half-way between Mastiff and Puffin, and there is not a pedestrian refuge island currently planned.

Ms. Carson concluded her review on page 8; noting that the Residential Capital Maintenance projects are now included in the memo.

Ms. Carson stood for questions; there was some discussion. Shawn Martin also spoke on the topic to further explain the prioritization methodology workgroup.

### **New Business Items**

## **3. Meridian Police Department Update (J. Dance)**

This item was moved to after item 4. Sgt Dance provided an update that MPD was approved by ITD for a grant to participate in multiple mobilizations of officers working overtime to enforce drunk and/or aggressive driving particularly around Holidays.

Sgt Dance stood for questions; there were some questions and discussion.

## **4. North Records Way at Bri Development (Jon Wheeler)**

Councilman Luke Cavener explained the public forum process at City Council meetings. Jon Wheeler had brought forth a traffic concern on North Records Way to Council during that forum, and he was directed by Council and Mayor to take the item to the Transportation Commission.

Mr. Wheeler presented on the concerns of the Bri Village Traffic Safety Group. Two other community members voiced concerns: Dave Dahl and John Swarz. The Commission discussed the issue, and Shawn Martin, ACHD spoke on the issue as well.

Commission Lancaster motioned to request ACHD do a speed study, crosswalk evaluation, and evaluation of a need for a feedback speed limit sign; second by Commissioner Hopkins – all ayes - motion carried.

## **5. Valley Regional Transit Connected Meridian (Stephen Hunt)**

Mr. Hunt provided VRT ridership updates. The COVID-19 pandemic caused a significant drop in ridership from pre-pandemic levels nationwide. Overall fixed route ridership for Valley Regional Transit closely mirrors the nationwide reduction since the start of the pandemic. Before the pandemic began, monthly fixed route ridership was between 100,000 and 130,000 riders. Ridership dropped in March 2020, and has been slowly recovering. In November 2021, total monthly ridership was 69,834; ridership exceeds previous November's ridership, first time since the start of the pandemic that ridership is higher than the same month the previous year.

Mr. Hunt also introduced the Connected Meridian survey seeking public input on services in Meridian.

Mr. Hunt stood for questions; there were none.

## **6. Staff Communications (M. Carson)**

Ms. Carson will highlight a few of the items in the Memo that starts on page 20 and will stand for questions at the end of the update.

Ms. Carson noted that COMPASS held an I-84 Corridor Operations Plan stakeholders meeting. Some in depth notes came out of that, and link to those is provided in the packet.

Ms. Carson noted that ACHD has invited the City to participate in a concept study for a bikeway that goes from Locust Grove Rd to Entertainment Ave.

Ms. Carson highlighted that is an update on I-84 Eastbound off-ramp at Eagle included in the packet, and the item will be discussed further at a future meeting.

Lastly, it was noted that the City's response to ACHD's Master Street Map updates are included in the packet.

Ms. Carson concluded and stood for any additional questions; there was some discussion.

Councilman Luke Cavener notified the Commission that he would no longer be serving as the Council Ex-Officio, and he was not aware of who his replacement would be. Chairman Steed thanked him for his service on the Commission.

## **Future Meeting Topics**

Chairman Steed reviewed the Future Meeting Topics and asked for any additional items or any needed changes to the list. Items 11-13 were added. There was also a request for future MPD

update to include as warranted: handsfree legislation effectiveness; alleys and parking; and airbrake updates.

- 7. Ustick Road Corridor Median Improvements (February)**
- 8. Fields Subarea Plan (February)**
- 9. I-84, Eastbound Off-ramp at Eagle Road**
- 10. Field Trip 2022**
- 11. Harvest Transit and VA Ridership Updates**
- 12. New Council Liaison**
- 13. Downtown Street Cleanings**

**Next Meeting Date: February 7, 2022**

**Adjourn**

A motion by Commissioner Ballard to adjourn; second Commissioner Lewis – all ayes - motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

(AUDIO RECORDING AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST)

APPROVED:

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WALTER STEED, CHAIR

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHRIS JOHNSON (City Clerk)

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE